Salem Board of Education Press Release for Immediate Release February 7, 2023

Contact: Sean Reith, Board of Education Chair

SALEM BOARD OF EDUCATION ADOPTS SY2023-24 BUDGET

Salem, CT: On February 6, 2023, the Salem Board of Education unanimously adopted the SY2023-24 Budget in the amount of \$11,392,501.00 which is a 0.58% increase over the current operating budget. This budget includes an additional Kindergarten teacher, the creation of a Talent and Gifted Teacher, and a Safety Advocate position.

Sean Reith, Board of Education Chair, "We have produced the best budget to date during my 6 1/2 year tenure on the Board. This year's budget process was anchored in the Board of Education's core values and driven by our draft strategic priorities, resulting in a budget that delivers more resources and opportunities for students, while honoring the priorities of Salem's taxpayers. The Board would like to thank and commend the Superintendent, Business Manager, Administrative team, and staff members who provided feedback throughout the budgeting process

Brian Hendrickson, Superintendent, "Given the current economic and fiscal pressures on school districts all across the state, we are very proud to produce a student-centered budget that maintains our commitment to class size, includes all teacher requests developed through school administration's zero-based budgeting process, and increases access and resources for professional learning and curriculum development for teachers."

Kim Gadaree, Business Manager, "Budget development is always a challenge with variables including special education and enrollment that are outside of our control. Fortunately, our zero-based budgeting approach combined with strategic initiatives have allowed us to be in a unique position to shift resources creating more opportunities for students."

The Board of Education will present their budget to the Board of Finance on March 9, 2023.