



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

Annaliese Spaziano
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*Director of
Student Services*

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

March 15, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The purpose of this letter is to provide a few district updates and information:

- The Board of Education has adopted the 2023-2024 operating budget which reflects an 8.88% increase over the current fiscal year. The budget was shared with the Board of Selectman this past Monday evening, and it will be presented to the Board of Finance on **Tuesday, March 28, 2023**. That presentation and discussion with the Board of Finance will take place in the Board of Education meeting room at East Lyme High School beginning at 6:30pm. The Board of Finance Public Hearing on the Town and Board of Education budget is scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the East Lyme High School auditorium. If you are interested in viewing any of the Board of Education 2023-2024 budget information, it can be found on the [East Lyme Public Schools website](#).
- Planning is underway for a \$148 million dollar I-95 East Lyme highway project. This is a four-year project and we have been informed that it is slated to begin in the next few weeks. The first year of work will entail the relocation of utility lines. The impacted area runs on Route 161 from Stop and Shop down to True Value. The most significant work over the next few years will be a complete highway bridge replacement and highway lane widening. Unfortunately, beginning this spring and continuing over the next few years, there will be potential roadway disruption and detours that are expected to cause busing issues and traffic delays. We will be regularly planning and strategizing with the Town and DOT in hopes of minimizing these delays and road issues. We will keep our school community apprised of necessary busing and travel adjustments as they come forward during this project.
- We are in the process of hiring a new Athletic Director for the district with a start date of July 1, 2023. Mr. Hargis, who has been our Athletic Director for a number of years, is retiring at the end of this school year. In addition to a staff feedback forum, there will be a parent/community feedback forum occurring on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. This forum will be an opportunity for parents and/or community members to provide feedback on what we would like to see in our next Athletic Director who will be overseeing both middle

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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school and high school sports. The forum will take place in the East Lyme High School Board of Education meeting room beginning at 5pm.

- I encourage everyone to continue to visit the [East Lyme Public Schools website](#) for up-to-date information about our district along with activities and happenings occurring across our schools.

Thank you for your continuing support of our outstanding school district.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Newton
Superintendent

JN: kd