

Minutes of Town of East Lyme Board of Finance Special Meeting - 03/28/23

Date and time: 03/28/23 6:30 PM to: 03/28/23 9:15 PM

Present: Brooke Stevens, Recording Secretary, Denise Hall, Chairperson, John T. Birmingham, Vice Chair, Peter Derosa, Lauren McNamara, Richard Steel, Absent:, Paul Maxfield

CC: Kevin Gervais, Finance Director, Maryanna Stevens , East Lyme Public Schools Director of Finance, Jeffrey Newton, East Lyme Superintendent of Schools, Eric Bauman, Board of Education Chair, Annaliese Spaziano, East Lyme Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Kimberly Davis, Director of Student Services, Christian Lund, Director of Facilities

Location: East Lyme High School

Link: <https://app.meetingking.com/meetings/396014>

Topics

1. Call Meeting to Order & Pledge

Note Chairperson Hall the Special Meeting of the East Lyme Board of Finance to order at 6:30 p.m. and led those assembled, in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Note Ms. Hall introduced the members of the Board of Finance.


2. Delegations


Note Ms. Hall noted that the Board has received numerous emails in support of the budget, all very similar in nature, which will be attached to the meeting minutes for this evening. Ms. Hall added that they have read each and every communication, they take them very seriously, and she thanked everyone for their comments.


Note Ms. Hall reported that they received communications in support of the Board of Ed budget from the following:


Note Jennifer Danis of Canterbury
 [Danis_email.pdf](#)

Note Frederic Willson of Colchester
 [Willson_email.pdf](#)

Note Carla Voitovich
 [Voitovich_email.pdf](#)


Note Kim Hurlock of East Lyme
 [Hurlock_email.pdf](#)

Note Stacy Anderson of East Lyme
 [Anderson_email.pdf](#)


Note Chris Majchrzak of East Lyme
 [Majchrzak_email.pdf](#)

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EAST LYME, CT
2023 APR 12 A 11: 31
Cathy Mitchell
TOWN CLERK

Note Cheryl Magee

 [Magee_email.pdf](#)


Note Ann Alford of Niantic

 [Alford_email.pdf](#)

Note Lori Nickerson of Niantic

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Note Liubov Mikhelson Gorshkov of Niantic

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Note Elizabeth Dumond of Niantic

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Note Jeannine Barber of Niantic

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Note Cindy Campbell of Niantic

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Note Tiffany Hunt of Niantic

 [Hunt_email.pdf](#)


Note Marybeth Marchand of Old Saybrook

 [Marchand_email.pdf](#)

Note Leigh Charron

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Note Jennifer Hallowell of Old Saybrook

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Note Brian & Caryn Zahnstecher of Niantic

 [Zahnstecher_email.pdf](#)


Note Bethany Perry of Norwich

 [Perry_email.pdf](#)

Note Kelsi Melnick of Oakdale

 [Melnick_email.pdf](#)


Note Rachel Ryan of Old Lyme

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Note Patricia Hesney of Waterford

 [Hesney_email.pdf](#)


Note Anthony Maiese of Waterford

 [Maiese_email.pdf](#)


Note Megan Black

 [Black_email.pdf](#)

Note Julian Evans

 [Evans_email.pdf](#)

Note Christopher Faulkner of Quaker Hill

 [Faulkner_email.pdf](#)

Note

Note Ms. Hall added that Mike Schulz also wrote in, neither in support of the budget or against, but with questions.

Note Ms. Hall called for Public Delegations.

2-1. Tim Dowd of 66 E Pattagansett Road

Note Mr. Dowd said some of the following:

He's here to ask the Board of Finance to adopt the Board of Ed budget, without further cuts.

He asks as a parent of two small children in the district, and as a teacher in the high school, and at Coastal Connections.

This is 4th year teaching here.

The unique thing about teaching in this district is that people who grow up here are mentored by the teachers here.

Many of the children in town return as adults to teach here.

East Lyme High School has a good reputation, and he loves teaching here.

Because of Covid the last three years have been the hardest of his career.

Kids had to attend class via zoom, and things have only gotten back to normal this last year, because they've had appropriate staffing.

The paraprofessionals are able to get these kids to where they need to be.

He's concerned that cuts will affect that area specifically.

We can continue to grow our schools and keep them strong, if we have the right people in the schools.

The Board of Ed administration worked very hard over the last couple of months to give them this budget.

This is a rainy day.

He's here to ask that they use our rainy-day fund for what it's meant for, and make sure we keep our schools strong going forward.

2-2. Mike Schulz of 14 Lovers Lane

Note Mr. Schulz said some of the following:

He reviewed the budget line by line, and in great detail, along with the staff contracts.

He has come to the conclusion that there is insufficient value added to the education, for the requested dollar amount of \$4.8 million.

He stresses "insufficient."

The proposed budget by the Superintendent of 6.97%, contains wasteful and extravagant expenditures.

Many taxpayers are having difficulty paying for their needs, never mind their wants.

For that reason, he cannot support this budget increase.

2-3. Brian Zahnstecher of 65 East Pattagansett Road & 88 Oswegatchie Hills Road

Note Mr. Zahnstecher introduced his daughters who are students in town and said some of the following: He took one statement that Mr. Schulz said, that stuck out to him, which is "insufficient value." Of course, we can talk about the importance of education for our children and what that means to a lot of us, but we would be remiss if that we also didn't see this another light, which is a purely fiscal light. This is the main objective of this Board, so we don't want to be naive so as to feel like this should only be about the kids without considering that there's a whole town to run here. He wants to highlight a couple of things from the letter he submitted. For every dollar of public investment in K through 12 Education, that results in almost \$7 of GDP growth, the better part of \$2, of tax revenue. Teacher quality is the most important school base to determine a student's success. Small classes are difficult to sustain while schools cut spending and enrollment raises. Budget cuts make it more difficult to extend instructional opportunities because extended learning time generally adds costs. These steps remove consumer demand from the economy, so that in turn discourages business from making new investments and hiring. Spending cuts lead to lower test scores, lower test rates, lower college enrollment, which are also disproportionately felt by low-income students and their families. Sometimes cutting the cost in the short term actually costs us a lot in the long term. He strongly implores them to consider supporting the Superintendent on this. If they look around the room, they will see the faces that are directly impacted by this.

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2-4. Julie Horner of 42 Manwaring Road

Note Ms. Horner thanked the Board for their time and the work they do, and said some of the following: She's a former student, as well as a parent of four kids who were taught through the East Lyme school system.

She's a teacher and has taught a variety of grades and students over the past 20 years.

She wants our schools and students to continue to perform at high levels.

Our town is known regionally and nationally for our high performing students in school.

This is what draws people and families to our town.

Her concern is that the budget that has been put forward, has steadily decreased by over 1.5 million in the past five years.

She didn't have time to get the last 10, but she's sure there's a lot more they have cut.

Our town is losing a little bit of a of its identity of excellence.

Our students today have many emotional needs as an effect of the pandemic.

We are in a crisis in our school systems.

According to CBS Sunday Morning News report, nationwide, our reading skills have dropped to the lowest in 30 years.

Unless we act for our youth, they will be less prepared to handle the academic demands placed on them.

The town's saved a lot of money for our schools since 2020.

The SN Ark funds gave us \$1.7 million, and we hired 14.2 positions and provided summer intervention programs for literacy and math.

The academic standards are much higher than they were in the past.

Things that four- to six-year-olds do in kindergarten are harder and they're more complicated, and this in turn requires sufficient staffing.

We need to keep the funding for our programs and the staffing levels for the children we teach.

The town has a rainy-day account, and the schools should be able to use these funds as needed.

In terms of our facilities, if we don't put money towards it, it will cost us more later.

This year we have \$75,000 and she's hoping with what they saved in pandemic funds, they can put money back into East Lyme and reaffirm our commitment.

2-5. Amy Ferrier of 91 Holmes Road

Note Ms. Ferrier said some of the following:

She's a parent of a third and first grader at Flanders, and a teacher in a neighboring district.

She's here tonight to urge them to accept the Board of Ed budget.

The Board of Ed heard the residents, they heard the teachers, and they put forth a budget that truly puts children first.

She knows that a budget with an increase is not always ideal, but now is the time to invest in our children.

The median sale prices of in homes in East Lyme has increased over \$100,000 in the past six years.

The primary driver of property values is the school system.

The town has a rainy-day fund or a contingent contingency fund to use for times like this.

This rainy-day fund is 12.5% of expenditures of the town, which is a sign of fiscal strength for the town.

The amount in this fund is over \$10 million.

Last year the board of finance decided to use \$1.2 million of this unassigned fund balance for capital projects and expenditures.

Surely the town can also invest in children's education and the school system.

This school system is phenomenal.

This is why people move here.

We pay now, or we pay later.

If you make cuts were going to lose staff and lose property values.

2-6. Scott Meehan

Note Mr. Meehan gave a brief history of how the East Lyme educational system has benefited his own family, and then, said some of the following:

He's president of the East Lyme Teachers Association.

He is no longer a resident of town, but he was born and raised in East Lyme.

He fears that the new generation of Meehan family members will not receive the same excellent education that they have always previously received in this town.

And that will happen if this budget is not accepted, as it is has been presented.

The cuts will have catastrophic and replicas of impact on our school community, beginning at the elementary level and extending through the secondary levels.

Our elementary students receive a 21st century explicit instruction in the basics and ethics of technology. It will be much more difficult to navigate those ethical complexities without technology teachers.

The educators in this community continue the hard work of repairing pandemic learning and remediating students' social development.

More staff, not fewer are needed.

Mental health is an issue for students as a no other time in this town's history, but support staff are reduced.

The loss of support staff and immediate centers will also have a major impact and supporting our students outside of the class as well.

He's sure they understand that every budgetary reduction that is made will have a direct and immediate impact on our students.

