



EAST LYME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 220 • East Lyme, Connecticut 06333 • (860) 739-3966 • Fax (860) 739-1215

Jeffrey R. Newton
Superintendent of Schools

Amy Drowne
*Assistant Superintendent of
Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment*

Kimberly Davis
*Director of
Student Services*

Maryanna Stevens, CPA
*Director of Finance, Marketing,
and Growth Management*

April 28, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you are currently aware, The State of Connecticut, along with the Town of East Lyme and other states across the nation, are dealing with financial struggles and a recession comparable to that of 2008. After multiple discussions with the Board of Education, we feel it would not be prudent or fiscally responsible to move forward to the Board of Finance their adopted 4.98% proposed budget increase for 2020-2021. Therefore, we are making additional reductions that are appropriate due to the current state of our economy which we feel will also allow us to continue to meet the needs of our children across all grades and programs.

We have outlined the additional budget reductions to the proposed increase that will be finalized by the Board of Education on Thursday, April 30th. These reductions, along with all of our budget information, continue to be posted on our website at www.eastlymeschools.org. Once approved by the Board of Education, the final adjusted budget will then be forwarded to the Board of Finance for discussion on May 7th. There will not be a town referendum this year due to COVID-19 but parents and community members will have the ability to share their thoughts or concerns via email or letter to the Board of Finance. We will provide further information on that process in the very near future.

The approximate reduction to the proposed increase that the Board of Education is considering will be between \$800,000.00 and \$900,000.00. This reduction will adjust the original 4.98% increase to an approximate 3.15% to 3.36% increase. This reduction will eliminate almost all of our new initiatives (math coaches, elementary global language teacher, additional social worker at the high school, etc.). We have also made additional reductions in supplies and other areas across all departments. A top priority still remains class sizes and special education services which we will continue to support along with other items including continued technology advancement.

Please feel free to utilize the following email address with any thoughts, concerns, or additional questions you may have: elpsbudget@elpsk12.org. We will share all information received with the Board of Education prior to their meeting on April 30th.

East Lyme Public Schools will inspire, engage and educate each student to become a contributing citizen and a responsible, independent, and critical thinker.



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We will continue to keep families posted regarding the 2020-2021 budget and other related items. Thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding during this continued troubling time for everyone. Stay positive and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Newton
Superintendent of Schools

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