

Fwd: Board of Education Budget

Thu 3/12/2015 9:05 AM

From: John

To: Arlene Miles



For correspondence

Begin forwarded message:

Date: March 12, 2015 at 9:01:00 AM EDT

Subject: Board of Education Budget

From: Kinga Walsh <kingawalsh@gmail.com>

To: John Kortze <jkortze@yahoo.com>, Harrison Waterbury <harrison.waterbury@sbcglobal.net>, Joe Kearney <jkearney19@aol.com>, Michael Portnoy <mike.e.portnoy@gmail.com>, Jim Filan <James.Filan@gmail.com>, John Godin <jgodin1312@gmail.com>

Cc: Karyn Holden <karyn.holden@prudential.com>, newtownboe@newtown.k12.ct.us, Joe Erardi <erardij@newtown.k12.ct.us>

Dear Newtown's Board of Finance,

I am unable to attend tonight's meeting but wanted to share a few things with you in support of the proposed Board of Education budget.

First and foremost, please do not make any further reductions (beyond adjustments) to the proposed amount. Any further reductions will have a direct impact on students and staff and will impact the ability of the Board and Central Office to maintain current services as they are now listed. Even though you cannot make specific line item reductions, even rounded possible reductions will mean a negative impact to staffing, transportation, new programs or something else.

As it stands now, the total tax impact of the combined BOE and BOS budgets is 0% (per emails from Bob Tait as well as information from the Town budget). Although no tax increase is nice and so would be a decrease, the reality is that the integrity of the existing educational programs is more important. And please keep in mind that the current 0% increase appeases a large group in town I believe so by leaving the budget amount intact, you are actually respecting two town groups.

It is clear from the Board of Education's thorough and immediate answers to your questions (which also helped the public) as well as the scope of the budget book itself that a great deal of time, effort, collaboration, cooperation and team work went into the budget. Morale among staff, as I understand it, has improved considerably under Dr. Erardi's leadership. Let's work to ensure that the morale stays up by giving the staff, teachers, administrators and students what they are asking to be maintained as well as enhanced.

Finally, when making your final decision, please consider with full weight the qualitative areas of the budget - those that appear as a line item on the budget page but become an educational tool that directly (emotionally and physically) impacts each student and staff member within our district.

Once again, please leave the Board of Education's proposed budget amount in tact and let the voters decide.

Thank you for your time and service to Newtown.

Regards,

Kinga Walsh

Fwd: Please pass the budget as is

Thu 3/12/2015 1:07 PM

From: John Kortze

To: Arlene Miles



For correspondence

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Judy Dubois" <chuckjudydubois@charter.net>

Date: March 12, 2015 at 11:47:39 AM EDT

To: "John Kortze" <jkortze@yahoo.com>, "Harrison Waterbury" <harrison.waterbury@sbcglobal.net>, "Joe Kearney" <jkearney19@aol.com>, "Michael Portnoy" <mike.e.portnoy@gmail.com>, "Jim Filan" <James.Filan@gmail.com>, "John Godin" <jgodin1312@gmail.com>

Subject: Please pass the budget as is

Dear BOF,

Please leave the BOE requested budget amount (currently \$71,915,679) as is and pass it onto the LC and the voters.

I cannot attend the meeting tonite so please take into consideration my email. I personally feel it should include more money

for education in order to move our schools and students forward but I would vote Yes if it stays as is.

Thank you,

Judy and Chuck Dubois

7 Marlin Rd