Board of Finance Public Budget Hearing Samuel Staples Elementary School March 27, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. Minutes

Present: Matt Gachi-Chair, Paul Lindoerfer-Clerk, Rich Cremin, Andy Kachele, Arthur Laske, Michael Kot, Gregg Saunders, Jason Stanevich

Matt Gachi-Chair presented the 2017-2018 proposed department budgets totaling \$43,804,005 including a capital expenditure budget in the amount of \$709,200. A copy of the presentation is attached and made part of these minutes.

Jeff Parker-Chair presented the Board of Education budget in the amount of \$15,920,095 with some late changes that will cut this number by about \$50,000 for a total budget increase of 0.78%. A copy of the presentation is attached and made part of these minutes.

Vance Hancock, Chairperson of the Region 9 Board presented the 2017-18 proposed total budget of \$23,789,137 of which \$11,061,949 (46.5%) is Easton's share. A copy of the presentation is attached and made part of these minutes.

The Hearing ended at 9:25 p.m.

Paul Lindoprier-Clerk

Submitted by,



TOWN OF EASTON

PUBLIC HEARING

BUDGET PROPOSAL FY 2017/2018

MARCH 27, 2017

SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Tonight's Objectives

Tonight's objective is to:

- 1. Give the town an overview of the budget requests.
- 2. Give citizens of the town the opportunity to voice their opinions regarding the budget or its parts.
- 3. This will help guide the town's elected representatives on the Board of Finance as they make any necessary adjustments in the coming weeks prior to the formal recommendation and the Annual Town Meeting in April.

Note: the budgets presented tonight have been reviewed by the Board of Finance but the requests from the various departments are unaltered.

Responsibilities of the Board of Finance for the Town of Easton

- Prepare the town budget.
- Setting the Mill rate.
- Approving deficiency and special appropriations and transfers between appropriations.
- Determining how town financial records are to be kept.
- Arranging for an annual audit of the town accounts.
- Publishing the annual town report.



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF FINANCE

Matthew Gachi	Chairman
Paul Lindoerfer	Clerk
Richard Cremin	Member
Andrew Kachele	Member
Michael P. Kot	Member
Arthur Laske	Member
Jason Stanevich	Alternate Member
Gregg Saunders	Alternate Member
Vacant	Alternate Member

BUDGET CALENDAR

Jan 4 -February 3	Budgets prepared by Boards and Commissions
March 3	Comptroller returns all Departments' budget
	requests to the Board of Finance
March 7,8,9,14,15,16	BOF analyzes and investigates estimates and holds
	budget discussions with Department Heads,
	Boards and Commissions
March 27	Public Hearing on Budget requests
March 28, 29, 30	Revise budget requests and prepare final
April 4,5,6	recommendations for preparation of budget
	document
April 14	Budget to newspaper for publication April 20
April 24	Annual Town Meeting-Budget Adoption
May 2	Tentative Referendum on Budget

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE REQUESTS

•	Origi	nal Adopted		Requested	<u>% of</u>	\$ Amo	unt Change	% Change
TOWN ACCOUNTS	Budge	et 2016/2017	Bu	dget 2017/2018	Total Budget	From	Prior Year	<u>Original</u>
Compensation		5,926,878		6,004,490	13.71%	\$	77,612	1.31%
Fringe Benefits (Health & Fica)		2,285,430		2,344,124	5.35%	\$	58,694	2.57%
Pension Costs		939,390		1,009,140	2.30%	\$	69,750	7.43%
Operating Costs		3,472,638		3,402,283	7.77%	\$	(70,355)	-2.03%
In Kind Services		(2,762,028)		(2,770,000)	-6.32%	\$	(7,972)	0.29%
Debt Service		3,402,568		3,352,725	7.65%	\$	(49,843)	-1.46%
	\$	13,264,876	\$	13,342,762	30.46%	\$	77,887	0.59%
EDUCATION								
Easton Board of Education	\$	15,746,880		15,920,095	36.34%	\$	173,215	1.10%
In Kind Services	\$	2,762,028		2,770,000	6.32%	\$	7,972	0.29%
Region 9 Board of Education-a)		10,988,581		11,061,948	25.25%	\$	73,367	0.67%
Total Education	\$	29,497,489	. \$	29,752,043	67.92%	\$	254,554	0.86%
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES REQUEST			•					
Town Capital Expenditures	\$	968,896		709,200	1.62%	\$	(259,696)	-26.80%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES REQUESTS	\$	43,731,261	\$	43,804,005	100.00%	\$	72,745	0.17%
a) Region 9 Board of Education								
Easton's Share	\$	10,988,581		11,061,948	46.50%	\$	73,367	0.67%
Redding's Share		12,292,310		12,727,188	53.50%	\$	434,878	3.54%
Total Region 9 BOE	\$	23,280,891	\$	23,789,136	100.00%	\$	508,245	2.18%
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Major Budget Components 2017/2018 Budget