He asks that they fully consider what that budgetary number truly means.

That they remember that the success of this community requires full investment in the educational lives of its children, and to provide anything less will be felt now and well into the future.

2-7. Isabel Georgian of 22 Bayview Road

Note Ms. Georgian said some of the following:

She's a teacher, taxpayer, and a parent.

She moved to East Lyme because of the well-deserved reputation of the school system.

The problem with reputation is that you can ride the coattails for a while, but if it's not maintained, it's not going to last.

Students must have resources and access to stuff in order to keep this reputation.

This budget must be passed without additional cuts so that this can be sustained.

Teachers and parents are already giving extra to students of this district if students don't have access to these basic resources, we can't expect them to attain the education they deserve.

Teachers have already taken pay freezes in the past to get us to this point, where if a teacher stepped over our town borders, we could make \$10,000 a year for doing the exact same job.

If you vote against this budget staff cuts will be made.

If you vote against this budget, the message that you will send is that you believe the staff do not do enough to educate our students and should shoulder even more responsibilities in their day.

You will be saying that our students do not need basic resources to learn, and that staff should spend more of their personal finances to provide this.

2-8. Bonnie Dombroski of 103 Walnut Hill Road

Note Ms. Dombroski introduced her daughter who is in 7th grade, and shared some of the following: We hear about the need to adhere to class size guidelines, as well as the prevalence rates of students in special education and the percentages of our student populations requiring support these are major contributing factors in the budget every year. In a class of 16 students similar to her daughter's, if the budget is cut back to what was originally proposed by the Superintendent, then next year, her daughter's 4th grade class will have four additional students. That's a lot of students for one classroom. Historical guidelines were for 20 or 21 students, but the composition of class size has drastically changed over recent years, especially due to COVID, as well as other factors. Our classes are now composed of more children than ever with greater and more varied needs. You will hear Mr. Newton explain how the special needs prevalence rate in 2021 and 2022 exceeds the State average of 17.4%. She believes this rate is now even higher.

Note Ms. Dombroski further detailed the variety of special needs that our students have in the classroom.

2-9. Patricia Hesney

Note Ms. Hesney said some of the following: She's President of the Secretarial Union for the East Lyme Public Schools. She's asking them to accept the budget as presented. In past years, the Superintendent has given back money to the town that resulted in excess money at the end of the year. He's been very fiscally responsible. If you start cutting positions on parents and teachers and library aides, there's nowhere to get people to cover for these vacant positions. The libraries will be closed when the librarians are in meetings or out sick for the day, students will not have access to any of the resources that they use daily.

2-10. Nick Menapace of 38 Hope Street

Note Mr. Menapace noted he's not a teacher in town, but he is a teacher, and he discussed how you cannot ask them to do more with less.

Note Mr. Menapace shared some of the following: The reputation of the East Lyme School System has taken decades to build, and it has grown, because you have invested in students. If you cut this budget and ask teachers to do more with less again, you risk ruining that reputation. There's more expenses coming in as more students need support. We are being asked to do so much because of what has happened over the last several years. They really do risk this town's reputation, property values, and the desire of people to come here and raise their families given how great the schools are.

2-11. Chris Majchrzak of 78 Chesterfield Road

Note Ms. Majchrzak detailed how she chose East Lyme to raise her family 27 years ago because of the excellent schools and said some of the following: She's a TA at the East Lyme Middle School and President of the ASMI Para Union. She urges the Board to pass the affordable and responsible budget put forth by our Board of Education. As a member of the community, she feels it is a civic imperative to provide the children of our town with a quality education so that they may be thoughtful, responsible and engaged citizens of the future. This starts with having properly staffed classrooms and libraries, and up to date, resources and programs which address today's learning needs.

Note Ms. Majchrzak discussed the sizable increase of children who qualify for special ed services since the onset of the pandemic. She said recently the Special Ed Teacher she works with was given four new referrals; if they qualify, that will mean 21% of the students on their team of 90 will require legally mandated support, which doesn't take into account the regular ed students who struggle with learning gaps brought on by COVID, that require extra time and individual attention.

Note Ms. Majchrzak discussed the learning difficulties associated with higher levels of anxiety, depression, bullying, frustration, impulse control, and lack of coping skills. She added that regardless of their assigned positions, they're educators, counselors, confidants', advocates, social facilitators, nurses, disciplinarians, and safe, trusted adults.

Note Ms. Majchrzak said maintaining our staffing levels will enhance the wellbeing of our students on many levels, and contrary to the comment made by the gentleman who spoke earlier, each of them has more than sufficient value.

Note She said if the budget is not approved, it will most likely result in cuts to these teachers, parents and library aides and other essential staff, which will only serve to undermine their mission to prepare students academically, socially, and emotionally, to be responsible, positive forces in our challenging world.

2-12. Mike Schmitt of 89 Lovers Lane

Note Mr. Schmitt said some of the following:

Like many other parents he's concerned about budgetary cuts and staff reduction.

This is understandably the reaction to inflation rates not seen in two generations, but he's dismayed that the initial response to rising costs, is to cut positions.

He's concerned that kids will not have the resources which afford them the ability to adapt to the ever-increasing presence of technology in everyday life.

Technology is completely integrated like never before.

Learning to manage your online presence at a young age has never been more crucial and it cannot be viewed as an unnecessary extra in education.

General inflation has been over 6% each for the last three years.

Our past board of Ed budgets have not kept pace at the expense of our students.

Huge inflation is a bitter pill to swallow, and he knows the Board has an obligation to keep costs in check, but we will pay for this one way or another.

East Lyme has a widespread recognition of being a great place to live, and if cuts are made, the town's reputation is much harder to rebuild.

2-13. Victoria Thompson of 12 Laurel Street

Note Ms. Thompson said some of the following:

She believes that you get wait to pay for.

Unless you are one, you will never understand how hard it is to be an educator in a classroom.

She urges them to let the town members be as involved as possible and making the decisions that we need to for education and how we are spending money for this town.

She wants to go beyond needing pencils, paper and staples.

She wants to be innovative.

As an educator she's training kids for jobs, some of which don't even exist yet.

We can't succeed if we don't spend money on education.

2-14. David Conaway of 3 Goldfinch Terrace

Note Mr. Conaway shared many of the bullying comments he received as a freshman student at East Lyme High School and shared some of the following:
He's now a senior at East Lyme High School.
The support that he hoped to find from our school administrators was extremely lacking.
He has seen each administrator on numerous occasions and spoken to counselors and social workers week to report and discuss bullying issues.
Despite this, he has never once felt validated or protected by the administration.
Without the counseling department nurses, social workers, and select teachers who did support him, he would not be here today.
If anything, we need more of the support staff who changed his life, not less, and we should definitely not be letting it fall on them to carry our financial burdens.
He wants to support the staff who may be hurt by budget cuts, just as they supported him when he needed it.

2-15. Unidentified Young Man


Note A young man who did not identify himself came forward and said some of the following:
During his sophomore year he attempted to take his own life.
Without the support of some of the people in this building, he would not be here today.
While he did get the support he needed, it was not nearly enough.
There are roughly six counselors in our high school today.
All of them are currently busy due to the high intensity of how many kids have lingering mental problems.
If you cut the budget, cut their paycheck, they leave that goes to the students, the students don't get the support they need.
The students could end up taking their lives.
Their lives are on your hands.
Do for them what you do for your children.

3. New Business

3-1. Budget Reviews- Board of Education Budget Presentation

Note Eric Bauman, Board of Education Chair, came forward and offered some of the following remarks:
They've been struggling with this budget since November, and a number of Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen members came to some of their workshops, which is a great process.
Most years the increase is in the 6% range, give or take.
At the first roll up of the budget they were at a 10% increase.
They try to understand what's driving the budget up and this year they're looking at inflation and the rising utility and healthcare costs.
After some additional work they whittled the increase down to 6.97%, which is the highest increase Mr. Newton has presented since he's been Superintendent.
We've heard about the reputation and maintaining that reputation, and we want to avoid the erosion of our school district.
It's a slow erosion, it won't be overnight.
It's going to be something that will happen over the years- a little bit here, a little bit there, a little bit the next year, and all of a sudden, your school district is not what it once was.
Given that, as the Board of Education, they came back with an increase of 8.88%.
This is a budget to maintain the level that our staff, students, parents, and townspeople expect.

Note see slide attachment

 [Budget Timeline.pdf](#)

Note Jeffrey Newton, East Lyme Superintendent of Schools, came forward to present the proposed budget and shared some of the following:

He thanked all present for their countless hours of work.

They started at 10.3%.

They do their work at the administrative level, go through the budget, make reductions make as necessary and review it again.

They got it to 6.97% but brought it back up to 8.88% when they put the positions back in because the impact was great.

There are three main drivers in this budget.

The first is salaries, they have over 600 staff positions and they have an estimated 2 1/2% average increase in salaries; that's over \$2 million dollars of the budget increase.

There's also a bit of an increase as well with their paraprofessionals, which is part of that salary adjustment and increase.

The second drive is benefits; last year the benefit increase was 1.25%, and this year it's a 10 1/2% increase, so they budgeted for a 12% increase for next year.


The state is now recommending that they lower it down to just over 7%, so there is some room for them to make some reductions to bring that health insurance number down.

The third drive is operating expenses.

Inflation really is hurting us all, and they're seeing almost \$400,000 in energy costs- electricity, natural gas, heating oil, and so forth.

Operating expenses is something that always continues to grow.

Note see slide attachment

 [Proposed Budget Chart.pdf](#)

Note Mr. Newton detailed the operating costs.

Note Mr. Newton discussed how they do their best to maintain appropriate class sizes across the district which comes with a cost, and he also shared the following:

They've done a lot of work in trying to branch out with supporting students that might not be going off to college.

