

# 2023–24 Budget Overview and Discussion

Presentation to the  
Bethlehem Central School District Board of Education  
Wednesday, May 3, 2023



1

## ACADEMICS

INSTRUCTIONAL AND  
ASSESSMENT  
PRACTICES THAT ARE  
ALIGNED TO A  
STRONG AND  
RELEVANT  
CURRICULUM.



2

## CHARACTER

POSITIVE  
CHARACTER TRAITS  
ARE ESSENTIAL TO  
BECOMING  
CONTRIBUTING  
MEMBERS OF  
SOCIETY.



3

## COMMUNITY

STRENGTHENING  
FAMILY, SCHOOL AND  
COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIPS  
THROUGH  
TRANSPARENT  
COMMUNICATION.



4

## WELLNESS

ENHANCING SOCIAL-  
EMOTIONAL WELLNESS  
AND BALANCE FOR  
STUDENTS AND STAFF  
BY SUPPORTING  
ACTIVE, HEALTHY  
LIFESTYLES AND  
PROMOTING POSITIVE  
BEHAVIOR.

*Our mission...*

TO EDUCATE AND PREPARE ALL STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL,  
DISCOVER THEIR PURPOSE, AND BE ENGAGED COMMUNITY MEMBERS.



# BUDGET OVERVIEW

John McPhillips  
Chief Business and Financial Officer







# \$106.7

million total proposed 2023-24 budget

The proposed budget would prioritize small class sizes, student well-being and data security.

## 2.3%

TAX LEVY INCREASE  
(BELOW ALLOWABLE TAX CAP)

## +2.65%

Estimated tax rate increase  
for Town of Bethlehem

## -2.10%

Estimated tax rate decrease  
for Town of New Scotland

Total budget increase of  
**\$3,993,303**

OR 3.83% (BELOW THE RATE OF INFLATION)



# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

AS OF 4/5/23

	Expenditures	Revenue	Gap
Baseline as of 2/15/23	\$105,894,984	\$(105,175,946)	\$719,038
Transportation 2/15/23	67,753	0	67,753
Technology 2/15/23	535,090	0	535,090
Athletics 3/1/23	29,255	0	29,255
Operations & Maintenance 3/1/23	15,000	0	15,000
Instructional Program 3/15/23	49,221	0	49,221
Miscellaneous 3/15/23	100,000	0	100,000
Revised State Aid Estimate 3/15/23	0	76,608	76,608
<b>ADJUSTED BASELINE</b>	<b>\$106,691,303</b>	<b>\$105,099,338</b>	<b>\$1,591,965</b>



# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

## SUMMARY OF BUDGETED EXPENDITURES (BY TYPE)

Description	Budget 2022-23	Baseline Budget 2023-24	Adjusted Budget 2023-24
Salaries	\$54,876,390	\$56,751,570	\$56,995,510
Fringe Benefits	24,752,700	26,249,184	26,285,018
Debt Service - <b>reduced due to maturing bonds</b>	7,908,465	7,411,585	7,411,585
BOCES Services	4,876,587	5,065,693	5,112,783
Equipment/Supplies & Contractual	9,769,858	9,902,952	10,372,407
Transfers/Capital Outlay	514,000	514,000	514,000
<b>TOTAL - INCREASE OF \$3,993,303 or 3.89%</b>	<b>\$102,698,000</b>	<b>\$105,894,984</b>	<b>\$106,691,303</b>



# TRANSPORTATION

## ADDITIONS

Description	FTE	Cost
Telematics Specialist - Appendix 6, Grade 11 (Estimate includes salary and fringe)	1.0	\$67,753
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>\$67,753</b>



# TECHNOLOGY

## ADDITIONS / (REDUCTIONS)

Description	FTE	Cost
Security Operations Center		\$100,000
Hardware / Software Replacement and Updates		158,000
Parent Square		25,200
School Front		50,000
Data Web Architect (1 Year Replacement)	1.0	115,000
Senior Systems Administrator (1 Year Replacement)	1.0	115,000
School Messenger		(14,610)
Optigate		(13,500)
TOTAL	2.0	\$535,090





# ATHLETICS

## ADDITIONS

Description	Cost
Modified Football Coach	\$4,255
Travel Expenses (NYSPHSAA Championships)	20,000
Field Rental Costs - Capital Project	5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,255</b>



# OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

## ADDITIONS

Description	Cost
Pandemic Response Equipment and Supplies	\$15,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>