- 1. Education Related: 67% of budget
 - Easton BOF = 36%
 - Region 9 = 25%
 - In-Kind Services = 6%
- 2. Public Safety: 10% of budget
- 3. Public Works: 7% of budget
- 4. Other Government: 16% of budget

Major Drivers of 17/18 Budget Easton & Region 9

Local (Town & Region 9) Expenditures up .17%

Easton BOE

= 1.1%

- Region 9

= .67%

Remainder of Town

= .59%

Capital Expenditures

= (26.8%)

Major Drivers of 17/18 Budget Proposed State Budget Impact to Easton

- 1. Educational Cost Share loss
 - Loss of \$163,445 of Grant Revenue
- 2. Teachers State Pension Expense
 - A new expense of \$1,298,824.
- 3. Total State changes possibly reduce net funds by \$1,725,000 that has to be covered by spending cuts or increased tax.
- 4. The various State changes potentially increase the Easton Budget by 3.9% relative to last year.

NON EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS		Adopted Budget 2016/2017		kequested Budget 2017/2018	\$ A	Requested Amount Change <u>Prior Year</u>	% Change <u>Prior Year</u>		Total Adopted adget with capital & Genefit Allocations FY 2016/2017	В	otal Requested udget with capital & Benefit Allocations <u>FY 2017/2018</u>		Requested Amount Change Prior Year	% Change <u>Prior Year</u>
GENERAL GOVERNMENT								•					•	
TOWN CLERK	\$	172,390	\$	173,233	\$	843	0.5%	\$	207,622	\$		\$	719	0.35%
FIRST SELECTMAN		157,514		157,917		403	0.3%		220,304		219,744		(560)	-0.25%
PROBATE COURT		3,575		3,657		82	2.3%							:
ELECTIONS		54,429		53,078		(1,351)	-2.5%		57,681		56,382		(1,299)	-2.25%
BOARD OF FINANCE		6,200		6,300		100	1.6%							
AUDIT FEES		37,950		41,150		3,200	8.4%							
TREASURER		251,892		229,160		(22,732)	-9.0%		387,420		336,787		(50,633)	-13.07%
ASSESSOR	•	131,461		130,621		(840)	-0.6%		189,575		185,734		(3,841)	-2.03%
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS		925		925		0	0.0%	•	992		992	•	0	0.00%
TAX COLLECTOR		105,648		97,006		(8,642)	-8.2%		150,838		139,531	٠	(11,307)	-7.50%
TOWN ATTORNEY	•	150,000		140,000		(10,000)	-6.7%							
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION		121,553		122,134		, 581 .	0.5%		178,853		178,706		(147)	-0.08%
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS		8,016		8,016		. 0	0.0%		9,211		9,211		. 0	0.00%
BUILDING DEPARTMENT		94,254		96,554		2,300	2.4%		117,222		119,522		2,300	1.96%
TECHNOLOGY		25,440		25,027		(413)	-1.6%							· · · · · ·
TOWN HALL		133,883		122,133		(11,750)	-8.8%		142,087		130,337		(11,750)	-8.27%
COMMISSION FOR ELDERLY		59,665		61,451		1,786	3.0%		64,968		66,927		1,959	3.02%
SENIOR CENTER		187,450		206,115		18,665	10.0%		288,820		308,889		20,069	6.95%
660 MOREHOUSE - OLD SSS BUILDING		354,145		331,992		(22,153)	-6.3%		418,132		385,093		(33,039)	-7.90%
PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS		200		-		(200)	-100.0%		•					
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$	2,056,590	\$	2,006,469	\$	(50,121)	-2.4%	\$	2,433,725	•	2,346,196	\$	(87,529)	-3.60%
<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>														
	_	245 540	•	247 100	•	(440)	-0.2%	S	314,839	•	312,230	•	(2,609)	-0.83%
COMM. DISPATCHERS	\$	247,540	Þ	247,100	3	` ,	1.4%	J	2,492,698	4	2,523,292	•	30.594	1.23%
POLICE DEPARTMENT		1,601,808	•	1,623,772 839,027		21,964 19,784	2.4%		1,343,623		1,375,145		31,522	2.35%
FIRE DEPARTMENT		819,243		-		19,764 278	0.9%		34,647		34,997		350	1.01%
FIRE MARSHALL		31,403		31,681		1,799	14.5%		13,361		15,139		1,778	13.31%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		12,411		14,210		1,/77	14.570		13,301					
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$	2,712,405	\$	2,755,790	\$	43,385	1.6%	5	4,199,168		4,260,803	\$	61,635	1.47%