This program is called Pathways.


It builds pathways and experiences for kids, builds connections with the community, and connections with town businesses.

These are some of the components for kids that they're working to build upon, while also continuing to build a robust educational experience for all of their students.

Ms. Dombrowski was correct in her assertion; there are just under 300 students across our district that receive tiered intervention services.

That's a lot that requires staff to support in a post pandemic world.

Note see attached slide

 [District Educational Focus Areas.pdf](#)

Note Mr. Newton said he wants to discuss four areas of potential ramifications that any reductions below 8.8% may result in, which are culture and climate, academics, technology, and social emotional learning. He said they want to rebuild our culture and climate; they want staff members and teachers who feel good about being in the classrooms, and they want students to be excited about their learning opportunities.

Note Mr. Newton said social emotional growth is probably the area where they've seen some of the greatest concerns, that have only grown in a post pandemic era. He detailed the social and emotional & mental health crisis data for both the middle school and the high school.

Note Annaliese Spaziano, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, came forward to review some of the academic assessment data.

Note Mr. Steel asked for clarification about performance and growth. Ms. Spaziano replied that the performance index is the average score across all of the tests that are taken by students in grades 3-8 and inclusive of 11th grade, if they take the SAT, while the growth is the percentage of students who meet their growth target.

Note Ms. Spaziano detailed the accountability index and the per pupil expenditures.

Note Ms. Spaziano gave the floor to Kimberly Davis, Director of Student Services, who explained that she supports all of the special education programs. Ms. Davis detailed how they're seeing a rise both in referrals to special education and qualifications for students with special needs.

Note Ms. Davis said they try to be efficient and fiscally responsible in special education, by providing care right here in the district, as opposed to sending a student to an approved private education placement facility; this is when a student needs more programming, but in a highly structured environment that may be smaller than the public school.

Note Ms. Davis further explained that try to minimize the number of kids that are experiencing this really restrictive placement, because they're losing access to their community, to their peers, and of the community that they will ultimately be an adult member of.

Note Ms. Davis added that they currently have about 10 out of district placements; the cost is significant and can be anywhere from \$75,000 to \$125,000 just for the tuition, and then the district is also responsible for student's transportation.

Note Ms. Davis said compared to their peer schools, they keep a lot of kids within the district in order to use those dollars more fiscally responsibly, by spending them and aiding our kids here.

Note Ms. Davis briefly discussed the infrastructure of programming they have built in order to keep kids within district; this cost averages \$96,000 and \$20,000 for transportation when necessary.

Note see attached slide

 [Out_of_District_Costs.pdf](#)

Note Mr. Newton said he wanted to give the Board a picture of the pupil expenditures and noted that they sit in the middle of the pack as it pertains to what we spend per pupil expenditure costs, but if you look at the groupings that are above each line on both slides, we rise to the top as it pertains to our scores; this pertains to the quality of education that we're providing our students, and illustrates the fact that we need to maintain that standard.

Note see attached slide

 [Per_Pupil_Expenditures.pdf](#)

Note Mr. Newton discussed student enrollment and how at 2,615 students, they already sit on the high end of projected enrollment through 2032.

Note see attached slide

 [Projected_Enrollment.pdf](#)

Note Mr. Newton also discussed some of the housing developments being built and how this will likely add up to 40 additional students; the last housing development added 20 students to the Lillie B. Haynes School roster.

Note Mr. Newton further explained that during the last 8 years there has been a fluctuation between 2,800 and 2,600 students, and each year, it has deviated up and down. He added that they have well over 200 classrooms across our schools, so that's less than one student impact per class, and no impact is felt by the subtraction of 200 students.

Note Mr. Newton said he neglected to introduce Christian Lund, the Director of Facilities, and emphasized the vast amount of work he has done with capital expenditure projects. He discussed the importance of continually funding capital expenditures and staying on a proper maintenance schedule for replacing boilers, parts, and various essential items of that nature.

Note Ms. Hall thanked them for their presentation.

4. Board Comments

Note Mr. Birmingham had some of the following comments and questions:

He mentioned the 3 million in American Rescue Funds, asked how much of those funds are left, and Mr. Newton replied that they will be using the remaining \$813,000 this year.

He asked about the 14 staff members that were hired under those funds, inquired how those positions will be funded, and Mr. Newton explained that some of those positions have been reduced over time, while others have not.

He asked about the OTPT Speech Services and Ms. Davis replied that upwards of 400 students work with the various Speech Providers.

He asked about the Certified Substitutes and Ms. Stevens said those are their long-term Substitutes and that fluctuates depending on need, whether staff is out on long-term leave.

Ms. Davis noted there are usually 10-15 per year, and Mr. Newton said if a staff member is out, after 39 days, they're required to hire a Certified Substitute, and their costs have increased.

He asked how many Paraprofessionals they employ, and Ms. Davis said 125, and explained they support students in the classroom, and they help students with special needs access their classrooms; they're able to keep special needs students in the district since they have such a large paraprofessional staff.

He asked how many monitors they employ to run the lunch breaks and Ms. Stevens said around 14.

Note Ms. Hall asked about Pupil Services and Ms. Stevens said that number increased because they were having a hard time staff, so they had to contract out; they're hoping this won't be necessary for this next year.

Note Mr. Birmingham asked about the large increase in the project line item that went up 820%, and Dr. Lund detailed how he dedicated a certain amount of funds for each school this year, to cover any unplanned or unintended projects, which added quite a bit, since it didn't exist previously.

Note Dr. Lund said the account is comprised of other projects as well, that they try to do some OM maintenance and work, so they do not encounter a large problem and/or project later; some of these projects include asbestos in Central Office, repairing & regrading patios, lighting the stage at the Middle School, converting some folding walls to fixed walls, and carpet replacement.

Note Ms. McNamara had some of the following comments and questions:

In regard to the paraprofessionals, it's her understanding that the schools have a legal obligation based on student needs, which Ms. Davis confirmed.

She asked about the literacy mandate saying she thought she read that the start date has been pushed out, and Ms. Spaziano replied that they're in need of a primary resource for literacy K5, but the timeline is still to be determined.

Note Ms. Hall referenced their updated projection through the end of June, asked if it's accurate that they don't anticipate any other expenses or need for any additional appropriations, and if they feel that they've worked out the \$700,000 deficit from earlier in the year. Mr. Newton said aside from any emergency, that's accurate.

Note Ms. Hall said some of the following:

She asked about the contract with Salem.

You had said that they didn't have to contribute to any capital expenditures.

She went back and looked at the contract again.

Page 10 reads that "should any capital projects such as building renovations, additions or construction be necessary for the execution of the terms of agreement East Lyme should notify Salem of the need for such project...the project is necessary to fill the agreement and a willingness to pay for proportional share of the costs of said project."

It seems that this allows us to look to Salem to assist in paying for capital expenditures.

Note Ms. Stevens replied that when they did the renovation at the High School, Salem did pay a proportionate amount of that bonded project, in addition to their tuition. Ms. Stevens clarified that when Ms. Hall initially asked, she thought she was asking about their everyday capital items; Salem would contribute for High School renovations.

Note Ms. Hall said this is a 20-year contract, so she wants to make sure everyone is understanding it accurately.

Note Ms. Hall asked what they use as the cost per pupil for this budget, verses what we get from Salem per student, and Mr. Newton said he thinks it's \$15,400+. Ms. Hall said if our cost per pupil is rising, so should theirs; how does the 8.88% BOE requested increase relate to what Salem is paying per pupil?

Note Ms. Stevens said for the 23/24 FY, the tuition for a regular high school student is \$15,329, for and \$31,912 for a special education student.

Note Ms. Hall asked about the healthcare costs and noted there is a 16.88 increase from the projected costs, in the budget. She reviewed her calculations based on the State recommendation for a 7% increase, and said she believes the healthcare costs could be reduced by \$649,000.

Note Ms. Stevens said other items are included in that healthcare insurance line, it includes people who receive a payment in lieu of health insurance, life insurance, and dental. She explained that there is a buffer of 3 employees because of what happened this year; they had several employees that either changed their status from two person to family, or single to two person.

Task Ms. Hall said she would love to see the details on that, and Ms. Stevens said she will send her the projection sheet.

Owned by Maryanna Stevens

Note Ms. Hall said it will be beneficial to know how many people are using the single insurance plan and what the cost is, and how many have family plans, and so forth.

Note Ms. Stevens replied that she doesn't have those figures broken down like that, she has the total projection of health insurance costs based on what they pay this year. She added that based on her calculations and the State recommendation, the insurance number can be decreased by \$400,000.

Note Ms. Stevens said \$160,000 or \$170,000 of benefit costs for 8 1/2 positions was also charged to the Grant this year, and that cost will have to be absorbed in the budget next year since the Grant funds have been depleted; the total health insurance cost with these additional positions will be 7.5 million.

Ask Ms. Hall asked what the total number of employees in the district for the 23/24 budget is, and Mr. Newton said he doesn't have that information at this time. He said he will do some calculations to determine that figure.

Owned by Jeffrey Newton, East Lyme Superintendent of Schools

Note Ms. Hall asked if there are any other sources of revenue besides the Grant and town revenue? Ms. Stevens replied that they charge for the Before and After Care Program, and they currently have one group that rents gym space, but much not much space is available due to the gym use by youth groups as well as Parks and Recreation.

Note Ms. Stevens commented that the Chinese School was a major source of revenue prior to Covid.

Note Ms. Hall asked where the cost for the Cyber Fraud is accounted for and Mr. Newton said they're still investigating options, but the plan is to embed it into the contract over the next couple of years, and reduce engineering time, to help with the total cost.

Note Ms. Hall asked mentioned the other professional & tech services and said under nursing \$252,000 of \$680,000 was expended in 2023, and if they could walk the Board through why they're looking to budget \$616,000 again for this upcoming year.

