

BETHANY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT



Board of Education

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April 13, 2018

Greetings from the Bethany Board of Education!

We write today to update you on the 2018-2019 budget process, and to encourage you to attend the Town of Bethany Board of Finance's budget presentation on **Monday, April 23 at 7:00 PM** at Town Hall.

The Board of Education, working together with Superintendent Colleen Murray, presented the Bethany Board of Finance with our budget proposal in late February. This proposal calls for a 1.64% increase over the current year's budget; it is available on the District website. The proposal reorganizes the administration through consolidation of the Curriculum and Special Education departments, reduces our teaching staff by two, and maintains funding for all major educational programs at the school. It makes thoughtful use of grant funding to support important initiatives while keeping spending under control and continues our investments in technology, science, social studies, and the professional development of our teaching staff.

The Bethany Board of Finance will present their overall budget for the town, including funds allocated to the school, on Monday, April 23. We are hopeful that they will support our budget request. This meeting is an opportunity for residents to ask questions, voice any concerns about funding of town priorities, and give feedback to the Board of Finance. They may revise their budget proposal based on this feedback, before preparing a final budget for presentation and vote at the Town Meeting in May.

It is therefore important that members of the school community attend this meeting, to hear the Board of Finance's overall proposed budget and to be part of the conversation about the town's spending priorities for next year. To support this, two of our teachers (Heather Sniffin and Kim Wolcott) have volunteered to provide child care during the meeting, so that parents with young children can attend. We thank them for making this possible. Child care will be located in Town Hall in the Park and Recreation room.

We urge you to come out to the Town Meeting and make sure that your voices are heard.

Yours in partnership,

Christopher Pittenger
Dorothy Seaton

For the Bethany Board of Education