NON EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS continued NON EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS	-	Adopted Budget X 2016/2017		Requested Budget (2017/2018	\$ A	Requested mount Change Prior Year	% Change Prior Year	Budge Bene	otal Adopted it with capital & ifit Allocations Y 2016/2017	Bu	al Requested lget with capital & enefit Allocations FY 2017/2018		Requested Amount Change <u>Prior Year</u>	% Change
RECYCLING FUND PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DEPARTMEN STREET LIGHTS ENGINEERING & PROF SERVICES	\$	150,483 1,813,196 1,450 30,280		153,874 1,812,853 1,472 26,980	\$	3,391 (343) 22 (3,300)	2.3% 0.0% 1.5% -10.9%		2,909,174		2,882,044		(27,130)	-0.93%
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$	1,995,409	\$	1,995,179	\$	(230)	0.0%	\$	2,909,174	\$	2,882,044	\$	(27,130)	-0.93%
<u>HEALTH & SANITATION</u>				•			•			•				
HEALTH DEPARTMENT EMS COMMISSION	\$	78,447 317,621	\$	78,842 311,495	. \$	395 (6,126)	0.5% -1.9%	\$.	95,448 629,164	\$	95,879 383,465	. \$	431 (245,699)	0.45% -39.05%
TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH	\$	396,068	\$	390,337	\$	(5,731)	-1.4%	\$	724,612	\$	479,344	\$	(245,268)	-33.85%
OTHER DEPARTMENTS			ł											
CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC WELFARE LIBRARY PARKS AND REC COMMISSION	\$	41,558 4,334 626,912 407,213	\$	39,138 4,577 611,043 407,213		(2,420) 243 (15,869) 0	5.6% -2.5% 0.0%	\$	86,043 4,545 824,807 581,899	\$	49,893 4,795 770,330 561,651		(36,150) 250 (54,477) (20,248)	-42.01% 5.50% -6.60% -3.48%
TREE WARDEN FIREHOUSE RENT CEMETERY		11,974 42,656 2,192		12,092 43,510 1,220		118 854 (972)			12,240		12,358		118	0.96%
ANIMAL CONTROL TOTAL OTHER DEPARTMENTS	s	93,205 1,230,044	<u>\$</u>	93,205 1,211,998	<u> </u>	(18,046)	- 0.0% -1.5%	\$	136,252 1,645,786	<u> </u>	136,252 1,535,279	s	(110,507)	0.00% -6.71%
GENERAL		1,200,044	•	2,022,070		(20,0.10)	. 20070						\\\	
FRINGE BENEFITS SOCIAL SECURITY & MEDICARE CONTINGENCY	s	1,823,430 462,000 145,000	\$	1,864,124 480,000 225,000	\$	40,694 18,000 80,000	2.2% 3.9% 55.2%							
TOTAL GENERAL	\$	2,430,430	\$	2,569,124	\$	138;694	5.7%	•			·			
TOTAL NON EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS TOWN'S CAPITAL DEBT SERVICE PENSION COSTS INSURANCE COSTS	\$	10,820,946 968,896 3,402,568 939,390 864,000	\$	10,928,897 709,200 3,352,725 1,009,140 822,000		107,951 (259,696) (49,843) 69,750 (42,000)	-1.5% 7.4%	\$	11,912,465		11,503,666	s	(408,799)	-3.4%
TOTAL TOWN ACCOUNTS	\$	16,995,800	\$	16,821,962	\$	(173,838)	-1.0%	•						