Note Ms. Stevens said she'll let Ms. Davis address this but added that the billing of the nurses is behind, and only reflects the bill received in December.

Note Ms. Davis reported that they have 5 registered nurses, 1 in each building, and Lillie B. Haynes, the Middle School, and High School have a health aide as well; all positions are contracted through Visiting Nurses Association, VNA.

Note Ms. Hall asked if they've looked at the difference between going through the VNA and hiring outright, and Mr. Newton replied that a nursing supervisor would be needed to oversee that and finding a nurse can be a bit of a nightmare. He said they have discussed the possibility, and having of combining with other districts, and having one nursing supervisor, but there is concern about foregoing the use of a nursing vendor, and not having substitutes available.

Note Ms. Hall said she has a question that came up while reading Mike Schulz's evaluation, and asked if they could explain annuity payments, under salaries, benefits and increases?

Note Mr. Newton said he hasn't seen Mr. Schulz's evaluation, so he has no idea what she's referencing.

Note Ms. Hall said he did a breakout of salaries and Mr. Steel explained there was an additional annuity to what the base salary was.

Note Ms. Stevens said in the administrators contract there is a component in which there's a contribution to a 403-b plan, in addition to their base salary. Mr. Newton said he believes the amount is \$4,500.

Track Ms. Hall observed that Mr. Schulz also noticed a travel increase from \$1,200 to \$5,000. Ms. Stevens asked if he's referring to the mileage reimbursement line and Ms. Hall replied that since he has already left, they can double check with him, and forward that information on for them to address.

Owned by Denise Hall, Chairperson

Note Ms. Hall discussed how it would be very valuable to break out, in a single document, all the different union contracts, all the increases, contributions towards pensions, what's being matched, and so forth. She explained that she saw this utilized in another town, and it would help start a discussion about what they were going to attempt to negotiate in the future to help address rising costs.

Note Mr. Newton said they don't have an HR Director, but they do go contract by contract, and their attorney brings all of the data to the table, but at this moment, he doesn't have a list of items that he would like to reduce from a contract.

Note Ms. Halls said she doesn't necessarily mean reduce, there's different ways to find savings.

Note Mr. Newton discussed how they need to continue to do their due diligence as a Board of Ed, and as a town.

Note Ms. Hall said the BOF also discussed with First Selectman Seery and Kevin Gervais, the Finance Director, the possibility of coming up with a longer-term Capital Plan, so that the BOE and town can plan together what our long-term capital needs are.

Note Mr. Newton and Ms. Hall briefly discussed how they can meet in the Fall to talk about planning for the future.

Note Dr. Lund discussed how the healthcare rate is very different by district.

Note Mr. Derosa noted the Board of Education initially eliminated 18.5 positions to bring the budget down, and asked what was added to bring it to the current proposed 8.88% increase?

Note Mr. Newton said all the positions were added back in, while supplies and some equipment were not. Ms. Stevens said there were also some reductions to some part-time salaries as well as some facility reductions.

Note Mr. Steel thanked Mr. Newton and Ms. Stevens for their diligence in replying to the many questions he submitted.

Note Mr. Steel said the theme throughout the night and presentation seemed to be that if there are further reductions, that means staff will have to be reduced. He asked if that's accurate, or are there other ways to achieve reduction without reduction of staff?

Note Mr. Newton replied that he thinks it's too early to tell, but they have a little wiggle room due to 3 upcoming retirements.

Note Mr. Steel said they've done a phenomenal job reducing the deficit seen at the beginning of the year, and asked if any of those strategies will potentially be used for next year's budget?

Note Mr. Newton said no, because the impact was so great, teachers had to buy their own supplies, and they took \$100,000 of revenue, which means the revenue programs have less to work with, and the morale really deteriorated because of that as well.

Note Mr. Steel asked if they anticipate hiring for the positions they froze this year, and Mr. Newton replied in the affirmative. He said they made a lot of sacrifices which didn't benefit the kids.

Note Mr. Steel asked how much revenue was lost by the Chinese School moving to Waterford, Ms. Stevens said \$28,000, and Dr. Lund said the loss was in revenue, but they also no longer have the expenses associated with having it here, such as a custodian staff on Sundays.

Note Ms. Hall thanked everyone for coming and participating.

Note Mr. Derosa thanked the two students who spoke this evening. He said they help them fully understand what they're dealing with, and he thinks it takes a lot of courage to speak. Mr. Steel concurred and said he thinks the takeaway is that there is still a lot of work to do.

5. Adjournment

Decision MOTION (1)

Mr. Steel moved to adjourn the March 28th, 2023, Special Meeting of the Board of Finance at 9:05 p.m.
Mr. Birmingham seconded the motion.
Motion carried, 5-0-0.

Note Respectfully Submitted,
Brooke Stevens, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting

Meeting title: Town of east lyme board of finance special meeting
Date and time: 04/29/23 06:30 pm to: 04/29/23 07:30 pm
Location: East Lyme Town Hall

Task Summary

New Tasks

Task Ms. Hall said she would love to see the details on that, and Ms. Stevens said she will send her the projection sheet.

Owned by Maryanna Stevens

Task Ms. Hall asked what the total number of employees in the district for the 23/24 budget is, and Mr. Newton said he doesn't have that information at this time. He said he will do some calculations to determine that figure.

Owned by Jeffrey Newton, East Lyme Superintendent of Schools

Task Ms. Hall observed that Mr. Schulz also noticed a travel increase from \$1,200 to \$5,000. Ms. Stevens asked if he's referring to the mileage reimbursement line and Ms. Hall replied that since he has already left, they can double check with him, and forward that information on for them to address.

Owned by Denise Hall, Chairperson

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:22 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:32 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:24 PM

To: JENDANIS@sbglobal.net <JENDANIS@sbglobal.net>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: JENDANIS@everyactioncustom.com <JENDANIS@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of Jennifer Danis <JENDANIS@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 3:28 PM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Danis

17 Little River Ln Canterbury, CT 06331-1610

JENDANIS@SBCGLOBAL.NET

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:20 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:34 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 4:56 PM

To: fred.willson@sbcglobal.net <fred.willson@sbcglobal.net>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: fred.willson@everyactioncustom.com <fred.willson@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of Frederic Willson <fred.willson@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2023 8:54 AM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Sincerely,

Frederic Willson

80 Harbor Rd Colchester, CT 06415-2104
fred.wilson@sbcglobal.net

FW: Library Assistant Job Consideration

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:22 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:31 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Library Assistant Job Consideration

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:27 PM

To: Carla Voitovich <cvoitovich@outlook.com>

Subject: Re: Library Assistant Job Consideration

Thank you for your comments. Can you please supply your address?

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Carla Voitovich <cvoitovich@outlook.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 6:48 PM

Subject: Library Assistant Job Consideration

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear East Lyme Board of Finance Members,

My name is Carla Voitovich and I am the Library Media Specialist at East Lyme Middle School, a job I have been proudly doing for 12 years.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

Our libraries across the district are thriving. We have excellent library media programs here in East Lyme, the likes of which you will not find in neighboring towns. They are just one more thing that sets an East Lyme education apart. During the 2021-2022 school year we circulate over 51,000 books and materials in our school libraries. A large majority of this work, especially at the middle school and high

school is done by our assistants. At the middle school I teach a full schedule of classes a day, it is my assistant that is checking books in and out all day to students. At the middle school alone we circulated over 16,000 books last school year. What that number doesn't show is the countless hours of repair, reshelving and cataloging that are done by my assistant, amongst dozens of other responsibilities. Cutting these jobs will have a direct impact on the students, the library will be closed a majority of the time while I am teaching classes. I spoke at a recent Board of Education meeting and pointed out that just the week before, we checked out 419 books. That work was mainly done by my assistant. The direct impact is that 400 students would not be able to check out a book.

These library assistant positions have existed in the East Lyme School system for decades. They are not new additions that were paid for by the COVID related money received in a one time payment from the government. When considering the budget for next year I implore you to support these essential jobs that ensure our topnotch K-12 Information Literacy programs. Skills, that are needed now more than ever before.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators,
Carla Voitovich

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:20 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:34 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>
Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 4:04 PM
To: khurlock2002@yahoo.com <khurlock2002@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments. We appreciate feedback.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: kim hurlock <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 7:22 AM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as a Administrative Assistant in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

In my work, here are ways that the Board budget will continue to improve the lives of students.

Try to personalize the above to the library aides and library situation.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Kim Hurlock

41 Ancient Highway

East Lyme, CT. 06333 Secretarial Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1303-138 or
Paraprofessional Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1250.

kim hurlock

khurlock2002@yahoo.com

41 Ancient Highway

Eastlyme, Connecticut 06333

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:21 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:33 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>
Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:01 PM
To: stacy10k@hotmail.com <stacy10k@hotmail.com>
Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Stacy Anderson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 1:09 PM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as an administrative assistant in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Eliminating the four library aide positions in all the school libraries will have a direct impact on student learning. The students would have limited access to the libraries. The libraries would not be available to students prior to school opening to do research, homework, etc. When the librarians are at lunch, teaching a class, meetings, the library would be closed to students. When the librarians are out for the day (illness, personal day, etc.), the libraries would NOT be available for students to access and would be closed for the whole day.

