

Written Public Comments

Public Hearing on Mayor's proposed 2021-2022 FY Budget – BOE side

March 31, 2021

Dear Legislative Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to fund the Hamden BOE school proposed budget - which includes a 3.38% increase - in full. It is critical that we maintain excellent schools in Hamden, and not let our town's budget woes - the causes of which have nothing to do with our schools - undermine the quality of our educational system. Last year our schools sustained significant cuts (flat funding = cuts). Especially this year, when so many of our students will need extra support due to the impact of the pandemic, I urge you to fully support our schools.

Sincerely,

Cat Balco
Ardmore Street
Hamden, CT

To the Members of the Hamden Legislative Council:

We write in strong support of the BOE's proposed budget.

Hamden's public schools students and staff have been severely impacted by the public health and economic crisis during the pandemic. Your flat-funding of the BOE budget last year made it even worse. As parents of a Church Street School student, and members of its PTO, we have witnessed these unprecedented hardships and challenges first hand. Too many children are falling way behind in their educational progress which will have long-term impacts in their and Hamden's futures if they cannot make up for lost time. We fear that this will be impossible for many students if the Legislative Council short-changes our children again. We implore the Hamden Legislative Council to not make the same mistake as last year, and pass the BOE's fiscally responsible budget increase of 3.83% for the coming fiscal year.

Nathan Havill and Andrea Gloria-Soria
Church St., Hamden

Hello, Legislative Council Members,

Thank you for your service to Hamden and wishing you well as you make important decisions around budgeting. I urge you to fund the Board of Education's proposed budget fully. Schools are a critical resource to the children and teenagers of Hamden. Especially as we emerge from the academic and social/emotional disruptions the pandemic has caused to our students, schools are proving to be even more important than they already are. Hamden educators are committed to help their students through this time and they deserve the resources to do their job well. I am particularly concerned that schools were flat-funded the previous year, resulting in cuts to staff and diminished programming, namely the TAG and Navigator Programs. The Board of Education's 3.83% proposed increase is modest, comparable to proposals of other districts throughout the state, and will help ensure quality education for the students of Hamden at a time when it is needed most.

Thank You!

--Alex Grennan

Alex Grennan

Ardmore Street

Hamden, CT

Hello, I am the parent of a Kindergartener at Spring Glen and a toddler.

Please do what you can to support what the BOE is asking for, a 3.83% increase in the budget to ensure that our district has adequate resources for our students, and cover the contractual increases in several areas.

Thank you

Susan Dorfman

Hamden resident