



WINTER 2019 ■ STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

BRANDON LEE WHITE PRESENTATION

On January 9, Brandon Lee White, a motivational speaker for the past nine years, worked with our Grades 4 through 12 students.

His focus was "Owning It" commitments made should be completed even though it may be difficult. Brandon helps students overcome the tough, achieve the tough, and become tougher because of it. Brandon speaks on character and leadership to the student body. Brandon is a professional ballroom dance

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Motivational speaker Brandon Lee White got rave reviews from students and staff.

A Message from the Superintendent About 2019-2020 Budget Development

DEAR PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND RESIDENTS;

You may have heard that the Eldred Board of Education accepted my recommendation to exceed the 2% tax cap this year. You have a right to know why I recommended this and what we plan to do with the additional resources.

At a 2.3% increase, the school district would realize an additional \$233,000 beyond the current year. At a 4.9% increase (my recommendation), the district would receive an additional \$283,000, thus making the total of additional funds \$516,000.

First let me explain the issue with the 2% cap. The law says we are limited to a 2% increase or the Consumer Price Index, WHICHEVER IS LESS. After about ten years, schools fall behind in their ability to do business since as we all know, expenses have increased more than 2% per year.

The district was in dire fiscal condition when I arrived. I cut about \$800,000 in expenses so that now we are living within our means and still providing a quality program to our students. However we are not a private school and must implement mandates made by the Board of Regents and the legislature.

Let me detail what we plan to do with the additional funding with your support.

1. Hire two School Resource Officers from the Sullivan County Sheriff's Department. Currently only we and Roscoe are without a law enforcement officer in our schools to protect our students from harm. Roscoe has a trooper in town that frequents the school regularly. We have waited up to 35 minutes for the police to arrive and I will tell you again what is obvious. If we have a major threat and have to wait 35 minutes for help, that will result in tragic consequences. These are the facts not a scare tactic. The Net cost for this is \$95,000. {The SROs are \$70,000 each, but we will not have the expense of the private security guard at GRM thus the difference}.
2. Hire a Kindergarten teacher so that we may provide a reasonable class size to our K students and keep our Pre K program. (We usually figure a teacher at about \$70,000 with benefits, etc.)
3. There is a new requirement mandated by the State that we provide elementary Guidance Counselor services to our Pre K to Grade 6 students. (We estimated the cost of this at about \$40,000)
4. We lost a special education position last year when a teacher left and we did not replace her because we felt we could get by without the position by everyone else working harder. We have come to the point where the needs of the students require either a BOCES placement or we create a class here at a fraction of the cost. (The cost of this teacher is once again about \$70,000).

If you add that up, it comes to \$275,000 thus far.

In addition, the state is requiring a "Data Protection Expert." We don't yet know what the requirements of this position will be, but we do know that we cannot do it through our BOCES.

Further, I strongly recommend keeping our current JSHS security guard, Anthony, and changing his focus to attendance and home-school communication. This year our attendance was less than 95% for many grades, impacting our state aid by about \$70,000.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
NEWBURGH, NY 12550
PERMIT #145

MAN-WSS

LOCAL POSTAL PATRON

Eldred Central School District
600 Route 55
Eldred, NY 12732

(845) 456-1100
www.eldred.k12.ny.us

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Carol Bliefernich, *President*
Amador Laput, *Vice President*
Scott Hallock
Joana Dutcher
Stacey Kuhn
Lisa Sibirtzeff, *Board Clerk/Secretary to Superintendent*

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. John C. Morgano

ELDRED JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Jean Maxson, *Principal*

GEORGE ROSS MACKENZIE ELEMENTARY

Scott Krebs, *Principal*

DISTRICT TREASURER

Caleb Russell

A Message from the Superintendent About 2019-2020 Budget Development

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As you can see, the additional funds are needed. So how often will exceeding the cap be done? Exceeding the tax cap may have to occur every 10 years or so.

I welcome your questions and comments. Please come to our next Board of Education meeting at 7 PM at our elementary school on Thursday, February 14 (I know it is Valentine's Day, but we try not to change the meeting dates because people make plans to attend). If the public desires, I will devote another Saturday or evening to sitting down and talking about our school district and LISTEN to what you have to say.

