

Education Law §3614 School Funding Allocation Report

Part F - Narrative Description

- 1. Describe the local methodology/approach used to allocate funds to each school in the district during the process of budget development and implementation. If schools are allocated funds—either in part or in full—through a formula, outline the nature/mechanics of the formula and the elements impacting each school’s allocation. In addition, explain any non-formulaic elements impacting each school’s allocation. (Please note that this question asks about the district’s budget process, not about how the district completed the New York State School Funding Transparency Form.)**

The Brewster Central School District is comprised of four school buildings. There is one primary school – John F. Kennedy Elementary School (K-2), one intermediate school – C.V. Starr Intermediate School (3-5), one middle school – Henry H. Wells Middle School (6-8), and one high school – Brewster High School (9-12).

We believe that the Brewster Central School District education will be appropriate, challenging, holistic and will prepare students to be successful, productive citizens who contribute to society.

It is our mission to create a culture within the Brewster Central School District that:

*Embraces the whole child

*Challenges children’s abilities

*Values diversity

*Incorporates relevant technology

*Develops a Professional Learning Community that strives to rigorously evaluate its effectiveness on student learning.

The budget for the District begins first with the creation of an annual Long Range Plan that supports the mission and values of District over a five year period. The building principals and department heads use the Long Range Plan as a guide in developing their department budgets. The overall budget is based on projected student enrollments, desired class size, district educational programs and goals, the needs of special education students, changes in the needs of general education students and the staffing required to support educational programs. Large expenses such as health insurance, FICA, pension system payments, and contracted salary increases are budgeted by the Business Official. Business Official and the Superintendent meet routinely to discuss revenue and expenses during the budget development process. The allocation of funds to each school is based on Principal requests in relation to the Long Range Plan. Formulas are not used to allocate funds to each school building.

As the budget is being created, multiple meetings are held to keep the Board of Education and the public up-to-date. There is a Budget Advisory Committee that is made up of representatives from each collective bargaining unit, Board of Education members, community members, and staff members. The Budget Advisory Committee meets separately from the Board to provide analysis to the Board in the oversight of the following items:

* Revenues

*Expenditures

*External factors that may impact current and future budgets

*Communications between the Board of Education and community at large

In addition to the information being presented at Board meetings, detailed interactive tutorial style meetings called “Budget 101” are held to give the public greater insight into the factors that are influencing budget decisions. The “Budget 101” meetings are recorded and made available on the District’s website along with budget presentations and documents for stakeholders who cannot attend meetings.

The budgeting process concludes once the Board of Education is satisfied that the budget meets the instructional needs of students, while being mindful of the community’s ability to pay the taxes associated with the spending plan.

2. If applicable, is there anything unique about certain schools which explain why per pupil spending at these locations may be significantly higher/lower than the district average?

Brewster High School supports 4 grades while the other three buildings only support 3 grades in each building.

3. If applicable, describe any items which the district feels are anomalous in nature and require additional description beyond the Excel entry.

Nothing Unique