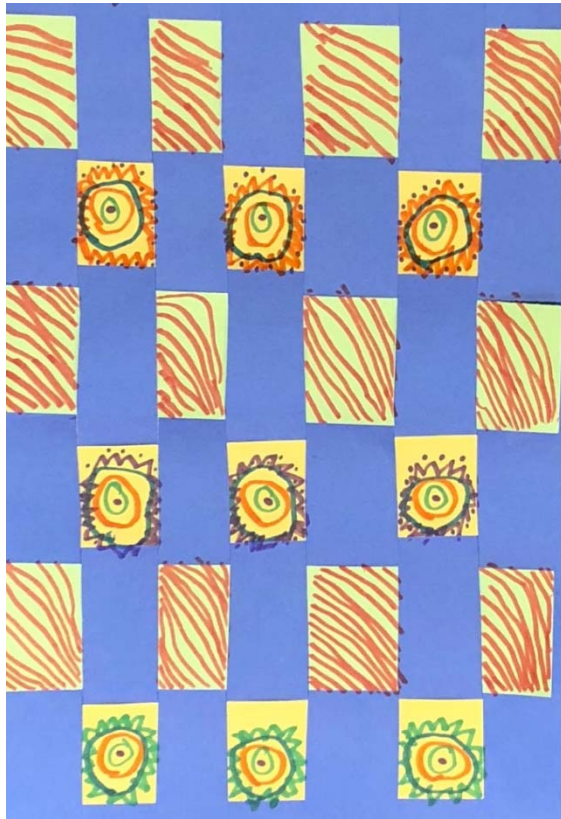




Stamford Public Schools

EXCELLENCE IS THE POINT



Aarav Shah, Grade 1
Westover Elementary School

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Stamford Public Schools is to provide an education that cultivates productive habits of mind, body and heart in every student.

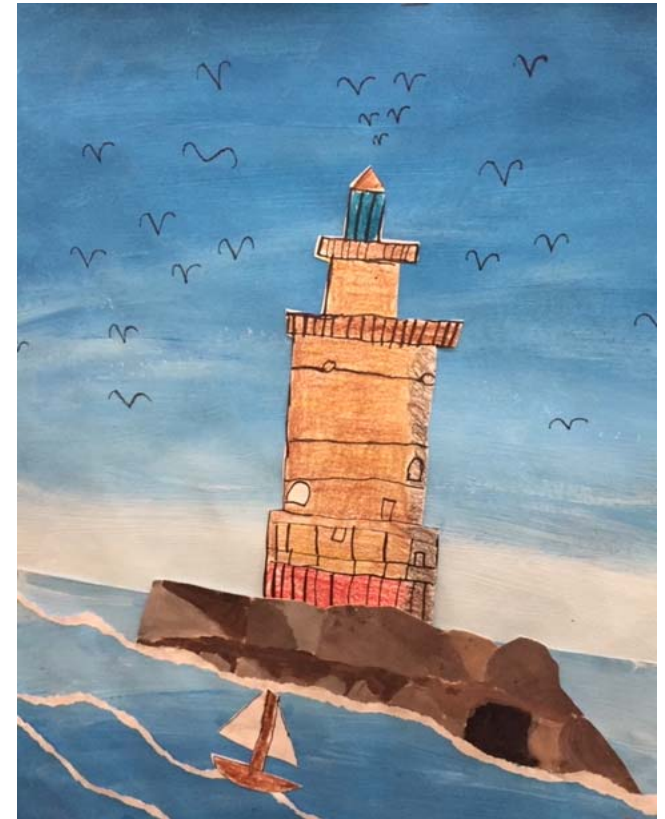
EARL KIM

Superintendent of Schools

**Clarence Zachery
CFOSO**

Board of Education Members:

Andy George – President
Jennienne Burke – Vice President
Mike Altamura – Secretary
Nicola Tarzia – Assistant Secretary
Betsy Allyn
Frank Cerasoli
Jackie Heftman
Jackie Pioli
Antoine Savage
Mayor David R. Martin (non-voting)



Muskoon Jakhar, Grade 4
Toquam Magnet Elementary School

Board of Education 2019-20 Budget February 14, 2019



P.O. Box 9310, Stamford, CT 06904
Offices at 888 Washington Blvd. Phone (203) 977-4105
www.stamfordpublicschools.org

Joshua P. Starr, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

STAMFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 26, 2019

Mayor David Martin
City of Stamford
888 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, CT 06904-2152

Dear Mayor Martin:

Enclosed, please find the Board of Education's Operating Budget request of \$286,480,806 for the 2019-20 school year. It represents an increase of 5.02% over the 2018-19 budget. We also included a projected Board of Education Grants Budget for 2019-20 in the amount of \$30,528,276.

The budget was developed through a thorough and systematic process:

1. Education Mission, Vision and District Strategic Plan were used to guide program and budget priorities.
2. Budget guidance was issued to budget managers with an emphasis on managing staffing levels, special education, program and budget sustainability, and resource reallocation before resource addition.
3. Budget was reviewed by the Superintendent's Cabinet, Citizens Budget Advisory Committee, Board of Education Fiscal Committee, Board of Education and the public at large.

The budget increase of 5.02% can be explained by several factors

- Projected increase in student enrollment of 230 students (1.4%)
- Increases to the "Status Quo" budget of 4.0% due to contractual Salaries (1.7%), Health Insurance cost increases after large savings of moving to the SPP (1.4%), increases in Transportation and Out-of-District Tuition (.7%) and other items (.2%).
- Program increases to areas which serve Special Education (.9%) and SRBI start-up (.1%)

In order to mitigate these factors, the district:

- Managed headcount, reallocating personnel as enrollment needs shifted

2018-19 Board Members

Andy George, President

Jennienne Burke, Vice President

Mike Altamura, Secretary

Nicola Tarzia, Assistant Secretary

Betsy Allyn

Frank Cerasoli

Jackie Heftman

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- Increased Vacancy Savings assumptions to \$2.5m.
- Assumed a reduction to the Health Insurance account from the BOE Insurance Reserve.
- Scaled back Curriculum & Instruction initiatives by over \$2m
- Scaled back staffing requests by over \$1.7m

We have had requests for many more needs across the district—enrichment programs, enhanced performing and visual arts programming, summer school programming, curriculum support, special education programming... The list is long; however, we felt that given the times, this budget is rightly focused on priority work of the district. This budget will support continuing necessary programs for all of our students in a fiscally responsible fashion, and it will lay the foundation for future strategic efforts.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and we look forward to the dialogue and continued support of our community.

Very truly yours,

Andy George
President
Stamford Board of Education

Earl Kim
Superintendent of Schools
Stamford Public Schools