General Fund Capital Expenditures Requests

Department	Description	Amount				
Planning & Zoning	Town Plan of Conservation & Development update and publication	\$	8,700			
Police	Three 2018 Ford Interceptor Utility patrol vehicle Server plus installation	\$	100,500 12,000			
	Total	\$	112,500			
Fire	Engine Replacement	\$	70,000			
	Personal protective equipment		20,000			
	Pager, portable & truck radio		5,000			
	Dry hydrants		4,000			
	Hose & nozzles		3,000			
•	SCBA- Bottles, regulators & masks		3,500			
	Total	\$	105,500			
Public Works	Medium Duty Dump Truck w/Plow		199,500			
	Total	\$	199,500			
Emerency Medial Service	Radios for Ambulance (police,fire,c-med,portable)	<u>\$</u>	8,000			
		\$	8,000			
TOTALS	Total Capital Expenditures Request	\$	434,200			
	Public Works Dept- Road Work	\$	275,000			
	Grand Total	\$	709,200			

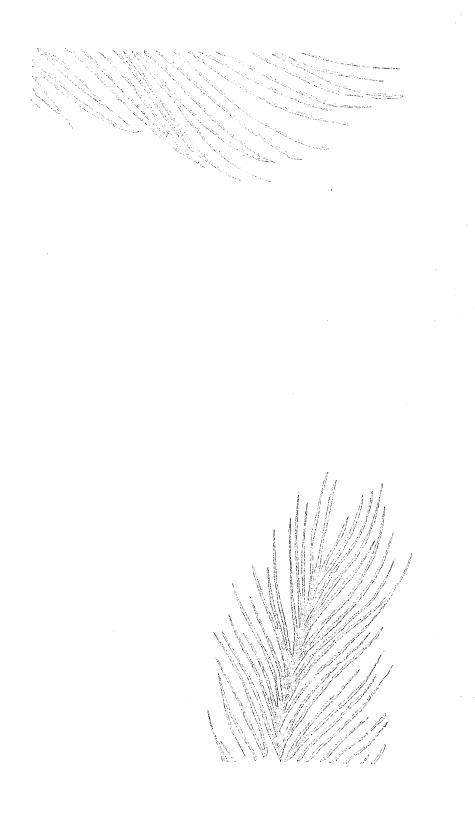
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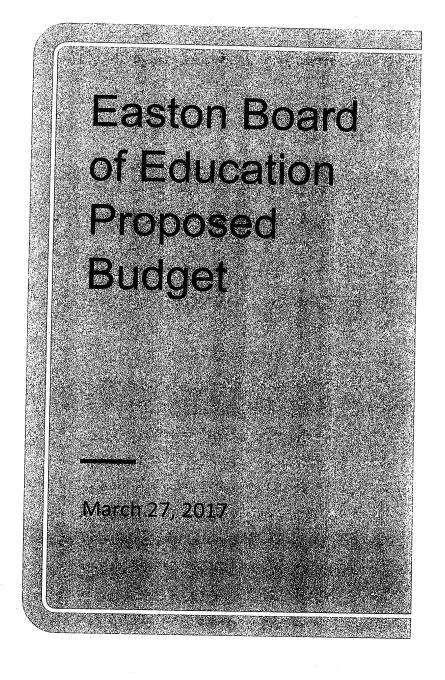
RECEIPTS AND ESTIMATED TAX CALCULATION