# K-12 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

## ADDITIONS

Description	FTE	Cost
Instructional Technology Specialist	1.0	\$91,900
Elementary (K-2) Instructional Coach for MTSS	1.0	91,900
Social Worker - Saratoga Center for the Family		50,000
K-12 Enrichment Funds		14,930
Clerical - BCMS Counseling Office	0.5	27,150
Clerical - Eagle Elementary Library Media Center	0.5	27,150
Intramurals - MS Swim & Elementary		6,525
Monitor - BCMS (one hour increase)		3,880
Odyssey of the Mind Stipend		2,296
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$315,731</b>

# K-12 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

## REDUCTIONS

Description	FTE	Cost
World Languages Teacher (Latin)	1.0	\$(91,900)
Physical Education Teacher	0.9	(82,710)
Music Teacher	0.5	(45,950)
Art Teacher	0.5	(45,950)
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$(266,510)</b>

**Net addition to instructional program = \$49,221**





# MISCELLANEOUS

## ADDITIONS

Description	Cost
Yondr Program	\$28,000
Vision Screening for Elementary - Titmus Machines (\$4,300/ea)	22,000
Communications - Videography Services	50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>



# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

## BUDGET SUMMARY BY PROGRAM AREA

Description	Baseline 2022-23	Baseline 2023-24	Adjusted Budget 2023-24
Administrative - <b>2/15/23</b>	\$3,783,758	\$3,896,770	\$3,896,770
Instructional Programs/Miscellaneous - <b>3/15/23</b>	36,770,832	38,243,816	38,395,139
Special Education and Student Services - <b>3/15/23</b>	12,730,681	13,158,207	13,158,207
Transportation - <b>2/15/23</b>	6,263,705	6,705,401	6,763,661
Operations and Maintenance - <b>3/1/23</b>	5,777,969	5,697,485	5,712,485
Athletics - <b>3/1/23</b>	1,042,078	1,137,371	1,166,626
Technology - <b>2/15/23</b>	3,320,812	3,395,164	3,901,812
Fringe Benefits - <b>2/15/23</b>	24,714,700	26,249,184	26,285,018
Debt Service - <b>2/15/23</b>	7,908,465	7,411,585	7,411,585
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$102,313,000</b>	<b>\$105,894,984</b>	<b>\$106,691,303</b>