The library aides spend numerous hours repairing and collecting overdue books, saving the District tens of thousands of dollars yearly. The librarians do not have time to add these tasks to

their schedules.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Stacy Anderson
130 Boston Post Road Apt. 22 East Lyme
Secretarial Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1303-138

Stacy Anderson
stacy10k@hotmail.com
130 Boston Post Road Apt. 22
East Lyme, Connecticut 06333

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:23 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:31 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:17 AM

To: cmajchrzak810@gmail.com <cmajchrzak810@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Chris Majchrzak <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 11:56 AM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as a teaching assistant in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

As a teaching assistant at the middle school I support over 15 students in their 4 academic classes and resource. Since the pandemic, student needs have risen exponentially both

academically and social emotionally and in addition to my assigned students I am called upon more and more to assist regular ed students. The classroom teachers and myself often find it difficult to provide the individual support required by so many in our 8th grade classes. Student behavior problems are also on the rise as students struggle to cope with frustration, anxiety , family and peer issues. It often falls on paras like myself to deescalate behavior, and provide alternate learning opportunities outside the classroom. We are already experiencing a shortage of paraeducators in our district as fewer people are choosing this stressful low paying job - cutting more positions will leave our hardworking paras scrambling to cover multiple classrooms and students that are outside of their normal assignments - resulting in fewer children receiving the quality support they require.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Chris Majchrzak

78 Chesterfield Rd.

East Lyme, CT 06333

If not resident/ state: Secretarial Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1303-138 or
Paraprofessional Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1250.

Chris Majchrzak

cmajchrzak810@gmail.com

78 Chesterfield RD

East Lyme, Connecticut 06333

FW: MAINTAIN THE BOE BUDGET AS PRESENTED

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:19 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:35 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>
Subject: Fw: MAINTAIN THE BOE BUDGET AS PRESENTED

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:11 PM
To: Cheryl M <cmmagee86@gmail.com>; John Birmingham <jbirmingham@eltownboardmember.org>; Peter Derosa <pderosa@eltownboardmember.org>; Paul Maxfield <pmaxfield@eltownboardmember.org>; Richard Steel <rsteel@eltownboardmember.org>; Lauren McNamara <lmcnamara@eltownboardmember.org>
Subject: Re: MAINTAIN THE BOE BUDGET AS PRESENTED

Thank you for your thoughtful comments. Can you please provide your address for our records?

Regards,
Denise Hall

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Cheryl M <cmmagee86@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 6:56:13 PM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>; John Birmingham <jbirmingham@eltownboardmember.org>; Peter Derosa <pderosa@eltownboardmember.org>; Paul Maxfield <pmaxfield@eltownboardmember.org>; Richard Steel <rsteel@eltownboardmember.org>; Lauren McNamara <lmcnamara@eltownboardmember.org>
Subject: MAINTAIN THE BOE BUDGET AS PRESENTED

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To the East Lyme Board of Finance,

My

name is Cheryl Magee and I am writing to you as one of the full time teachers who joined the East Lyme Public School district this year. I was fortunate to land a position at Lillie B. Haynes as a fourth grade teacher. I previously taught in New Haven for six years. The overwhelming happiness to be hired and become a part of Lillie B. Haynes cannot be put into words. I love my students, my co-workers, parents, and the district.

East Lyme is a place I want to stay for the rest of my career but unfortunately am faced with losing my job if the budget is decreased.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to select East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

Decreasing the budget will have a negative impact not only on the students, but also on the staff at Lillie B Haynes and across the district. East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the **excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching**. I implore you to support the **Board of Education budget as approved**.

“Education is the key to success in life, and teachers make a lasting impact in the lives of their students.” – Solomon Ortiz

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators,

Cheryl Magee

Fourth Grade Teacher

Lillie B. Haynes

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:21 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:33 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>
Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:12 PM
To: ann.alford@elpsk12.org <ann.alford@elpsk12.org>
Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Ann Alford <ann.alford@elpsk12.org>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 6:36 AM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as a [state your job position] in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

In my work, here are ways that the Board budget will continue to improve the lives of students.

Try to personalize the above to the library aides and library situation.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

[Name]

[Address if a resident]

If not resident/ state: Secretarial Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1303-138 or
Paraprofessional Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1250.

Ann Alford

ann.alford@elpsk12.org

10 King Arthur Drive, #167

Niantic, Connecticut 06357

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:22 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:33 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>
Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:17 PM
To: lsheddnickerson@yahoo.com <lsheddnickerson@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Lori Nickerson <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2023 6:49 PM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as a [state your job position] in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

In my work, here are ways that the Board budget will continue to improve the lives of students.

Try to personalize the above to the library aides and library situation.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

[Name]

[Address if a resident]

If not resident/ state: Secretarial Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1303-138 or
Paraprofessional Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1250.

Lori Nickerson

lsheddnickerson@yahoo.com

5 spring st

niantic, Connecticut 06357

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:22 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:33 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>
Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:18 PM
To: Liubov.MikhelsonGorshkov@elpsk12.org <Liubov.MikhelsonGorshkov@elpsk12.org>
Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Liubov Mikhelson Gorshkov <Liubov.MikhelsonGorshkov@elpsk12.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2023 6:30 PM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as a [state your job position] in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

In my work, here are ways that the Board budget will continue to improve the lives of students.

Try to personalize the above to the library aides and library situation.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

[Name]

[Address if a resident]

If not resident/ state: Secretarial Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1303-138 or
Paraprofessional Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1250.

Liubov Mikhelson Gorshkov

Liubov.MikhelsonGorshkov@elpsk12.org

127 Black Point Rd, Apt.5

Niantic, Connecticut 06357

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:22 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:32 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:21 PM

To: edumond526@gmail.com <edumond526@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: edumond526@everyactioncustom.com <edumond526@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of Elizabeth Dumond <edumond526@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 7:37 PM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Dumond

10 Acorn Dr Niantic, CT 06357-1931
edumond526@gmail.com

FW: School Budget Library

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:23 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:31 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: School Budget Library

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:20 AM

To: Jeannine Barber <jeanninebarber@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: School Budget Library

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Jeannine Barber <jeanninebarber@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 8:42 PM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>; John Birmingham <jbirmingham@eltownboardmember.org>; Peter Derosa <pderosa@eltownboardmember.org>; Paul Maxfield <pmaxfield@eltownboardmember.org>; Lauren McNamara <lmcnamara@eltownboardmember.org>; Richard Steel <rsteel@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: School Budget Library

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board Member,

My name is Jeannine Barber and I am the librarian at East Lyme High School. I began working here as an English teacher in 1997.

The focus of this letter is the maintenance of library assistant positions. To eliminate the library positions would be a poor choice financially. Lance and Kachel (2018) write that "even a small elementary library likely has over a quarter of a million dollars in resources and technologies. No business would allow an investment of that value to be unmanaged or disconnected from the primary mission of the organization." They also note that better test scores are associated with "how many times a week students visit their libraries, [and] how flexibly their access to libraries is scheduled" among other things that would be strongly and negatively impacted by eliminating the library assistant positions. Ideally,

librarians work directly with all students and teachers, but one person can not do that effectively in a building with -- in the case of the high school -- 1000 students and 150 adults, while doing the work of maintaining a library. Consider the amount of staff you see in our town library when you are there and bear in mind that they are not teaching, working with students, supporting a curriculum, or managing study halls.

The presented budget will allow us to provide students access to the library's collections, including books, databases, and laptops. Although the notion is that library assistants do not have much contact with students, at the high school it is almost **exclusively** the assistants who check out books and laptops, troubleshoot technical issues, repair and reshelve books, initiate interlibrary loans, and things of that nature. The high school library has had multiple assistants for decades; these are not new positions. Without staff to engage in the more clerical duties of the library, I will not be able to do much of the work of the certified school librarian (instructing students, providing reading incentive programs, and supporting curriculum). Without assistants, the library will have to be closed before and after school as well as some portion of each day, and much of our collection will be inaccessible to students during those times.

If we want to continue to maintain strong schools in East Lyme, we should be aware that some work that is quiet or behind-the-scenes is very much foundational to our libraries and to the success of our schools. More than 30 statewide studies in our country indicate that students earn better standardized test scores in schools that have strong library programs (Lance and Kachel, 2018). What makes a strong library program? Funding the program to function properly with the appropriate human staffing, for one. As we continue to add materials and programs to help the students of East Lyme to succeed, we must be mindful that human resources are necessary to manage those materials and to get them into the hands of students.

Thank you for your support,

Jeannine Barber

135 Pennsylvania Avenue

Niantic CT 06357

Lance, Keith Curry, and Debra E. Kachel. "Why school librarians matter: What years of research tell us: When schools have high-quality library programs and librarians who share their expertise with the entire school community, student achievement gets a boost." *Phi Delta Kappan*, vol. 99, no. 7, Apr. 2018.

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:23 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:31 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:22 AM

To: cindy.campbell@snet.net <cindy.campbell@snet.net>

Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: Cindy Campbell <cindy.campbell@snet.net>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 5:42 AM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as an administrative assistant in the East Lyme Public Schools and grandparent of 3 children attending ELHS and Lillie B Haynes, I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible,

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education

budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Cynthia Campbell
81 East Pattagansett Road
Niantic, CT

Cindy Campbell
cindy.campbell@snet.net
81 East Pattagansett Road
Niantic , Connecticut 06357

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltonhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:23 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltonboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:31 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltonhall.com>
Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltonboardmember.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:25 AM
To: thunt01@snet.net <thunt01@snet.net>
Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Tiffany Hunt <thunt01@snet.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 8:01 AM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltonboardmember.org>
Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as a Administrative Assistant in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

Eliminating the four library aide positions in all the school libraries will have a direct impact on student learning. Most of all, the students would have limited access to the libraries. The libraries would not be available to students prior to school opening to do research, homework, etc. nor

during any time the librarian is not present (attending meetings, absent, etc.).

The library aides spend numerous hours repairing and collecting overdue books, saving the District tens of thousands of dollars yearly. The librarians do not have time to add these tasks to their schedules.

