



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

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Dear Families and Staff,

I wanted to share a few important updates regarding the Trumbull Public Schools.

Budget 2021-2022

At the BOE meeting on Tuesday, the BOE unanimously approved my proposed budget of \$113,751,421. This is a 4.33% increase over the 2020-2021 budget. Please note that a few major drivers cause this budget increase: Staff Benefits (\$1.919 million); Transportation (\$973,000); Additional Staff (\$477,000); Special Revenue Accounts (\$430,000); Magnet School Tuition (\$245,000); Salaries (\$190,000); and Utilities (\$44,000). You can find my PowerPoint presentation from Tuesday evening on our website [here](#) and you can [watch](#) the BOE meeting where I walked everyone through the needed increase. The budget discussion begins at the 51:24 mark in the video. All of our budget information can be found on our website [here](#).

Lunch Program

The lunch program continues to lose money each month. This is because our revenue is not matching our expenses. Because breakfasts and lunches are free to all students, we get full reimbursement (at a profit) from the USDA. **Therefore, we need to give away approximately 33,500 meals per week to break even.** I would encourage you to do the following. **When your child is in school, have them get a full breakfast and lunch every day. You may also pick up meals for any remote learning days and the weekends at the schools.** School pickup times are generally on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 – 11:00. I know all of this seems a little backwards, but in order to eliminate our monthly deficits in our lunch program this is the best way to help. We appreciate everyone who is helping as our participation has increased steadily. Any questions, please email our Food Service director at bsinko@trumbullps.org.

Travel Advisory – Updated

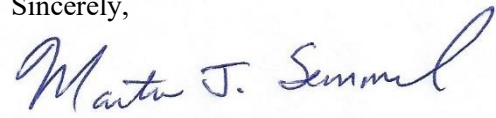
I wanted to clarify some information you received yesterday regarding the travel advisory. I wanted to remind everyone that you can test out of the required 10-day self-quarantine. I believe the most concise information regarding our state's travel advisory can be found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Coronavirus/20210120-DPH-Travel-Advisory.pdf>

Operational Review

The Operational Review conducted on the BOE finances contained 66 recommendations. The BOE received the report on January 4 and has tasked the administration to provide at least monthly updates on the progress made on these recommendations. At the February 9 BOE meeting our Business Manager provided an update to the BOE where he reviewed some of the high priority recommendations. You can

find the complete report on our website [here](#). We will update this report at least monthly.

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.