

Roxanne Maher

From: Roxanne Maher
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 11:41 AM
To: Anthony Favry (afavry@ledyard.net); Jason S. Hartling; Kenneth Knight; BOE@ledyard.net
Cc: Town Council Group; Fred Allyn, III; Matthew Bonin; Anita Cleetus; Roxanne Maher
Subject: Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Preparation Information
Attachments: BOE-Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Ltr--Attachements-Signed.pdf

Good Morning Chairman Favry:

Please find attached a letter from Chairman Rodriguez date February 6, 2025
Requesting some additional information for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget.

A hard copy will be mailed via US Ground Mail.

Thank you,
Roxanne



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339-1551
(860) 464-3203
towncouncil@ledyardct.org

Chairman S. Naomi Rodriguez

February 6, 2025

Chairman Anthony Favry
Ledyard Board of Education
1 Lucienne Way
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Dear Chairman Favry:

During the Town Council's and Board of Education's January 21, 2025 Joint Finance Committee Work Session regarding the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Preparations the group discussed a number of key budget components; and the need to provide a transparent budget for our residents. To that end the Finance Committee has requested additional information and clarification regarding the following:

- (1). What is the increase in the Labor Contract Agreements for Fiscal Year 2025/2026.
- (2). What Labor Contract Agreements are due for renegotiation.
- (3). Budget Salary Lines – Please provide number of staff that will be paid from each salary line. (Please see attached January 21, 2025 Minutes page 10 & 11).

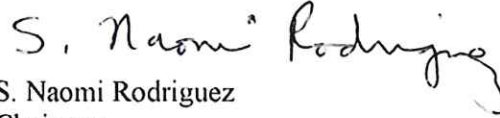
As you are aware, each year the task to maintain the level and quality of services for our students and residents becomes more challenging as we work to balance the projected loss of revenues with the increase in expenses.

Your assistance in providing the requested information at your earliest convenience would be greatly appreciated as we all work to develop a reasonable and responsible budget for the coming year.

We look forward to reviewing the Board of Education's Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget submission that is due to the Mayor's Office on February 24, 2025; and invite you to present the proposed Education Budget at the Town Council's February 26, 2025 meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,


S. Naomi Rodriguez
Chairman

Attachments

Joint Finance Committee Minutes 1/21/2025 pages 10 & 11

cc: Town Council
Mayor Fred Allyn, III
Board of Education Members
Finance Director
Treasurer
BOE Director Finance

was for six math teachers that residents found that it made more sense. Mr. Lamb stated that the Board of Education would look into Councilor Buhle's request.

Councilor Garcia-Irizarry stated in reviewing the Board of Education's Budget last year that she would see Paraprofessionals listed for a school on one page and then see Paraprofessionals listed again for the same school on another page. Therefore, she stated it would be helpful to know that one budget line was for Special Needs Paraprofessionals and that the other budget line was for Regular Paraprofessionals. Superintendent Mr. Hartling explained the Munis Financial System Account Line Number indicated location, department, program etc., noting that it gets very granular and that was the reason they would see budget lines come up in the same location in different ways.

❖ **Guidance for Negotiation and Execution of Contracts**

Councilor Saccone noted that the *Committee to Review the Budget Process* provided some recommendations, and he questioned whether the Board of Education or the Mayor has looked at trying to implement the suggestions.

Superintendent of Schools Jason Hartling stated for Certified Staff Contracts that the Board of Education has traditionally asked that the Town Council send a Liaison to attend the negotiations. He stated that he believed the Chairman would continue this practice, noting that where it was required by State Statute that the Board of Education would provide notifications.

Chairman Rodriguez stated when the Twenty-seventh Town Council was seated on December 4, 2023 that the Ledyard Education Association (LEA-Teachers) Contract had already been ratified/voted on by the LEA, noting that it was forward to the Town Council for action at their February 14, 2024 meeting. Mr. Hartling stated that the Board of Education had two Non-Certified Bargaining Unit Contracts (Secretaries and Custodians) that were up this year. Chairman Rodriguez stated that she could attend the negotiations. Mr. Hartling stated that he would talk with the Negotiation Committee about what they wanted to do, noting that the State Statutes pertained to Certified Staff Contracts.

❖ **Budget Format Development and Communication.**

Councilor Ryan, Committee to Review the Budget Process Chairman, noted that Board of Education Member Joanne Kelley worked on this area of Report, noting that the recommendation included some additional information be added to the Budget Booklet Handout. Board of Education Member Joanne Kelley stated in the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Budget Booklet Handout that they added a lot more pages to provide additional background information.

Mayor Allyn, III, noted that additional information was included at the front of the Budget Booklet Handout that included a Summary that provided some narratives and graphs and charts. He stated it provided a five-page snapshot of the Annual Budget.

Ms. Kelley questioned whether they received any feedback from residents regarding the additional information that was provided in the Budget Booklet Handout. Mayor Allyn stated that he did not receive any feedback from the residents.

Roxanne Maher

From: Jay Hartling <jhartling@ledyard.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 7:40 PM
To: Town Council Group
Cc: Anthony Favry (afavry@ledyard.net); Kenneth Knight; BOE@ledyard.net; Fred Allyn, III; Matthew Bonin; Anita Cleetus; Roxanne Maher
Subject: Re: Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Preparation Information

Chairperson Rodriguez,

The Board of Education acknowledges receipt of your letter. In accordance with Board Bylaws and at the request of several members, the Board Chair has directed that this item be added to the agenda for our next meeting. The Board will discuss the matter and determine an appropriate course of action, after which a formal response will be provided.

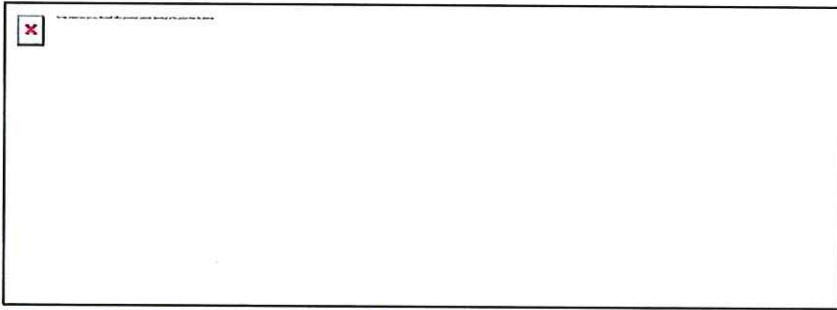
Sincerely,

Jason S. Hartling

Superintendent

Ledyard Public Schools

"Believing in the unlimited potential of every student"



My working hours may vary from your working hours. Unless it is an identified emergency, please do not feel obligated to respond outside of your work schedule.

On Thu, Feb 6, 2025 at 11:41 AM 'Roxanne Maher' via BoE Members <boemembers@ledyard.net> wrote:

Good Morning Chairman Favry:

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Roxanne

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