		Adopted Budget FY2016/2017		Requested Budget FY2017/2018	% Change Prior Year
RECEIPTS					
PROPERTY TAXES		,		•	
CURRENT YEAR	\$	38,325,843	\$	40,311,631	5.18%
MOTOR VEHICLES - 32 MILL RATE CAP		2,355,354		2,478,122	5.21%
PRIOR YEAR		175,000		175,000	0.00%
INTEREST AND FEES		120,000		120,000	0.00%
MOTOR VEHICLES		150,000		150,000	0.00%
TELEPHONE ACCESS		18,296		18,296	0.00%
ELDERLY TAX RELIEF		(300,000)		(300,000)	0.00%
STATE CIRCUIT BREAKER		(34,670)		(27,082)	-21.89%
SUB-TOTAL	\$		\$	42,925,967	5.19%
TOWN RECEIPTS	\$	1,313,731	s	1,273,731	-3.04%
TREASURER INTEREST	•	125,000	•	135,000	8.00%
STATE GRANTS		982,707		(530,693)	-154.00%
SURPLUS APPROPRIATED TO FINANCE BUDGET		500,000			-100.00%
SUB-TOTAL	\$	2,921,438	S	878,038	-69.95%
SUD-IVIAL		2,721,430		070,000	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$	43,731,261	\$	43,804,005	0.17%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	43,731,261	\$	43,804,005	0.17%
		· .			
Tax Revenue Required	\$	38,325,843	\$	40,311,631	5.18%
Collection Rate		98.785%		98.785%	0.00%
Gross Revenue Required		38,797,230		40,807,442	5.18%
Grand List		1,259,064,304		1,201,597,268	-4.56%
Tax Rate		30.81		33.96	10.21%
				3.15	

Mill Rate Change in Perspective

- The Mill Rate will increase as a result of the recent revaluation.
- Town assessed valuation (Grand List) is down 4.5%.
- If revenue requirement is constant (flat budget), a 4.712% increase in Mill Rate is necessary to raise same amount of tax revenue as last year.
- The tax amount you pay would be the same as the prior year (all else being equal) despite an increase in the mill rate.
- Key Components to be aware of
 - a. How did your property valuation change relative to the town?
 - If your decrease was greater than the town-wide decrease your taxes relative to last year's budget would decrease.
 - If your valuation did not decrease as much or increased, you would see an increase in taxes relative to last year's budget.
 - b. This year the town will encounter a cap of the mill rate for vehicles, forcing a higher tax on other property.
 - c. It is likely that this year's budget WILL also see an increase relative to last year.





Smarter Balance Performance 2015-2016

English Language Arts

District	14-15	15-16	Change
Darien	82.5%	86.9%	4.4%
New Canaan	79.9%	83.3%	3.5%
Easton	72.5%	83.0%	10.5%

Mathematics

District	14-15	15-16	Change
Darien	77.8%	81.7%	3.9%
New Canaan	74.8%	79.1%	4.2%
Easton	63.0%	76.5%	13.5%

Easton Budget

2016-2017

\$15,746,880 (increase of \$165,288 over previous year)= 1.06%

70% of budget in salaries and benefits= \$11,022,816 2017-18 contract salary obligations equaled 2.66% increase =\$293,207

2017-2018 Superintendent's Proposed Budget January 27, 2017

\$16,080,714 (increase of \$333,834 over previous year)= 2.12%

2017-2018 Board of Education's Budget February 15, 2017

\$15,920,095 (increase of \$173,215 over previous year)=1.10% as adopted by Board. 0.78% with recent changes.

Board of Education's Budget: 2017-2018

\$15,746,880 +\$173,215 1.10%

- Reduce 1 P.E. Teacher HKMS
- Eliminate 1 of 2 Discrete Math Teachers (.2) HKMS
- Reduce One Evening Custodian to part time HKMS
- Replace Remedial Teacher in-house, hire at second year level
- Withdraw request for Recess Paraprofessional
- Reductions in Operations/Maintenance of Physical Plant
- Reductions in Technology
- Reductions in Conference & Travel
- Reductions in Library books, postage, and legal representation
- Overall reduction from 2.12% of \$161,235

Changes since 1.10% bring us to a new total of .78%

- AP POSITION AT HKMS REDUCED TO 216 DAYS
- SAVINGS IN BASES PARA SALARIES
 - TOTAL IMPACT \$50,000

TWO-TIERED BUSING NOT VIABLE SOLUTION FOR 2017-18

History of Budget Proposals

Superintendent's Proposal	Board of Education	Voter-Approved
17-18 \$16,081,330 (2.12%)	17-18 \$15,920,095 (1.10%)	17-18
		16-17 \$15,746,880 (1.06%)
		15-16 \$15,581,592 (1.15%)
		14-15 \$15,403,766 (-0.12%)
		13-14 \$15,421,810 (1.17%)
		12-13 \$15,240,331 (1.86%)
		11-12 \$14,962,405 (1.91%)
		10-11 \$14,681,549 (2.79%)

