



Brookfield Public Schools

"Create Your Tomorrow"



Dear Families,

March 28, 2024

I write to you with an update regarding the Town and Board of Education 2024-2025 budget, and to share two District organizational structure changes.

BUDGET UPDATE

On Monday, March 18th, the Board of Finance approved the Town's General Fund Budget for the public's consideration at the upcoming May referendum. Included in this budget are operating expenditures for the Board of Education of \$52,896,597 and capital expenditures for Brookfield High School and Whisconier Middle School in the amount of \$2,305,000. Throughout the course of the budget process, **the Board of Education's adopted budget has been cut by a total of \$728,038**; the Board of Selectmen approved an initial cut of \$575,000, and the Board of Finance approved an additional cut of \$153,038. At this point in time, District leadership has identified approximately \$508,000 in feasible reductions and are evaluating further operational and cost savings measures to achieve the additional \$220,038 in budget cuts required. Any cuts to the Board of Education budget will be developed by central office administration in collaboration with the school principals and then recommended by the Superintendent to the Board of Education for final approval. I anticipate that we will discuss these additional budget cuts at the April 10th Board of Education meeting.

The Town Hearing for the Town Budget (inclusive of the BOE budget) is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd, 7:30pm at the BHS auditorium. As is required by the Town's charter, there will be a Town referendum for residents to vote on the budget in May.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESTRUCTURE

As we evaluated our budget to ensure alignment of both human and capital assets with the needs of the District, we recognized two important areas where we had an opportunity to streamline and consolidate services.

School District Human Resources:

The Board of Education recently approved a plan to restructure the Human Resources Department. In this reorganization, we have reallocated certain responsibilities to the HR Supervisor position and consolidated two coordinator positions into one full time HR & Benefits Coordinator position, which we believe best serves the needs of our staff and organization. Additionally, this important reorganization results in an overall budget savings of approximately \$53,000.

Technology Department:

The Board of Selectmen and Board of Education have worked collaboratively over the last several months to assess the critical needs of technology across the Town and District to determine where any cost-sharing opportunities may be prudent. To that end, the Board of Finance's approved General Fund Budget for the public's consideration includes funding for the consolidation of technology leadership across the Town and School District.

As part of this plan, the Town and District will share the cost related to this expanded Director of Technology position. To ensure continuity of the services currently provided to the District by the District's Director of Technology, this plan also includes the addition of a part-time IT Support Specialist position which will be shared equally by the Town and School District.

This plan is budget-neutral to the Board of Education budget and provides greater support, redundancy of services and security across Town-wide IT infrastructure. We are pleased to collaborate with the Town in this important area.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you a very happy holiday weekend.

Kind regards,

Dr. John W. Barile