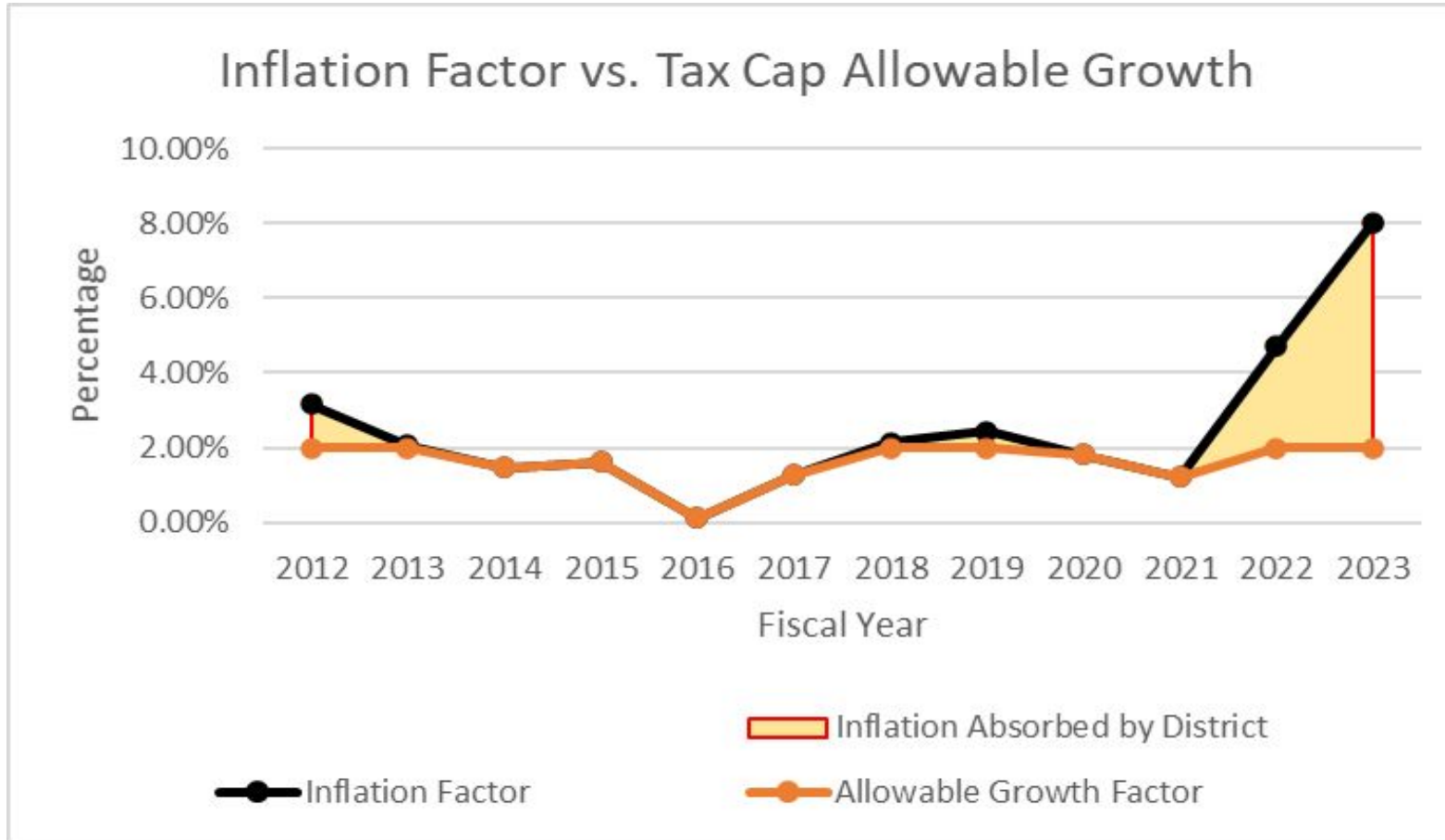
# CAPITAL OUTLAY *(included in budget)*

## BCHS: AVIGILON DOOR STATUS MONITORING SYSTEM (ADSMS)



# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

## INFLATION IMPACT TO THE DISTRICT



- The District experienced significant inflationary pressures over the last two fiscal years of 4.7% and 8.0%.
- The Tax Cap provides for a maximum, capped inflationary increase of 2%.
- Any difference is absorbed by the District by prioritizing service delivery and operational needs.
- Resource management and strategic planning have been and remain critical.





# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

## SUMMARY OF BUDGETED REVENUES

Description	Budget 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
School Taxes	\$69,233,000	\$70,824,965
PILOT Payments	3,780,000	3,885,000
State Aid	28,019,000	30,297,234
Other Revenue	1,666,000	1,684,104
Use of Fund Balance	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$102,698,000</b>	<b>\$106,691,303</b>



# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

## FINAL STATE AID ESTIMATE

Description	2022-23	2023-24
Foundation Aid	\$15,430,500	\$18,248,897
Other Aid Items (BOCES/special ed)	3,791,500	3,882,938
Transportation	4,582,000	4,723,835
Building Aid - <b>maturing debt yields reduced aid</b>	4,215,000	3,716,910
High Impact Tutoring Set Aside		(275,346)
<b>TOTAL BUDGETED STATE AID</b>	<b>\$28,019,000</b>	<b>\$30,297,234</b>
<b>Increase in Budgeted Aid - 8.13%</b>		<b>\$2,278,234</b>



# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

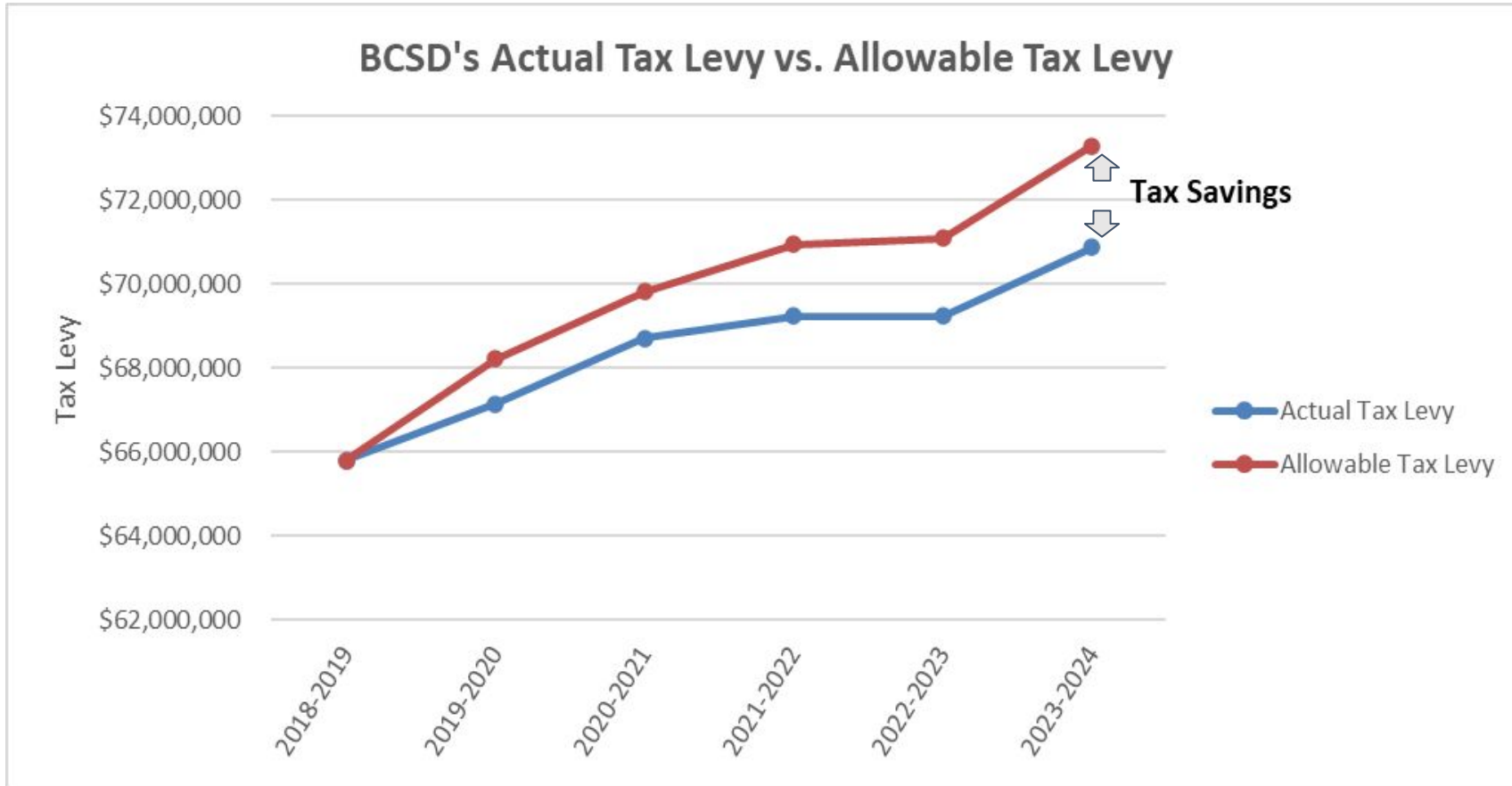
## SUMMARY OF BUDGETED REVENUES

Description	Budget 2021-2022	Budget 2022-23	Budget 2023-24
Maximum Allowable Tax Levy	\$69,821,110	\$69,335,851	\$71,368,606
Taxes Levied	\$69,233,000	\$69,233,000	70,824,965
Year to Year Tax Levy Increase \$	\$515,000	\$0	\$1,591,965
Allowable Tax Levy Increase %	1.61%	0.15%	3.08%
Actual Tax Levy Increase %	0.75%	0.00%	2.30%
Unused Allowable Tax Levy	\$588,110	\$102,851	\$543,641
<b>Allowable Tax Levy Not Levied - Last Three FYs</b>			<b>\$1,234,602</b>



# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

## TAX LEVY COMPARISON



- **\$8,193,000 in cumulative savings over the course of the last six budget cycles.**
- **Represents fiscal stewardship by the District to minimize impact to real property taxpayers.**





# FUND BALANCE & RESERVES

	<b>6/30/21</b>	<b>6/30/22</b>	<b>Est. 6/30/23</b>
Encumbrances	\$1,020,819	\$243,569	\$300,000
Workers' Comp	895,000	840,000	840,000
Employee Benefits	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Tax Certiorari	500,000	500,000	500,000
Retirement (ERS)	2,700,000	2,700,000	2,700,000
Retirement (TRS)	1,925,000	2,605,000	2,605,000
2015 Capital Reserve	5,100,000	5,100,000	5,100,000
2019 Capital Reserve	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
2022 Capital Reserve	0	6,200,000	11,700,000
Mandatory Reserve for Debt	95,200	1,440,657	1,440,657
Appropriated Fund Balance	390,000	0	0
Undesignated (< 4% budget)	3,471,579	4,330,441	4,269,398
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,497,598</b>	<b>\$35,359,667</b>	<b>\$40,885,055</b>

# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

## SUMMARY OF FUTURE PILOT PAYMENTS

Description	Budget 2022-23	Budget 2023-24	Budget 2024-25
	Prepare for Impact of PSEG PILOT ending in 2024-25		
Total PILOT Payments	\$3,780,000	\$3,885,000	<b>Drops to \$400,000 - End of PSEG PILOT - \$3.4M loss of revenue</b>
Est. Tax Cap Calculation	0.15%	3.08%	8.96% Not Recommended

Will require reduced expenditures and/or substantial use of fund balance. If districts could maintain more than 4% in fund balance, or have a Rainy Day Reserve as NYS proposes for itself, we would have a more effective tool to address this change. A substantial tax increase is NOT recommended.



