
SECTION 1

TOWN OF TRUMBULL BOARD OF EDUCATION

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TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT 06611

203-452-4301

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February 11, 2021

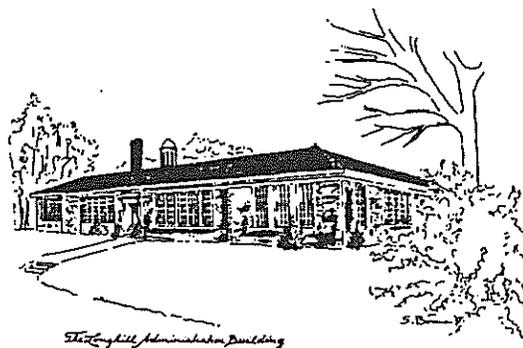
The Honorable Vicki Tesoro
First Selectman, Town of Trumbull
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

Dear First Selectman Tesoro,

On February 9, 2021, the Trumbull Board of Education unanimously passed its 2021-2022 budget request. In accordance with its statutory responsibility, the Board of Education is requesting \$113,751,421, an amount that represents a 4.33% increase and equates to an addition of \$4,725,539 over the 2020-2021 allocation. Please note that this budget increase is derived by a few major drivers: Staff Benefits (\$1.919 million); Transportation (\$973,000); Additional Staff (\$477,000); Special Revenue Accounts (\$430,000); Magnet School (\$245,000); Salaries (\$190,000); and Utilities (\$44,000).

This budget works to accomplish two major goals. First, we have identified areas in the 2020-2021 budget that have built-in deficits. Areas such as InterDistrict, Strings and Band, and the lunch account have not been properly funded by either the operational budget or parent fees to meet the expected expenses. Therefore, this budget request includes the \$430,000 needed to meet these expenses and avoid deficit spending in those specific areas. Second, this budget works to responsibly rebuild the Trumbull Public Schools by adding back high priority positions. The 2021-2022 budget provides funding to bring back positions that work directly with students. The positions include literacy and math specialists, bi-lingual tutor, wellness teacher, school psychologist, speech and language pathologist, and a special education teacher. In addition, we have included a Director of Human Resources, Director of Operations, Payroll Support, and Data Support Specialist to ensure maximum efficiency and adherence to both legal and State obligations.

The Trumbull Board of Education is aware of the financial uncertainty that exists in our town, state, and nation. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a financial crisis that has impacted the revenue sources of each town and the State of Connecticut. The pandemic has also created an educational crisis where all students have been required to learn in different ways. While our students, parents, and teachers have done an excellent job, we know that virtual learning is not the same as in-person learning. Therefore, the teaching and learning positions being rebuilt into our budget are more critical than at any other recent time.



The Honorable Vicki Tesoro
Page 2
February 11, 2021

On behalf of the Board, I want to thank the Superintendent and his staff for all their efforts and hard work in developing and preparing this document and extend my appreciation to all involved in any way in the process. As you review this proposal, the Board wants to emphasize that any monies the Town appropriates to the Board of Education will be utilized wisely, responsibly and as intended. Trumbull has a superb school system of which our community should be proud. It is our hope that you will look with favor on our request, and I thank you for your continuing support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucinda A. Timpanelli". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Lucinda A. Timpanelli, Chairman
Trumbull Board of Education