



Committed to Excellence

Martin J. Semmel, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

6254 Main St., Trumbull, CT 06611
Tel: 203-452-4301 Fax: 203-452-4305

msemmel@trumbullps.org
www.trumbullps.org

January 2, 2022

Dear Parents and Staff,

As we move to the second half of the 2021-2022 school year I have high expectations for a strong finish. By no stretch of the imagination has this school year been easy for anyone, but we have all worked hard to adapt and make the year successful. I am deeply appreciative to the entire Trumbull Public Schools staff as they collaborate to ensure a high-quality education in a safe learning environment for all children. Absences due to COVID have been the most obvious impact during the school year so far but there are other direct and indirect impacts that COVID has created in society and therefore our schools. I am cautiously optimistic about the current trends for COVID data in our area. I truly hope that we see the precipitous drop in case numbers and, of course, the correlated drop in hospitalizations and deaths. I am also hopeful that Mother Nature stops challenging us with ill-timed storms as I think we would all prefer a mid-June graduation date to one that occurs in late June.

2022-2023 Budget

In Trumbull we are fortunate to have an engaged community focused on the needs of everyone. I look forward to the opportunity to advocate for what our public school students need from their education and to collaborate with all elected officials to help do this in a fiscally responsible way. I recognize the challenges faced by growing tax burdens and the increased needs of our students. If you missed my team's presentation of the 2022-2023 budget, you can view both presentations using the links below. We did our best to identify the needs of the Trumbull Public Schools and developed our budget to ensure that the high-quality programming expected by the community is maintained. A review of slides 13-15 on the "Budget Presentation" link below demonstrate that Trumbull is spending between \$1,749 and \$3,564 less per pupil on average than towns in our area or towns in a similar economic situation. I share this information because it's important to emphasize two points: 1) The Trumbull Public Schools have been highly efficient with its public funds; 2) This difference in funding will impact the quality of our schools as compared to our peers, and steps should be taken to ensure that Trumbull remains a leader in providing a quality education. The Board of Education is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, February 8, where a vote on a final Board of Education proposed budget is expected. I appreciate your continued engagement with the budget process.

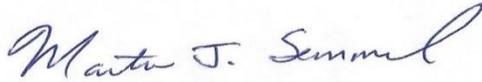
Budget Resources

- BOE Meeting - January 11
<https://www.facebook.com/TrumbullCommunityTelevision/videos/660802131623401>

- BOE Meeting - January 13
<https://www.facebook.com/TrumbullCommunityTelevision/videos/600165267744119>
- Budget Page on Website – <https://www.trumbullps.org/boe/budget.html>
- Budget Powerpoint Presentation:
<https://www.trumbullps.org/Attachments/boe/budgets/22-23/Presentation-1-11-22%20PDF.pdf>

In closing I offer you a quote from Steven Dubner of the Freakonomics podcast, “Take care of yourself, and if you can, someone else too”.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martin J. Semmel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'M'.

Martin J. Semmel, Ed.D.