At the high school, library aides are the point of contact when a teacher or administrator needs technical equipment set up (touch boards, laptops, etc.) for a class or meeting. They are very involved in the collection and distribution of student devices at the end and beginning of the school year.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Tiffany Hunt

Secretarial Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1303-138

8 Indian Rock Road

Niantic, CT

Tiffany Hunt

thunt01@snet.net

8 INDIAN ROCK RD

NIANTIC, Connecticut 06357

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:22 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:32 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:22 PM

To: Mbgroovy100@gmail.com <Mbgroovy100@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: Mbgroovy100@everyactioncustom.com <Mbgroovy100@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of Marybeth Marchand <Mbgroovy100@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 5:53 PM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Sincerely,

Marybeth Marchand

62 Fenwood Dr Old Saybrook, CT 06475-3029
Mbgroovy100@gmail.com

From: Leigh Charron <leighbrew9@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:00 AM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>; John Birmingham <jbirmingham@eltownboardmember.org>; Peter Derosa <pderosa@eltownboardmember.org>; Paul Maxfield <pmaxfield@eltownboardmember.org>; Lauren McNamara <lmcnamara@eltownboardmember.org>; Richard Steel <rsteel@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Approve BOE budget

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

My name is Leigh Charron. Address is 7 Lake Shore Drive, Niantic, CT 06357. I have a 5 year old at Niantic Center, a 3 year old and baby on the way. We choose to move to East Lyme for the schools. To continue to attract and retain new families and tax base please approve the BOE budget increase. Not approving it is making cuts that will directly negatively impact me and my family. My 5 year old. and all young learners need lots of support. I was very happy when the BOE decided not to support 18.5 staff position cuts. The paras are a crucial part of her learning to read and helping the teacher. Please approve the BOE budget and maintain East Lyme Public Schools excellence. That is why we just bought a house in EL.

Thank you,

Leigh Charron

607-222-8463

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:20 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:34 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 4:07 PM

To: jbhallowell@comcast.net <jbhallowell@comcast.net>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments and your support of our schools.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: jbhallowell@everyactioncustom.com <jbhallowell@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of Jennifer Hallowell <jbhallowell@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2023 7:05 PM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Dear Board of Finance Members,

I have been a teacher in East Lyme for thirty years, and although I don't live in East Lyme, I am invested in the community and the school system, and I would hate to see it deteriorate due to budget cuts. As teachers, we have faced many challenges in recent years and have done our best to roll with the punches. Cutting teachers, programs and money for supplies and materials just makes our job that much more difficult. Don't our kids deserve a quality education, especially after all they've gone through in recent years? The proposed cuts will have a profound impact on their educational experience and must be avoided at all cost.

Please, please support the Board of Education budget, so we can maintain the quality and excellence that East Lyme Schools has always been known for.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hallowell
English Teacher
East Lyme High School

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hallowell
61 Old Post Rd Old Saybrook, CT 06475-4422
jbhallowell@comcast.net

FW: EL Town Resident Letter to BoF

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)
To: brookers2@aol.com
Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:18 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:36 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>
Subject: Fw: EL Town Resident Letter to BoF

From: Brian Zahnstecher <biomedbz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 2:44 PM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>; John Birmingham <jbirmingham@eltownboardmember.org>; Peter Derosa <pderosa@eltownboardmember.org>; Paul Maxfield <pmaxfield@eltownboardmember.org>; Lauren McNamara <lmcnamara@eltownboardmember.org>; Richard Steel <rsteel@eltownboardmember.org>
Cc: Caryn Ploszay <caryntif@hotmail.com>; Amy Ruzzo <amyruzzo@gmail.com>; Karen Galbo <kgalbo@eltownhall.com>
Subject: EL Town Resident Letter to BoF

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

EL BoF:

Please find the attached letter in advance of tonight's special meeting of the BoF to review the BoE's budget presentation.

We will very much appreciate the attached letter being acknowledged, read, and ideally internalized by the BoF prior to making any final decisions on the BoE's existing budget.

If there is anything else we can do and/or provide to facilitate this request, then please do not hesitate to let us know.

Thanks in advance and looking forward to tonight's meeting!

Regards,
Brian

Brian Zahnstecher
65 E Pattagansett Rd

Niantic, CT 06357
cell: 508-847-5747



Zahnstecher Letter to EL BOF SIGNED SENT (3-28-23).pdf
296.9kB

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltoynhall.com)
To: brookers2@aol.com
Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:21 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltoynboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:34 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltoynhall.com>
Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltoynboardmember.org>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 4:59 PM
To: bethany.perry@mail.com <bethany.perry@mail.com>
Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.
Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Bethany Perry <bethany.perry@mail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 3:35 PM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltoynboardmember.org>
Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as a Teaching Assistant at the Middle School in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

In my work, here are ways the Board budget will continue to improve the lives of students. It will allow for the current number of paraeducators to remain employed within the East Lyme School

District.

Paraeducators are so important to the education of our students because we work closely with students to help them understand materials presented by classroom teachers and to help them complete their assignments, allowing them not only to access the curriculum, but also to meet high expectations successfully. In addition, paraprofessionals working in the Media Centers are very important because their work allows for the organization of research materials needed by classroom teachers, and allows for the Media Center to remain open when Media Teachers are teaching classes, such that students have access to research and reading materials throughout every school day.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Bethany Perry

Paraprofessional Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1250.

Bethany Perry

bethany.perry@mail.com

33 Mulberry Street

Norwich, Connecticut 06360

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:21 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:33 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:08 PM

To: Kelsimcbarron@gmail.com <Kelsimcbarron@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Kelsimcbarron@everyactioncustom.com <Kelsimcbarron@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of Kelsi Melnick <Kelsimcbarron@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 8:46 AM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Sincerely,

Kelsi Melnick
11 Michigan Cir Oakdale, CT 06370-1540
Kelsimcbarron@gmail.com

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:21 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:34 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 4:58 PM

To: rachel.ryan@elpsk12.org <rachel.ryan@elpsk12.org>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: rachel.ryan@everyactioncustom.com <rachel.ryan@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of Rachel Ryan <rachel.ryan@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2023 4:51 PM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Sincerely,

Rachel Ryan

42 Swan Ave Old Lyme, CT 06371-2252

rachel.ryan@elpsk12.org

FW: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:22 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:32 PM
To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>
Subject: Fw: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:18 PM
To: p.hesney@yahoo.com <p.hesney@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,
Denise Hall

From: Patricia Hesney <info@email.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2023 5:20 PM
To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>
Subject: Maintain the East Lyme BOE Budget As Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Denise Hall,

I am writing as the Secretary Union's President in East Lyme Public Schools. I urge you to maintain the East Lyme Board of Education (BOE) budget.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

In my work, here are ways that the Board budget will continue to improve the lives of students.

The four library aides are essential for the daily library operations and cutting these positions will have a negative impact on students in all the schools. Not only do they assist the librarians and free them up to teach lessons, they interact and assist students, teachers and parents, from locating books, checking out books, and help research projects. They have checked out thousands and thousands of books just this school year, saving the district thousands of dollars by ensuring these borrowed books are returned. Also as part of their plethora of duties, they repair and rebind hundred of books year round, reducing the need to order replacements. If the library aides are cut, the libraries would not be available at all times to students. The libraries would need to be CLOSED to students when the librarians have lunch, sick days, are teaching a class, or are in meetings. The negative direct impact would be profound.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Pat Hesney

Secretarial Union Member, AFSCME Council 4, Local 1303-138

Patricia Hesney

p.hesney@yahoo.com

3 Oswegatchie Rd

Waterford , Connecticut .06385

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:22 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:32 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:23 PM

To: anthonymaiese@gmail.com <anthonymaiese@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: anthonymaiese@everyactioncustom.com <anthonymaiese@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of Anthony Maiese <anthonymaiese@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 5:26 PM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Sincerely,

Anthony Maiese

25 Woodland Rd Waterford, CT 06385-3919
anthonymaiese@gmail.com

FW: Maintain The BOE Budget A Presented

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:19 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:34 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Maintain The BOE Budget A Presented

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:14 PM

To: Megan Black <blackm431@gmail.com>

Cc: John Birmingham <jbirmingham@eltownboardmember.org>; Peter Derosa <pderosa@eltownboardmember.org>; Paul Maxfield <pmaxfield@eltownboardmember.org>; Lauren McNamara <lmcnamara@eltownboardmember.org>; Richard Steel <rsteel@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Re: Maintain The BOE Budget A Presented

Thank you for your thoughtful comments. Can you please provide your address for our records?

Regards,

Denise Hall

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Megan Black <blackm431@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 6:56:58 PM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Cc: John Birmingham <jbirmingham@eltownboardmember.org>; Peter Derosa <pderosa@eltownboardmember.org>; Paul Maxfield <pmaxfield@eltownboardmember.org>; Lauren McNamara <lmcnamara@eltownboardmember.org>; Richard Steel <rsteel@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Maintain The BOE Budget A Presented

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Evening to the East Lyme Board of Finance,

My name is Megan Black and I teach first grade at Lillie B Haynes. I was hired by the district in August 2022. Although I am new to East Lyme, I am not new to teaching, as I taught for the Norwich Public School system for 10 years prior.

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

Getting hired by East Lyme has truly been a dream job for me! From the amazing staff, the caring families, and most important of all, the rock star students! They deserve every opportunity we can give them! Anytime anyone asks how I like my new job, I have the same response. I absolutely love it. I feel like I switched careers, and I truly mean it. I am a single Mom to a 4 year daughter and it would be heartbreaking for us to lose my job. I have come to love this community and the students in it!

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your time! Most importantly, thank you for your hard work, dedication, and support to the students, families, and staff of East Lyme.

Thank you,

Megan Black

FW: Please maintain the EL Board of Education budget

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:19 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:35 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please maintain the EL Board of Education budget

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2023 2:41 PM

To: Julian Evans <mrjgevens@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Please maintain the EL Board of Education budget

Thank you for your comments. For our records, can you please provide your address?