There is a rumor that if we tuition our high school students out of district that taxes will go away or go down. NEITHER IS TRUE. Further, it will cost MORE to send our students to any of our surrounding school districts, not to mention that our community would lose a big part of its identity.

The Eldred School District is a wonderful school for our students. You as parents have done a remarkable job. I have not seen such great kids in my 44 years in education. I thank you for your continued support and ask that you support our efforts to bring Eldred back to fiscal stability and to grow academically. Thank you.

John C. Morgano, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Please read on for additional messages from Dr. Morgano about Unfunded Mandates, Enrollment Projections, and Estimated Taxes

Enrollment Projections and What it Means for Eldred Schools

ELDRED SCHOOLS RECENTLY REQUESTED that a demographic study be conducted so that we may plan for the future utilizing facts.

The report that was completed was quite extensive and called for the following to occur:

1. Over a 10-year period approximately 72 students will leave the area.
2. The number of elementary sections will remain the same over the next 10 years.
Ex. Whether you have 34 or 54 students you still need 2 sections.
3. The decline in past County enrollments was down 15.7% from 1990 to 2016.

- Monticello lost 27.7%
- Sullivan West lost 21.1 %
- Eldred lost 15.6%

It is evident from these factors that this is an issue throughout the County, not in Eldred specifically.

4. A study to look at alternative structures for our students was conducted.
 - A. It is more expensive by about \$394,000 more to send our high school students out to another district. Increased transportation costs are a major reason.
 - B. Moving the elementary students to the Eldred JSHS is not an option due to lack of needed space. In addition the core facilities (café, gym) are undersized.

In our past we had all of the students in the JSHS building, right? Wrong. They were also placed in four portable classrooms and in Shohola. We must have two buildings for at least the next 10-15 years.

The full demographic study is on our webpage for your review.

I feel strongly, as do the majority of parents I speak with, that our small size is an asset not a hindrance. The level of personal attention rivals that of a private school.

It is my sincere desire to keep our school district and keep it here forever.

BRANDON LEE WHITE PRESENTATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

instructor, which he incorporated into his presentation by pulling students from the audience to interact in dance by using teamwork to enforce his message.

There was also an anti-bullying component and students were reminded by the Superintendent to "take care of each other".

Brandon Lee White was so impressive that the school district will have him back in the fall to speak to the faculty and staff on the conference day.

Great things happen here each day.



The Impact of Unfunded Mandates

BY FAR THE MAJORITY OF FUNDS NEEDED TO RUN A SCHOOL DISTRICT GO TOWARD PAYING PEOPLE. IT IS A PEOPLE BUSINESS AND I HAVE SAID IT MANY TIMES, "WE ARE NOT MAKING TOASTERS HERE."

Most people understand that teachers, staff, and administration must be paid, but they may differ on how much.

Another area of considerable time and money is in state and federal program mandates. So, does the state and federal government each require something done and not give us the money to do it? "YES ALL OF THE TIME."

Some of the unfunded mandates are listed below. This does not include two new requirements for next year. One is elementary counseling services from a Guidance Counselor to in part discuss future employment and schooling. This is not a bad idea but comes with NO money. These expenses must be passed onto the local school districts. Another requirement is a person dedicated to the protection of student data.

Here are some other unfunded or under funded requirements.

Unfunded New York State and Federal Mandates and Mandatory Reporting Requirements

Every year, the NYS Legislature, Governor, and Board of Regents and/or Federal Government adopt new mandates that school districts are required to follow. In nearly all cases, additional funding is needed to fulfill these mandates. Yet, in most cases the majority of the funding is supported at the local level by the school districts. Each mandate requires a variety of additional resources: administrative, clerical, and financial. There may be the perception that unfunded mandates only include the following:

- Megan's Law
- Fingerprinting of Potential Employees
- Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)
- Learning Standards
- Character Education

In reality, however, there are many unfunded mandates that school districts are required by law to implement. Below is a list of unfunded school district mandates. This list was compiled by an outside source and may include mandates that some schools are not required to adhere to. Nonetheless, we wanted to give readers a realistic view of the incredibly high number of mandates that are forced upon school district.

