



*Empowering learners to embrace and influence the future with courage and compassion.*

February 2020

Dear Members of the Clinton Community,

The Board of Education unanimously approved an operating budget for the 2020-2021 school year at its meeting held on February 3, 2020. The approved budget represents a total amount of \$33,572,391 or a 1.85% increase over the current year's approved operating budget.

The Board of Education is currently in its second year of the District Strategic Plan that established the strategic priorities and goals for the schools and district for 2018 through 2021. This plan has had a direct influence on the 2020-2021 operating budget development. All requests were vetted and evaluated against the mission of the district and the strategic plan priorities to ensure implementation and achievement of the goals. It is noteworthy that this year's budget process and final budget continues to be impacted by two major areas of focus for the Board of Education related to fiscal responsibility: the closing of Pierson School and the transition of health insurance to the State of Connecticut Partnership Plan 2.0. Savings as a result of both decisions and implementation have been realized and are offsetting budget increases as reflected in the Board of Education approved budget.

The Board of Education approved 2020-2021 operating budget takes into account the district reorganization needs and costs, and represents an investment in quality programs for students. The budget put forth by the Board of Education represents a balance of stewardship, commitment to our students and their learning, and an understanding of the need to educate the whole child, while at the same time meeting all of the legal mandates required of school systems.

The Clinton Board of Education has worked diligently to make quality budget decisions. The process of budget preparation, development, and consideration has been thorough. We respectfully submit this budget, and the supporting detail contained in the budget book, to the Town Council, the Town Manager and to the citizens of Clinton. We hope that you will review the information and participate in the public process that leads to the May referendum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erica Gelven".

Erica Gelven  
Board of Education Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maryann R. O'Donnell".

Maryann R. O'Donnell  
Superintendent of Schools