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: Julian Evans <mrjgevens@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2023 11:50 AM

Subject: Please maintain the EL Board of Education budget

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

March 11, 2023

Dear East Lyme Board of Finance,

My name is Julian Evans and I have worked in the ELPS district for the past 23 years. I currently serve as one of the elementary Technology Education teachers and have held this position for the past two years at Flanders School. Prior to this, I have dedicated my career as a 4th grade teacher at Flanders.

I am writing to the Board of Finance in support of the proposed budget sent to you by the Board of Education. It is my belief that this budget, in its current state, will sustain the level of quality in education that the residents expect in the town of East Lyme. Parents and students alike should continue to receive this educational excellence as it is the appropriate response in a post-pandemic environment.

As a specialist teacher who teaches every student, I have borne witness to a school which still feels the post-effects of the pandemic on a daily basis. Students are not the same as the ones I have taught in the past, as many struggle to problem-solve both academically and socially. The elementary-aged child is particularly vulnerable in this respect as many had the most formative years upset by the effects of distance learning and the pandemic. As a town, it is our duty to provide a nurturing and academically stimulating environment. We can only do this if the proposed budget does not cut essential workers and services.

I transferred to my current position because I have always been passionate about technology and science. All students now have a device and it is paramount that we give each of them the skills and responsibility to adjust to this modality. Our East Lyme students need broad instruction in technology to cover the life skills of typing, Windows, Office 365, Chrome and its extensions. We are living increasingly digital lives and our students' ability to utilize technology will likely be a determining factor in their future jobs. By providing students with a solid foundation in computer science and digital literacy, we are preparing them for success in the middle and high schools, and by effect, the 21st century.

East Lyme must continue to invest in our students' future. I have spoken to many parents over the years who have valued our amazing district for its high quality of education, amenities, and dedicated professionals. They chose to live in East Lyme because we all value education from preschool to high school. We should not let down the parents, the educational professionals who work within the schools, and most of all, the students who depend on us to deliver every day. We can only do this if the town passes a realistic budget - one in which the Board of Education's vision is not impeded but allowed to meet the students' needs. By consequence, East Lyme will be helping to secure the town's future growth, workforce and attractability to employers.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope the Board of Finance will heartily support the proposed budget. I truly appreciate your leadership and dedication to East Lyme, its residents and most of all, to our next generation: the students.

Respectfully,

Julian Evans

FW: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Brooke Stevens (bstevens@eltownhall.com)

To: brookers2@aol.com

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 10:21 AM EDT

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:33 PM

To: Brooke Stevens <bstevens@eltownhall.com>

Subject: Fw: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

From: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Sent: Monday, March 27, 2023 5:02 PM

To: teifi123@gmail.com <teifi123@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

Thank you for your comments.

Regards,

Denise Hall

From: teifi123@everyactioncustom.com <teifi123@everyactioncustom.com> on behalf of CHRISTOPHER FAULKNER <teifi123@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2023 10:40 AM

To: Denise Hall <dhall@eltownboardmember.org>

Subject: Please support East Lyme students, educators & schools

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Denise Hall,

Maintaining the East Lyme Board of Education budget will continue to provide educational excellence in East Lyme. The Board budget shows that this town is willing to put resources into students who have experienced learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board budget continues vital services and staffing levels that attract parents to selecting East Lyme schools. The Board budget is responsible, thoughtful, and affordable.

As a teacher in the system for 23 years, I have never seen an issue with the budget such as this. I believe this is because the Board of Education and the Board of Finance have historically & successfully balanced the needs of the overall town with the needs of it's children. Due to an unusual confluence of factors, this year is especially difficult and hopefully an aberration. If the budget is not accepted as presented, students will have fewer specials due to the elimination of technology education teachers. Specials are an important for a well rounded student and also to allow them to have a more varied and enriched day. Furthermore, this would reduce "plan" time for teachers which has been continuously absorbed by meetings about students and data. As a result, lessons will not be as effective.

As a board of finance it is your responsibility to the taxpayers to assure their tax dollars are being spent wisely. As I understand, East Lyme Schools has often been under budget at the end of the budget year showing good faith in their attempts to spend wisely. Please take this into account and speak about this if and when you support the budget as presented. I also understand that Salem provides approximately \$3,000,000 in tuition for their high school students that goes directly to the town budget. Is it possible to use some of this to help?

East Lyme families choose East Lyme Public schools because of the excellent quality of educational services, programs, and teaching. I implore you to support the Board of Education budget as approved.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and educators.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER FAULKNER

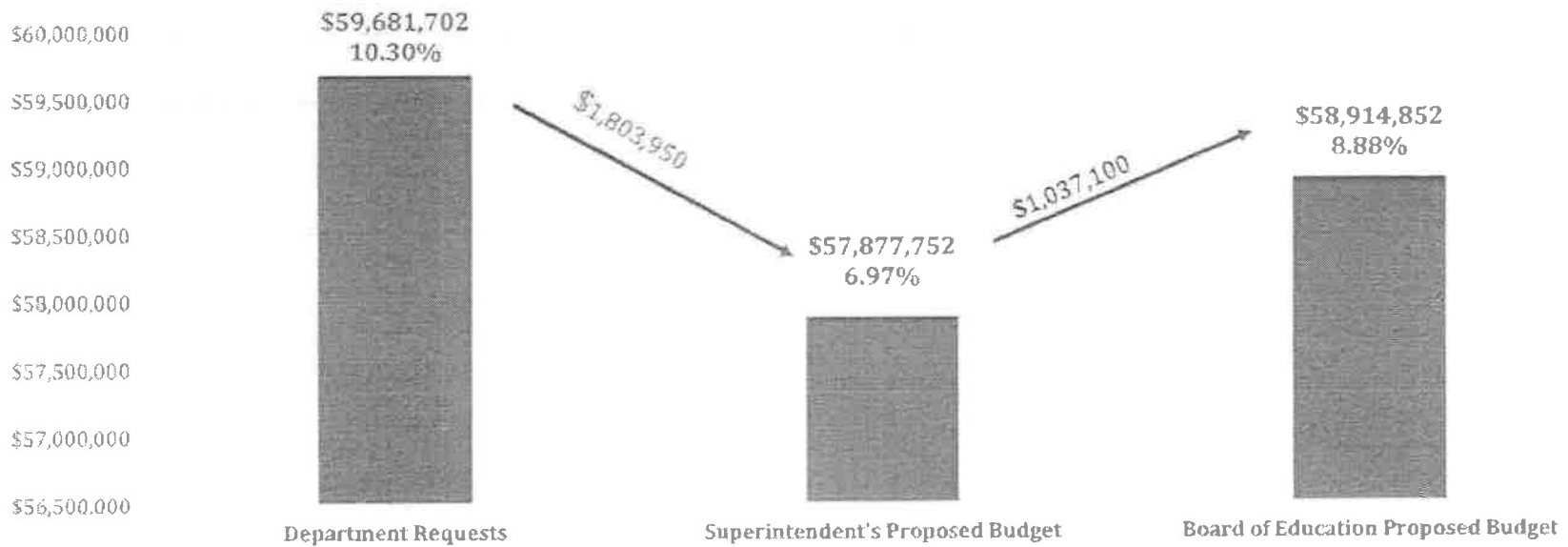
19 Wintergreen Dr Quaker Hill, CT 06375-1437

teifi123@gmail.com

East Lyme Board of Education Budget Timeline

November 14, 2022	Board of Education, Special Meeting - Budget Workshop # 1-Initial Budget Discussions
December 15, 2022	Board of Education, Special Meeting - Budget Workshop #2-Initial Proposed Budget Increase of 10.30%
January 9, 2023	Board of Education Regular Meeting: Superintendent's 2023/2024 Proposed Budget Presentation with Proposed Increase of 6.97%
January 30, 2023	Board of Education Special Meeting-Budget Discussions
February 6, 2023	Board of Education, Regular Meeting-Continued Budget Discussions
February 13, 2023	Board of Education, Special Meeting- Public Forum Budget Discussion with Presentation and Q & A
February 13, 2023	Board of Education, Special Meeting-Continued Budget Discussions
February 27, 2023	Board of Education, Public Hearing/Special Meeting Immediately Following-Possible Adoption of Budget

East Lyme Public Schools 2023-2024 Proposed Budget



2023-2024 Major Budget Drivers

The major budget drivers listed below make up 98.50% or \$4,734,708 of the total proposed budget increase of \$4,806,374 and reflect an increase of 8.88% rather than the previous 6.97% increase.