Faculty: derived from class

Grad	Projecti	Teacher	2 Sections	3 Sections	4 Sections	5 Sections	6 Sections
е	on*	S	Sections	Sections	Sections	Sections	Sections
Pre- K	25 (28)	2	14, 14				
K	77 (77)	4			19, 19, 19, 20		\ \
1	81 (78)	4			19, 19, 20, 20		
2	79 (84)	5				16, 17, 17, 17, 17	
3	86 (91)	5				18, 18, 18, 18, 19	
4	93 (97)	5				19, 19, 19, 20, 20	
5	109 (109)	5 or 6			3		18, 18, 18, 18, 18, 19



The SRBI Intervention Process

Samuel Staples Elementary

Year	Fall Enrollment	Tier 2 Support	Tier 3 Support	Percent at Tier 2
2013-2014	585	103	33	18%
2014-2015	585	55	26	10%
2015-2016	581	74	25	13%
2016-2017	538	94	36	18%

Helen Keller Middle

Year		Enrollment	Students Receiving Support	Percent
2013-2	2014	351	79	22.51%
2014-2	2015	323	72	22.29%
2015-2	2016	310	73	23.55%
2016-2	2017	318	82	25.79%

HKMS

- 1. Enrollment from mid-October count.
- 2. Does not include IEP or 504 support.

Districts 2017-2018 Known BoE Budgets:

Districts by percentage in descending order	Increments 2017-2018 Board of Education			
Norwalk	5.2%			
East Haven, Woodbridge, East Windsor, Berlin, Coventry, and Darien	4.5% to 4.87%			
Woodstock, Clinton, North Branford, North Haven, Trumbull, Ridgefield, New Milford, Avon, Newington, Waterford, Middletown, Glastonbury, Norwich, and Oxford	3.01% to 3.88%			
Bolton, Wallingford, Portland, Colchester, Monroe, Pomfret, Wethersfield, Southington, Manchester, East Lyme, Stamford, Griswold, New Canaan, Fairfield, Ellington, Brookfield, Meriden, Stafford, Madison, New Fairfield, Mansfield, Somers, Westport, Lebanon, Region #9 (2.18%), Tolland, Cheshire, Weston, and Greenwich	2.04% to 2.99%			
Newtown, Branford, Bethany, Montville, Suffield, Bethel, Seymour, Guilford, Vernon, South Windsor, East Hartford, Salem, Ledyard, Region #5, Windsor, Canton, and Eastford	1.0% to 1.98%			
Milford, Granby, Easton (0.78%),	Easton @ 0.78% to .791%			
Hartland, Region #18, Canterbury, Barkhamstead, Andover, Sherman, Wilton, and Redding (-0.34%)	Districts below Easton			

Demographic Reference Group A Budget Increases/Decreases as Percentages

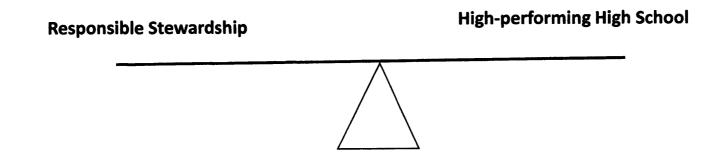
District	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18 (3/27/17)
Darien	4.81%	4.05%	5.9%	2.93%	3.44%	4.50%
Easton	1.88%	1.17%	-0.12%	1.15%	1.06%	0.78%
New Canaan	1.92%	3.80%	3.76%	2.79%	3.60%	2.76%
Redding	1.32%	0.51%	-1.61%	-0.45%	-0.99%	-0.34%
Region 9	1.49%	1.97%	1.07%	1.97%	0.59%	2.18%
Ridgefield	2.60%	1.97%	2.86%	0.98%	4.99%	3.48%
Weston	0.93%	-0.3%	3.93%	2.40%	0.35%	2.05%
Westport	2.17%	3.95%	4.82%	1.08%		2.44%
Wilton	1.75%	2.81%	2.97%	1.98%	0.77%	0.00%

Seeking Balance

Region 9 Board of Education

It's a Delicate Balance...

