



EAST LYME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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April 7, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I want to provide a few updates as we approach the April Vacation scheduled for next week:

- The Board of Education adopted budget for 2021-2022 will be presented to the Board of Finance this Thursday, April 8, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. via zoom. The adopted budget reflects a 3.79% increase over the current fiscal year. The federal government has approved COVID relief funds to assist school districts. We will engage in further discussions regarding the use of these funds once all grant awards are finalized. Some of the funds may be utilized to help reduce next year's budget increase. The focus remains on providing student supports where necessary and maintaining low class sizes for next year.
- The Board of Education 2021-2022 adopted budget includes, a high school social worker, a certified occupational therapy assistant (COTA), one middle school math coach, two elementary math coaches, six paraprofessionals, two additional kindergarten teachers and two additional grade two teachers. For a more detailed look at the adopted budget and associated documents, please go to the [Board of Education Adopted Budget 2021-2022](#).
- Upon completion of Thursday night's budget discussion with the Board of Finance, we will collaboratively work towards the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for Monday, May 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., with the Town Referendum on the overall budget to follow on Thursday, May 20, 2021.
- We understand that many families may be traveling over the break next week. We ask that everyone continue to adhere to CDC recommendations and guidelines. Your support and adherence to these recommendations will help avoid community transmission of COVID, which in turn will help our schools avoid issues with having to quarantine students and any staff members who have not been fully vaccinated. We are making every attempt to keep our buildings fully open through the end of the school year. Your help and assistance in this matter are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your ongoing support and I hope everyone safely enjoys the April Vacation.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Newton
Superintendent of Schools

JN:jc

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