Salaries

43.92% or \$2,110,891 of Budget Increase

- The increase in salaries is due to contractual increases and the increase in minimum wage
- Contractual increases averaged 2.50%
- In addition, a collective bargaining agreement settled after the finalization of the 2022-2023 budget
- As a result of the increase in CT minimum wage, the increase in wages were higher than the estimate included in the 2022-2023 budget

Benefits

39.48% or \$1,897,396 of Budget Increase

- The increase in benefits is primarily due to the increase in estimated increase in health insurance premiums of 12%
- Additionally, unanticipated changes in employee plans in 2022-2023 (i.e., 2 person to family) increased 2022-2023 health insurance expenditures

Operating Expenses

15.11% or \$726,421 of Budget Increase

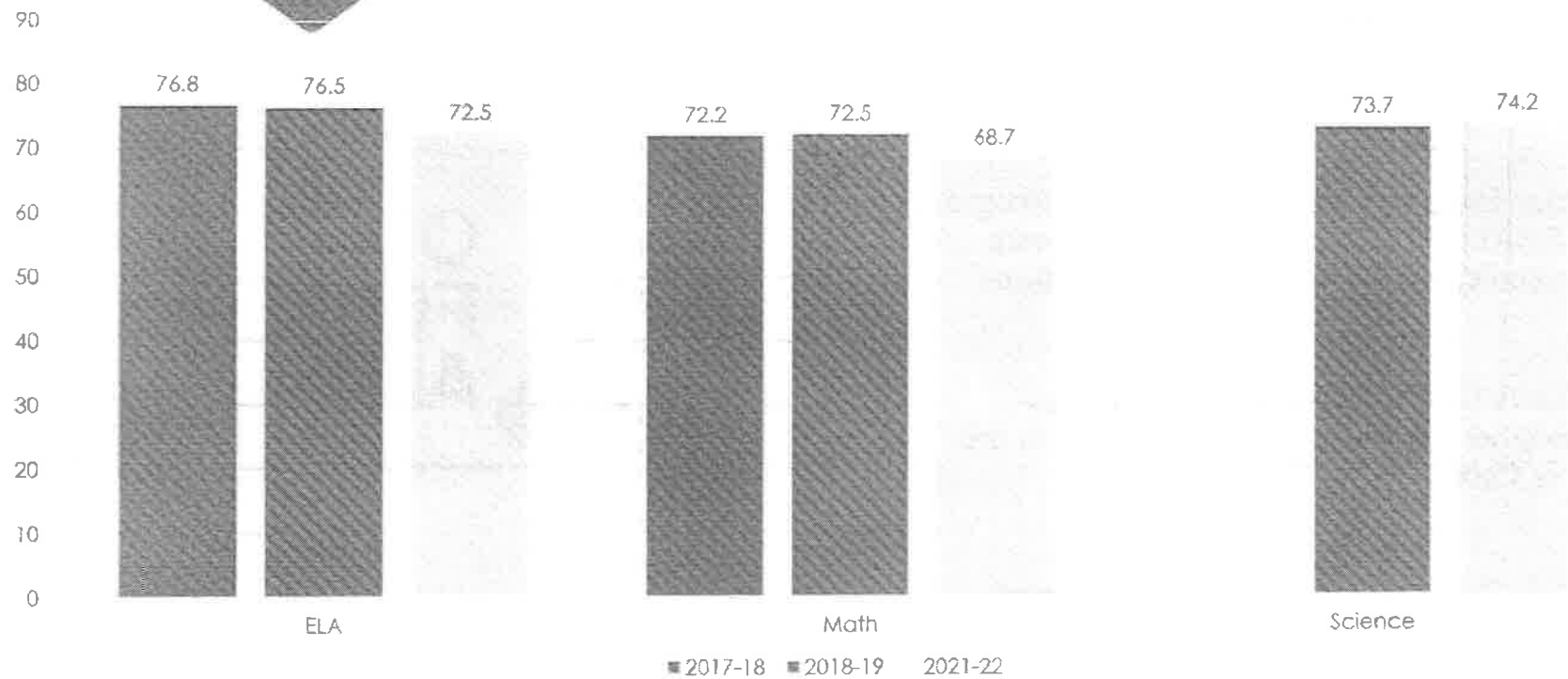
- Operating expenses includes, utilities, plant operations and contracted services
- Increases in energy costs (electricity, natural gas, heating oil, and fuel) account for most of the increase in operating expenses (\$390,760)
- Increases in plant operations such as repairs and maintenance, projects and increases in contract costs due to inflation make up a majority of the remaining increase

District Educational Focus Areas

- **Maintaining Appropriate Class Sizes**
- **Further Engagement in the Pathways Program and Efforts that Connect our Schools with Community Businesses and Organizations**
- **Continue Offering a Robust Educational Experience for all Students Focusing on the Whole Child**
- **Provide Ongoing Intervention and Tiered Support for all Students**



2017-2021: District Performance Index Math, ELA & Science



Social and Emotional & Mental Health Crisis Data

2022-2023 Data (as of March 1, 2023):

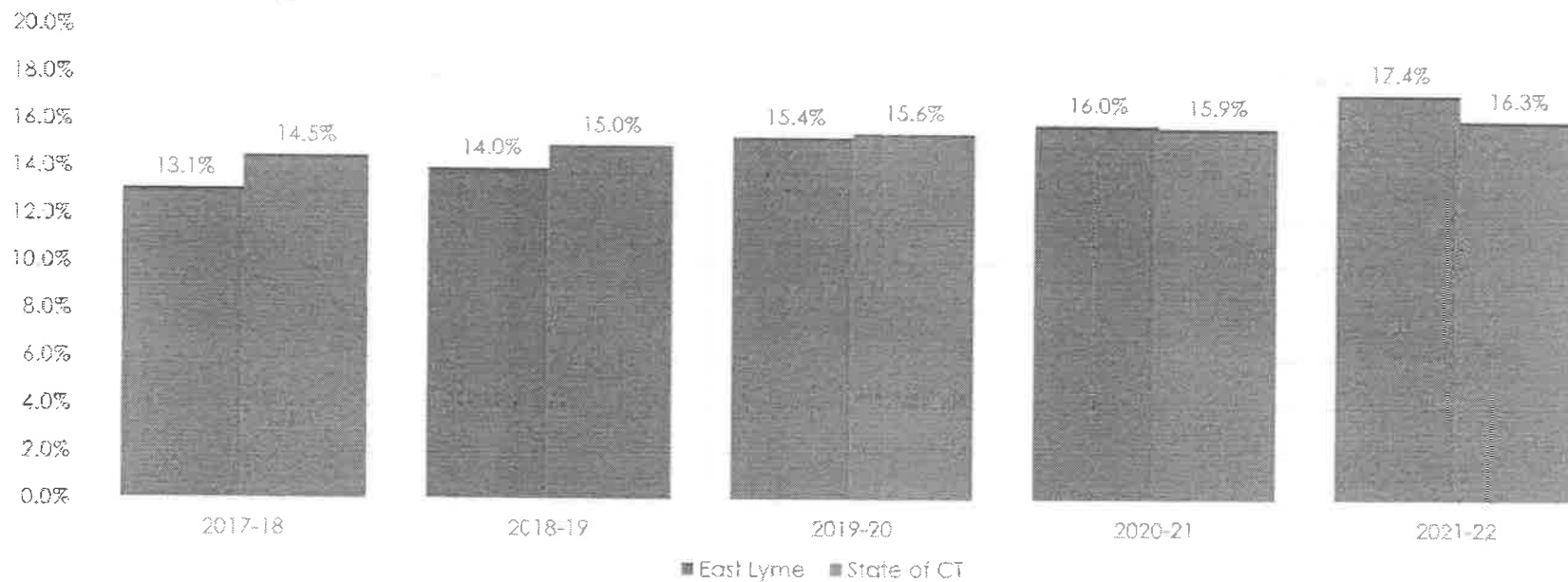
- *MS Crisis Data* – 67 student incidents
- *HS Crisis Data* - 90 student incidents

2021-2022 Data:

- 124 referrals to special education. 83 students qualified for services

Social Emotional Learning continues to be a priority and is supported by ongoing access to professional learning as well as universal screening 3x per year for all students

Special Education Prevalence Rates



2022-2023 Out of District Student Comparison Numbers by DRG

	Total Enrollment	OUTPLACED 2022-23
MILFORD	5,416	93
WALLINGFORD	5,342	60
WINDSOR	3,288	54
CROMWELL	1,948	43
SHELTON	4,423	42
NEWINGTON	3,922	37
WATERTOWN	2,604	34
NEW MILFORD	3,694	32
BERLIN	2,668	25
BETHEL	3,160	25
BRANFORD	2,750	21
WATERFORD	2,500	21
STONINGTON	2,000	17
SOUTHINGTON	6,266	17
COLCHESTER	2,221	16
EAST HAMPTON	1,786	12
OLD SAYBROOK	1,100	11
ROCKY HILL	2,537	10
EAST LYME	2,650	10
EAST GRANBY	827	6
CLINTON	1,700	Awaiting Information
LEDYARD	2,400	Awaiting Information

East Lyme Public Schools Out of District Costs

Out of District

- Students: 10
- Tuition: \$96,000(average)
- Transportation: \$28,000(average)

Benefits of Keeping Education in District

- Cost Savings
- Programming with Peers
- Access to the Community
- Diversity in the Student Body

Per Pupil Expenditures (Across SE CT)

DISTRICT NAME	PER PUPIL EXPENDITURE	RANKED HIGHEST TO LOWEST
OLD SAYBROOK	25,787	20
DISTRICT NO. 18	22,995	42
MADISON	22,882	44
CLINTON	21,739	63
NORWICH	21,138	72
WATERFORD	20,977	75
EAST LYME	20,224	88
NEW LONDON	20,117	89
GUILFORD	19,795	96
SALEM	19,163	108
MONTVILLE	18,821	120
GROTON	18,320	131
GRISWOLD	18,067	139
NORTH STONINGTON	17,462	150
LEDYARD	16,496	159

Per Pupil Expenditure

2021-2022 DRG D

District	Per Pupil Expenditure	Ranked Highest to Lowest
OLD SAYBROOK	25,787	20
EAST GRANBY	23,019	41
MILFORD	22,591	46
BRANFORD	22,294	53
CLINTON	21,739	63
STONINGTON	21,216	69
WATERFORD	20,977	75
WALLINGFORD	20,917	77
WINDSOR	20,713	79
NEWINGTON	20,382	85
BERLIN	20,322	86
EAST LYME	20,224	88
EAST HAMPTON	19,146	109
WATERTOWN	19,122	111
NORTH HAVEN	19,120	112
COLCHESTER	18,838	119
ROCKY HILL	18,690	125
CROMWELL	18,134	137
WETHERSFIELD	17,864	143
BETHEL	17,507	149
SOUTHINGTON	17,102	153
NEW MILFORD	16,975	155
LEDYARD	16,496	159

East Lyme Public Schools Projected Future Enrollment

K-12, School Years 2022-23 to 2032-33

