

## Roxanne Maher

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**From:** Mike Christie-Fogg <fogg.mike@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 26, 2025 5:40 PM  
**To:** Town Council Group; Roxanne Maher  
**Subject:** School budget

Dear Ledyard Town Council members,

Thank you for all your hard work on the budget and all that you do for our town, schools, and residents.

Like many people in our town, I fully supported the budget that was proposed and I was quite dismayed that it did not pass the first time around.

I can't think of a more needful topic than the funding of our public schools. As you may already know, Ledyard spends less per student than many other towns in our area. This should not be a point of pride. For too many kids, school is the only stable and nurturing environment they experience growing up. The place needs to have the resources to help every kid, especially the kids who need extra help. These people are going to be adults someday, and we want to make sure they are as prepared as they can possibly be for adulthood when that time arrives. In financial terms, unprepared adults end up costing the rest of us in many measurable and un-measured ways- but we should take care of all children regardless. What could be more important than this?

Funding the school well will also greatly improve the lives of our teachers, many of whom live in our community, and the rest of the staff charged with the care and education of the children in our community. Para-educators in particular are a group of people who are often tasked with very challenging work, yet their compensation is pathetic.

Thank you for your time and attention,

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