

Superintendent of Schools...Dr. Anthony W. Distasio

Hartland Board of Education Budget

The Hartland Board of Education adopted the budget for the 2018-2019 school year at their meeting of March 12, 2018 at \$5,360,738 or an increase of .8%. The Hartland Board of Finance met on March 21, 2018 and approved the Board's budget as proposed. The following two charts represent a summary of the proposed Board of Education budget.

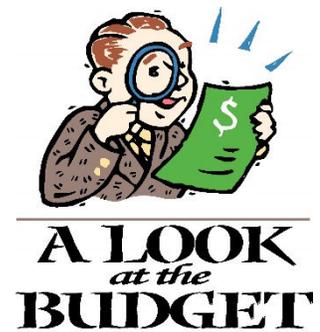


Board of Education 2018-2019 Budget

2018-2019 Proposed Budget \$5,360,738	\$ Increase \$42,693	Budget % Increase .8%
Hartland School \$3,301,732	\$ Increase (\$236,659)	Budget % Decrease (4.5%)
2018-2019 High School Tuition \$2,059,006	\$ Increase \$279,352	Budget % Increase 5.3%

Changes by Budget Classification

Category	Increase/ (Decrease)
Salaries	(\$175,874)
Benefits	(\$69,703)
Purchased Services (Tuition)	\$295,140
Utilities	\$6,120
Supplies & Materials	(\$15,490)
Capital Outlay	\$2,500
TOTALS	\$42,693



Explanation of Increases

The majority of the increases in this year's proposed budget are in the area of Tuition. Simply put, we have more students entering the high school the next school year than are leaving. Additionally, there are special education costs that have increased the budget.

In this budget, we have reduced the teaching staff by 2.3 teachers. We are able to do this given we have fewer students at Hartland School than in past years. This reduction of staff also has a positive effect on the benefits category of our budget.

This year, the Governor of the State of Connecticut has again proposed the reduction of town aide from the State of Connecticut. He is recommending the reduction of the Educational Cost Sharing (ECS) grant, the grant that helps to fund our educational programs. He is also recommending the reduction of monies from the State that help offset our transportation costs and the monies that help fund the programs for our special education students. These reductions, if approved by our legislature, will make it increasingly more difficult for town governments to maintain necessary services, not only in our schools, but for all town services as well.

If you have any questions about the 2018-2019 school budget, please feel free to contact me at 860-653-7207 or 860-653-0295 or you may email me at tdistasio@hartlandschool.com.

I would like to sincerely thank the Hartland Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen, our Town Treasurer, and the Hartland Board of Finance for their hard work and dedication in developing this year's budget. Additionally, I would like to thank our Principal, Laura Hollingsworth, our Business Assistant, Donna Roberts, and our Hartland Staff for their help during the budget development process. Budget development in Hartland and most towns and cities in the State of Connecticut has become extremely difficult. The State continues to reduce its obligation in funding public education, and as that occurs, more and more of the financial burden falls on the local taxpayers.

As superintendent, I am grateful to our town and our very supportive parents for helping to make Hartland School a wonderful educational institution. We have a very, very dedicated staff of caring, talented individuals. They are dedicated, not only to Hartland School, but to the Hartland community. Please know that we are all very appreciative of that hard work and for the continued support they provide.

Thank you!



Pamela Weber, BOE Chairperson

This spring season, which according to the calendar started on March 20th, has certainly had a difficult time arriving this year. Spring typically brings rising temperatures and lush green plants and budding leaves. For some reason, Mother Nature seems to be holding on tighter this year and not allowing us to get out of these cold temperatures and additional snow days. We've accumulated ten snow days this year and extended our last day of school out to late June. So we can only hope that the summer gives us comfortable days for those last few weeks of school. We all know how hot the school can become when temperatures soar into the 90's!



Our teachers and staff continue to work hard every day to help our students achieve personal growth and to become better learners. Their days begin early and extend long past the classroom. To our teachers and staff, thank you! The dedication from our parents and community to work together on various committees and boards continues to nourish our school in such a positive manner. To all of the volunteers that are so giving of their time, thank you! Thank you to everyone that works so hard to make Hartland School such a special place. It's team success that makes it all come together.

As we all start the count down to the end of another school year, remember that the little things really do matter. There will be many memories to be shared and stories to be told. We will celebrate another graduation and wish the Class of 2018 great success, as they venture to the next chapter of their lives. We will enjoy end of year activities and many celebrations. We will watch the excitement of students, as they clean out their lockers and realize that they will be another year older when they return next school year. We will also say goodbye; as we wish three of our dear teachers the very best in their retirement. To Mr. Brady, Mrs. Ransom and Mr. Welcome – thank you for your devotion, dedication and hard work to Hartland School. Enjoy this new journey of your life as you deserve the best retirement ever. We're all going to miss you!

