



STAMFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 2, 2011

Mayor Michael Pavia
888 Washington Boulevard
Stamford, CT 06904-2152

Dear Mayor Pavia:

Please find enclosed the Board of Education's Operating Budget request of \$229,614,948 for the 2011-12 school year, an increase of 2.79% over the 2010-11 amount. Also enclosed is the BOE Grant Budget for 2011-12 in the amount of \$23,169,708.

The budget was developed by the Superintendent of Schools using a systematic, thorough process beginning in October 2010 designed to advance key district instructional goals while remaining cognizant of the current fiscal situation. A "Citizens Budget Advisory Committee" (CBAC) was formed to provide feedback on the budget and the district undertook an outside audit of Special Education with the help of "District and Community Partners." The budget was submitted to the Board of Education on January 14, 2011, reviewed by the BOE's Fiscal Committee during several meetings in January and February, and was made available for public comment at a hearing on February 3, 2011. The BOE approved the attached budget on March 1, 2011.

During the budget review process, the BOE was forced to prioritize its spending plan to only include items that were "absolutely essential" to run the district; 75% of the budget lines have been reduced or level funded. In light of current economic conditions, many items of considerable merit were not included in the 2011-12 budget.

This budget represents a superior plan to advance student performance in a fiscally responsible fashion. Please contact me or Joshua Starr, Superintendent of Schools if you have any questions on the BOE budget.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Polly Rauh
President, Board of Education

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