# 2023-24 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

## MULTI-YEAR PROJECTION

DESCRIPTION <i>(in millions)</i>	2023-2024	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
School Taxes (Assumed + 2% per year)	\$70.9	\$72.2	\$73.7	\$75.2
PILOT Payments	3.9	0.4	0.4	0.3
State Aid, (Assumed + 2% per year)	30.3	30.9	31.5	32.2
All Other Revenue	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Use of Fund Balance/Reserves	0.0	2.6	3.1	4.3
Revenues	106.7	107.8	110.4	113.6
Expenditures	106.7	107.8	110.4	113.6
Surplus (Deficit)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

The “fiscal cliff” is in 2024-25 -- PILOTs drop off --



# 2023-24 PRELIMINARY TAX RATES

DISTRICT TAX REVENUE WILL INCREASE BY \$1.6 Million or 2.3%

	Tentative Equalization Rate	2022 Final Tax Rate/\$1,000	2023 Estimated Tax Rate/\$1,000	% Inc (Dec)
Bethlehem	75% (was 86%)	\$21.27	\$21.83	2.65%
New Scotland	74% (was 81%)	\$22.58	\$22.12	(2.01)%

**Bethlehem:** Results in a \$56 increase per \$100,000 of assessed value

**New Scotland:** Results in a \$46 decrease per \$100,000 of assessed value





# BALLOT PROPOSITIONS



# TRANSPORTATION – BUS PURCHASE PROPOSITION

## OVERVIEW OF COST OF BUSES, NET OF AID

Description of Vehicle	Cost/Bus	Aid at 68%	Net Cost/Bus	Cost times Number of Buses, = Proposition Amount
70-passenger Electric Bus (Large EV Bus)	\$404,774	\$275,246	\$129,528	1 = \$404,774
8-passenger Gasoline 4X4 (Tahoe)	\$64,473	\$43,842	\$20,631	2= \$128,946
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$533,720</b>



# TRANSPORTATION – BUS PURCHASE PROPOSITION

## PROPOSITION LANGUAGE

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Bethlehem Central School District, is hereby authorized to:

- (1) acquire school vehicles at a cost not to exceed \$568,720 which is estimated to be the maximum cost thereof
  - one (1) 70 passenger electric bus and
  - two (2) 8-passenger gasoline 4x4 suburbans
- (2) expend such sums for such purpose,
- (3) levy the tax necessary therefor, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education, taking into account state aid received, and
- (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, to issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$568,720, or enter into a lease-purchase agreement at a principal amount not to exceed \$568,720 to acquire such vehicles.





**Christine Beck**



**Ewan McNay**



**Holly Dellenbaugh**



**Meredith Moriarty**

Candidates will appear on the ballot in the order listed above.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION

Voters will elect **three members** of the Board of Education. Board members are elected to serve three-year terms.

**MEET THE CANDIDATES  
FORUM IS MAY 10**



**VOTE TUESDAY, MAY 16 FROM 7AM TO 9PM  
BETHLEHEM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
GYM A (USE MAIN ENTRANCE)**



ACADEMICS CHARACTER COMMUNITY WELLNESS

# BC



# IMPORTANT BUDGET DATES

**MAY 7**

Last date to submit questions for the Meet the Candidates event hosted by the Albany County League of Women Voters.

**MAY 9**

Last date to request an absentee ballot application be sent to you by mail. Deadline is 5 p.m.

**MAY 10**

Meet the Candidates event hosted by the Albany County League of Women Voters will air live on YouTube on the BCSD Events channel. It will also be recorded.

**MAY 15**

Last date to request an absentee ballot application in person. Deadline is 5 p.m.

**TUESDAY, MAY 16  
BUDGET VOTE &  
BOARD ELECTION  
7A TO 9P AT BCHS**

Absentee ballots must be received by 5 p.m.

**ALL BUDGET AND VOTING INFORMATION AT [WWW.BETHLEHEMSCHOOLS.ORG](http://WWW.BETHLEHEMSCHOOLS.ORG)**



ACADEMICS CHARACTER COMMUNITY WELLNESS