I'll continue to ask Mother Nature to treat us well with the hopes that we can start to flirt with some spring fever and afternoon baseball games that don't involve heated blankets! Soon we will be enjoying the summer months and time with family and friends. Enjoy the memories, cherish the moments and be sure to laugh along the way.

Sincerely,

Pam Weber
BOE Chairperson



Principals Corner... Laura Hollingsworth

As members of Hartland's P.R.I.D.E. and Joy we demonstrate **P**erseverance, **R**espect, **I**nnovation, **D**iligence, and **E**ngagement. We celebrated evidence of these Growth Mindset characteristics at our Spring Writing Wall of Fame and Honor Roll Assembly. Members of our student council shared examples of when they had demonstrated P.R.I.D.E. Another fabulous example of P.R.I.D.E. is the work of the cast, chorus and crew of Drama Club's outstanding production of *The Big Bad Musical*, and their coaches Mrs. Alicata, Mrs Kendrick and Mr. Spagnesi. You may have also heard of Ms. Siana's new tradition of naming an *Artist in the Spotlight*. Liam Murphy, Lily Napierata and Carleigh Viksnes were our first winners. April 26th the **D**iligence, **I**nnovation and **E**ngagement of our science and art students (and teachers) will be on display at S.T.E.A.M. Night; another grand Hartland School tradition. Don't miss it! All year, teachers and staff have developed strategies that support a Growth Mindset so that students will become aware of their own strengths and weaknesses and become stronger, more self-directed learners. In the primary grades, teachers have shared celebrations of this in their newsletters. In the upper elementary grades and middle school this theme, is embedded in classroom dialogue and evidence fills the hallway bulletin boards.

Another school wide goal is to have students demonstrate independence in reading, viewing, and listening to complex texts and/or tasks. In all subject areas, teachers have made sure that students are presented with tasks that require inquiry, deep thinking and clarity of expression of learning. Across disciplines and grade levels, we want students to see the purpose behind their class work, feel invested, and develop their voices as they express an opinion. Strategies that help students dig deeper into their learning are resulting in rich conversations and greater investment in their own learning. Ongoing efforts to embed technology in the learning environment are exciting!

Our Climate and Safety Committee benefits from broad community and staff input. Each year we set goals in several areas to improve the experience students of all ages have in school. We continually revise our safety protocols, bring in speakers on important topics and revise our health and wellness curriculum. Please be on the lookout on our website, hartlandschool.com for minutes of meetings, resources for parents and more. Also, our annual parent feedback survey will be sent out very soon. Please know that your input is very influential in driving our efforts of continuous improvement. As always, when anyone visits our school, we ask that you report to the office to sign in and get a visitor's badge.

Best wishes from Hartland School! We are proud to serve Hartland's P.R.I.D.E. and Joy!



Ronnie Alicata, Cultural Arts Liaison

It continues to be evident that Hartland School is deeply involved in the arts due to a very generous and innovative community. Our own Board of Education and PTO support the students with funds for cultural visitors and transportation for a plethora of field trips. This year's cultural schedule included mime Robert Rivest, Bright Star Touring Theater, Mary Jo Maichack as Mother Goose and the Hartford Stage week-long residency. Later this spring the Hartland Land Trust will help sponsor an Earth Day celebration with a visit from Super Scientific Circus presenting *The Magic of Energy*. Storyteller Leland Faulkner will present *The World of Wonder*, a shadow-theater illusion that is sure to stimulate students' imagination. Furthermore, a grant from Capital Area Substance Abuse Council helps support our schedule.



Our walls are lined with additional evidence that Hartland embraces the arts: enticing writing pieces, declarations and photos supporting our new PRIDE theme, mesmerizing glazed pieces from art class, along with featuring a monthly artist. Earlier this season young thespians scurried around diligently preparing for the Drama Club's annual production. Presently, 8th graders in the spirit of Rube Goldberg, are designing paper roller coaster devices for our STEAM event, Spanish classes ready their puppets and stages and our chorus and bands fill the halls with practiced notes for the spring concert. Staff members, at every turn, include the arts to reach all our students, helping students express themselves. Together with the community, a community filled with PRIDE (perseverance, respect, innovation, diligence and engagement), Hartland School benefits from the attention and dedication to the arts. In the words of Thich Nhat Hana's, "The present moment is filled with joy and happiness. If you are attentive, you will see it."