- District Intern Plan
- Comprehensive District Education Plan
- School Code of Conduct
- Corporal Punishment
- Local Assistance Plan
- Public School Performance Report
- Professional Performance Review Plan
- Professional Performance Annual Plan
- Local Special Education Comprehensive System of Personnel Development
- School District Report Card
- BOCES Report Card
- Academic Intervention Services Procedure
- Uniform Violent Incident Reporting System
- Child Abuse Reporting in an Educational Setting
- School Based Shared Decision Making Plan
- Instruction Computer Technology Plans
- School District Property Tax Report Card
- Individual Home Instruction Plan
- Pupil Attendance and Record Keeping
- Comprehensive Plan for Safety Education
- Physical Education School District Plan
- Education of Gifted and Talented Students Plan
- Occupational Education Plan
- Early Grade Size District Plan
- Attendance Plan
- Attendance Report
- Set-Aside for Early Grade Intervention
- Compensatory Education
- Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program Plan
- Policy of Educating Pupils with Limited English Proficiency

- Comprehensive Long-Range Plan for Educational Facilities
- Five-Year Capital Facilities Plan
- Comprehensive Public School Safety Plan
- Building Level School Safety Plan
- School Facility Report Card
- Pesticide Notification Requirements
- School Emergency Management Plan
- Registry of all Students with Disabilities
- School Policy on Procedures and Practices for Disabled Students
- District Plans
- Special Education Space Requirements Plan
- Personnel Development Plan for Special Education
- Individualized Educational Plans
- Functional Behavior Assessment
- Behavioral Intervention Plan
- AIMS
- LEAP Reporting
- STEP Reporting
- Mandated Testing and Scoring
- Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR)
- LEA for IDEA – Multiple components
- Every Student Succeeds Act – Multiple components

Additional Requirements

- Statewide Data Collection – Data Warehousing
- District Data Manager
- Grade 3 – 8 Testing, Scoring, Analyzing and Mailings
- Revised Math Curriculum
- Inclusion Training and Staffing
- Early Intervention – RTI
- English Language Learners
- Instructional Support Teams
- AIDS Education
- Middle Level Education
- Requirement for Teaching Assistants
- Staff Development for Teaching Assistants
- SED Core Curriculum and Assessments Revised
- Internal Auditor
- Claims Auditor
- Audit Policy
- Wellness Committee
- Wellness Policy
- Uniform Voting Dates – 1st and 2nd Budget Votes
- SEQRA Review by School District
- Building Condition Survey
- SAVE Legislation Updated
- WICKS Law – Multiple Contractors for Building Projects
- Mentor-Teacher Internship Program
- Pandemic Plan
- Purchase of Student Calculators
- Segregation of Duties – Purchasing Agents, Treasurer, District Clerk

- Financial Statement's Accountant
- Engineering Review of all Maintenance Projects Costing over \$5,000
- Pension Costs – Increase costs for ERS and TRS
- Response to Intervention – Special Education Students
- 20 Additional State Performance Plan Indicators – Special Education Students

The State Education Department also is no longer mailing documents to school districts. Each district must download needed information from the SED website regarding reporting requirements, deadlines, testing data, assessment updates, curriculum guides, etc. Each document must be printed, copied, and disbursed to the appropriate staff members.

Additional Requirements:

- Charter School Funding
- Chapter 165 of the Laws of 2006: Re-inspection of school buildings – fire inspections
- Chapter 57 Laws of 2007: School Leadership Report Card and Student Progress Report; and Local Instructional Computer Hardware to Non-public Schools
- Chapter 58 of the Laws 2007: Required Student Body Mass Indexes
- Chapter 111 of the Laws 2007: Breast and Prostate Cancer Screening – Employees four hours time off from work
- Chapter 281 of the Laws 2007: AED posting for Public Access to Machines
- Chapter 578 of the Laws of 2007: Blood Donation – Employees three hours time off from work
- Chapter 583 of the Laws 2007: Impartial Hearing – Burden of Proof Shift from Parent to School District
- Student Dental Health Certificates
- Seatbelts on School Operated Van Vehicles
- Bus Driver Training for Special Education Students
- Parentally Placed Students Attending Non-Public Schools

Important Budget Development Dates

Thurs., 2/14 @ GRM: Budget Presentation (preliminary)

Thurs., 3/14 @ GRM: Budget Presentation

Thurs. 4/11 @ GRM: Final Budget Presentation

Tues., 4/23 @ GRM: SC BOCES Budget Vote/Budget Adoption

Thurs., 5/9 @ GRM: Budget Hearing

Tues., 5/21 @ JSHS: Budget Vote 11 AM- 9 PM

2019-2020 Eldred CSD Academic Calendar

8/29 Full Day Conf.
2 Labor Day
3 First Day of School

SEPTEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Student Days 20
Staff Days 21

OCTOBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

11 Early Dismissal Drill
14 Columbus Day

Student Days 22
Staff Days 22

11 Veterans Day
13-14 P/T Conf. shorten day
27-29 Thanksgiving Day

NOVEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Student Days 17
Staff Days 17

DECEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

23-1/1 Winter Break

Student Days 15
Staff Days 15

1 New Year's Day
20 M.L. King Day
21-24 Regents Days

JANUARY 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Student Days 21
Staff Days 21

FEBRUARY 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

17 President's Day

Student Days 19
Staff Days 19

24-31 NYS ELA Testing

MARCH 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Student Days 22
Staff Days 22

APRIL 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

6-13 Spring Break
20-27 NYS Math Testing

Student Days 16
Staff Days 16

20-29 Grd.4&8 Sci.Perf.Test
22-26 Memorial Day

MAY 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Student Days 18
Staff Days 18

JUNE 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 Grd. 4&8 Science Written Test
2*, 17-25 Regents Days
26 Rating Day
26 Last Day School
27 Graduation

*first admin of new regents history
& government Regents

Student Days 20
Staff Days 20

Key **Closed**

Full Day Supt. Conf.

Other

Testing/State/Regents

Parent/Teacher Conference- shortened day

Early Release Drill

Staff Days 191

Student Days 190

Snow Days 9

Conference Days 1 TBD by Superintendent

P/T Conference Day 2 (shortened/partial days)

Rating Day 1(counts as student day)

Board Adoption Date: January 10, 2019

Make-Up Days: TBD by Superintendent

Give Back Days

ELDRED ANNOUNCES KINDERGARTEN AND PRE-K REGISTRATION PROCESS

If you have a child who will be attending Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten at George Ross Mackenzie Elementary School in September of 2019, it's time to fill out the necessary forms and submit the required documentation to register your child.

Children who will turn four years old on or before December 1, 2019 are eligible for Pre-Kindergarten enrollment. Enrollment is limited to 18 students. In the event that more than 18 students apply, a lottery will be conducted. Children who will turn five years old by December 1, 2019 can register for Kindergarten.

Registration packets are required for both programs and are available for download from the District website at www.eldred.k12.ny.us, or they can be picked up at the school's main office, located at 1045 Proctor Road in Glen Spey. You can also request to have one mailed to you to by calling Jennifer Anderson at (845) 456-1100, Ext. 5092.

Once the registration forms have been filled out, parents/guardians should call (845) 456-1100, Ext. 5092 to schedule an appointment to complete the registration process. Appointments will be held between 8 AM and 12 PM from March 4-8, 2019, at the Elementary School.

In addition to the registration forms, parents/guardians are required to bring the following documents to their appointment: child's original birth certificate, parent/guardian photo identification, proof of residency, custody agreement, if applicable, and immunization records. All new entrants into the District will also need to provide documentation of a physical exam conducted no longer than 12 months prior to the first day of school.

Acceptable documents for proof of residency are a deed or rental agreement, or a notarized affidavit of residency signed by the property owner.

CHILD FIND NOTICE: If you are a parent or guardian of a child aged 3 through 21 who is living in, or attending a public or private school within, the ECSD during the upcoming school year and suspect that this child may have a disability, please contact the Instructional Services Department at 845-456-1100 x 5295. You must register in the District and meet with a representative from the Instructional Services Office.

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE: The Eldred Central School District prohibits and condemns all forms of discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, political affiliation, weight, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, military status, veteran status, disability, use of a recognized guide dog, hearing dog or service dog, domestic violence victim status or other protected categories under state and federal law, by employees, school volunteers, students, and non-employees such as contractors and vendors as well as any third parties who are participating in, observing, or otherwise engaging in activities subject to the supervision and control of the District. Inquiries regarding this non-discrimination policy may be directed to: Dr. John C. Morgano, 845-456-1100, Ext. 5296; Email: morganoj@eldred.k12.ny.us. Inquiries regarding discrimination on the bases listed above may also be made to the United States Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, (646) 428-3800, ocr.newyork@ed.gov.