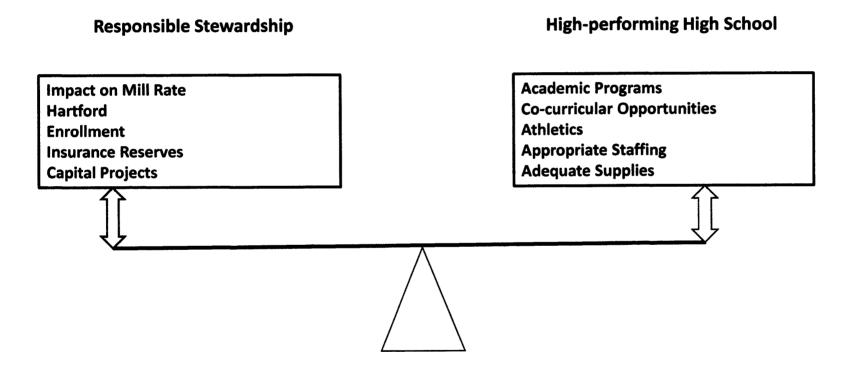
Region 9 Board of Education



3/28/2017

It's a Delicate Balance...

Region 9 Board of Education



3/28/2017

Hartford Actions are Changing the Balance . . .

New Payments for Magnet Schools

Excess Cost Reimbursement Reductions

Educational Cost Sharing

Pension Fund proposals

Region 9 BOE Presentation at Easton Budget Hearing

3/28/2017

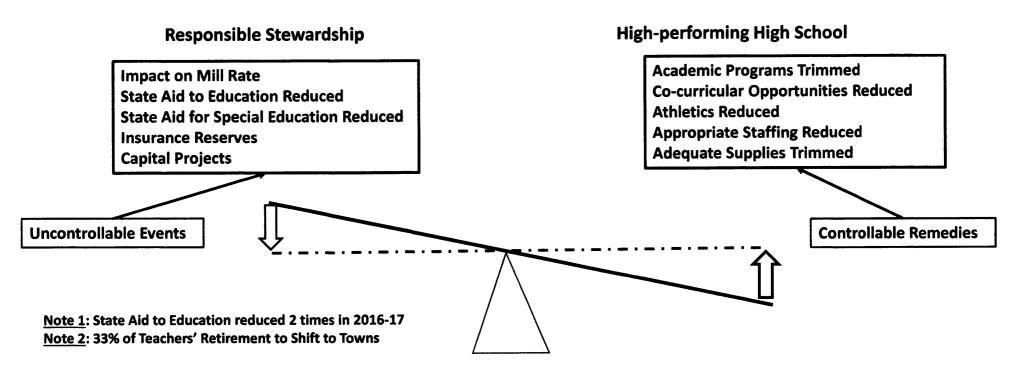
Other Things in the Balance

- Enrollment
- Transportation costs
- Debt Service
- Insurance Reserves

3/28/2017

BOE Changes to Restore Balance...

Region 9 Board of Education



3/28/2017

Proposed Region 9 Budget

Total Budget of \$23,789,137

A 2.18 % Increase over last year's budget

Budgets to cover \$158,073, or ½ of the Governor's Proposed reduction in Excess Cost reimbursement of \$316,146

Includes an additional \$234,763 for Debt Service

Includes an additional \$242,210 in Health Insurance

Easton (46.5%) Share \$11,061,949, an increase of .6% over last year Redding (53.5%) Share \$12,727,188, an increase of 3.4% over last year

3/28/2017

Impact of Proposed Budget

Academic

- Teacher Reductions
 - 1 Science Teacher
 - 1 Art Teacher
 - 1 Special Education Teacher
 - 1/2 Wellness Position
 - 1 Librarian
- Other Reductions
 - Textbook reductions
 - Curriculum Work

Activities/Athletics

- Participation Fee Instituted
- Assistant Coach Positions
 Fliminated
- Transportation for Clubs and for off campus sports eliminated (not for meets/games)

3/28/2017

Region 9 Upcoming Dates

- District Hearing April 3, 2017 at 7:30 pm at Joel Barlow High School
- District Meeting May 1, 2017 at 7:30 pm at Joel Barlow High School
- Budget Vote May 2, 2017

3/28/2017