

Roxanne Maher

From: Adrienne Parad <adrienne.parad@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 26, 2025 12:06 PM
To: Town Council Group
Subject: Budget concerns

Dear Ledyard Town Council members,

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

As a volunteer in this town working on funding teacher requests, I am continually surprised to see routine items normally considered standard issue being requested by teachers in our district. It should not be considered a “margin of excellence” to provide routine maps and books. It is also alarming to see items such as 30 year old gym mats, fraying and malodorous, and the district unable to afford to replace this for multiple years beyond a safe timeframe due to a lack of funds. Our town has grossly underfunded the Board of Education for many years, and it shows.

I was disappointed that the budget did not pass in the first referendum. I fully supported the budget that was proposed.

Given the need for change and reduction of the budget for the next referendum, I would like to highlight that more voters expressed that the general government side of the budget is too high than the BOE side.

Please ensure that any budget reductions you make honor the will of the voters, and reduce more on the General Government side than the BOE side.

Our students do not deserve and cannot afford cuts that will lower the quality of their education or make the buildings they study in less safe and less conducive to learning. It is neither ethical nor moral to ask our children to endure education cuts due to our failure to invest in education over the last 20+ years, or for us to continue to kick the can down the road on essential programming and capital projects.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Adrienne Parad
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Ledyard, CT 06339

Sent from my iPhone