

**Betsy M. Barrett**

---

**From:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 6:38 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** FW: Comment for City Council

Sincerely,  
Bonnie

**Bonnie S. Cuprak**  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 330  
100 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360  
860-823-3742  
[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)

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2020 JUN - 1 P 6:50  
TOWN CITY CLERK  
NORWICH CT

**From:** Christina Carter <carter.christina.trcc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 6:32 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak <mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org>  
**Subject:** Comment for City Council

My name is Christina Carter and I am an almost life long resident of Norwich. My husband and I are home owners in, and therefore tax payers to, the city. We have one daughter currently in the Norwich Public school system. Our daughter attends Moriarty Magnet school.

My knee jerk reaction to this budget crisis, was to assume that the shortfalls were exaggerated and could easily be made up by cutting waste. While I am sure there are a few things that could be done to save some money, the amount that the city counsel proposes the Board of Education cut is beyond ludicrous. I am a member of our school PTO, which had to purchase pencils last year because our school is running so lean as it is.

Our students are just now reaching the end of what will go down in history as the most bizarre and stressful school-year of their lives. It may only be trumped by the next school year, if this city counsel budget actually passes as you have proposed- so radically underfunded.

Our students run the risk of being plucked from schools where they have spent, in some cases, years familiarizing themselves, and placed into new schools where everything is foreign. It would be difficult to ask a child to cope with that during a "normal" time, but to expect them to do so after the nonsense that we put on them this Spring is bordering on mentally abusive.

We already short our elementary school kids by offering no musical instruments, no foreign language and sending them unprepared to middle and high school. We cannot continue to fail our students by asking them to skimp even more than we already do.

I feel that I should mention that I am also a life-long conservative. Conservatism tells me to err on the side of budget cuts, but morals and ethics tell me to do what is right and **support fully funding the Norwich Board of Education.**

Thank you.

**Christina Carter**

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**From:** Karen Cook <karencyrcook@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 4:02 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Subject:** City budget

Mayor Nystrom,

I am writing to express my support for the Norwich Public Schools budget. In these very challenging times, schools truly need resources to reach their students. It's absolutely essential that the future citizens of our city have the education that will help prepare for high school and ultimately become both critical problem solvers and contributors.

Please compare our budget to other communities where the needs are as great as ours and you'll see that while the BOE request seems expensive, what they are asking for is very minimal and reflects only the true essentials. Our students deserve an equal education. Thank you for your consideration.

Karen Cook  
62 Gulliver Circle

Sent from my iPhone

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2020 JUN - 1 P 4:02  
TOWN CITY CLERK  
NORWICH CT

**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Peter Nystrom  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 4:32 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** Fw: Online Form Submittal: Contact the City Council

RECEIVED  
2020 JUN - 1 PM 6:49  
TOWN CITY CLERK  
NORWICH CT

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 4:17 PM  
**To:** Peter Nystrom; Stacy Gould; Joseph A. DeLucia; William Nash; John Salomone; Mark Bettencourt; Derrell Wilson; Ella Myles  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Contact the City Council

### Contact the City Council

Message to Mayor and  
City Council Members

Good evening, Melanie Elliot, Greene Ave Norwich.  
I am a preschool teacher at The Bishop Early Learning Center.  
I am here to speak in opposition to ANY cuts in the superintendent's proposed budget for the Norwich Public Schools.  
I know you are all here to cut, cut, cut, and I am here to speak for the children, who do not appear to be given any consideration in your deliberations.  
The superintendent has supplied you with very detailed explanations of how detrimental to the education of our children any cuts may be and I have to tell you that after years of under-funding, we are already stretched far too thin.  
Removing programs such as the Family Resource Center and before and after care programs at Norwich schools will continue to hurt the economy of Norwich, by not giving parents safe options for their children so they can return to work.  
Even the cuts necessary under the BOE's approved budget are too deep and too painful to consider. Our children are worth more than is suggested by such a budget proposal. Whether we are talking about an unreasonable increase in class sizes, cutting enrichment programs, or eliminating paraprofessionals from our classrooms we are talking about cuts that directly hurt the chances our children have to learn and thrive.

---

First Name	Melanie
Middle Initial	A

---

Last Name	Elliot
Suffix	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email	<u><a href="mailto:mel@melandsean.net">mel@melandsean.net</a></u>
Phone Number	860-889-2468
File upload	<i>Field not completed.</i>

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**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Peter Nystrom  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 12:06 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** Fw: Online Form Submittal: Contact the City Council

Betsy, testimony for the budget agenda. Thanks, Bonnie

---

**From:** noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 12:02 PM  
**To:** Peter Nystrom; Stacy Gould; Joseph A. DeLucia; William Nash; John Salomone; Mark Bettencourt; Derell Wilson; Ella Myles  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Contact the City Council

### Contact the City Council

Message to Mayor and City Council Members

I am opposed to giving the Board of Ed a 5.5% increase to their budget. The new Superintendent has increased central office staff by at least 4 people at salaries of \$85 thousand or better. She wants to increase the facilities manager from \$65 thousand to \$85 thousand. With the threats of cuts to her budget she responded like most executives by stating she would cut programs and teacher positions (worker bees) not cutting her already over staffed central office. It is no wonder that Rhode Island was about to fire her as superintendent.

First Name	Scott
Middle Initial	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Last Name	Harrington
Suffix	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email	<a href="mailto:scottharrington892@yahoo.com">scottharrington892@yahoo.com</a>
Phone Number	8608879463
File upload	<i>Field not completed.</i>

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 NORWICH CT

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**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Peter Nystrom  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 2:20 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** Fw: Online Form Submittal: Contact the City Council

RECEIVED  
2020 MAY 28 P 2:58

TOWN CITY CLERK  
NORWICH CT

Hi Betsy, here is another one. Have a great afternoon. Bonnie

---

**From:** noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:06 PM  
**To:** Peter Nystrom; Stacy Gould; Joseph A. DeLucia; William Nash; John Salomone; Mark Bettencourt; Derell Wilson; Ella Myles  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Contact the City Council

### Contact the City Council

Message to Mayor and  
City Council Members

Good afternoon Mr.Mayor,

My name is Michelle Jenkins and I am writing to you to ask what you are doing to ensure that down trodden are not forgotten when you sign that ridiculous school budget. It is a shame that people are trying to get the best education for their children and it is being cut to pieces. Lets talk about city police. Most are decent but I think you need to retrain them all in race relations, because it is a matter of time before its your explaining the death of a young black man because they do not know how to deescalate a hostile situation with a person that was not raised like them and DO NOT LOOK LIKE THEM!

People have noticed, the basketball courts on the East side , Greenville, my namesakes Jenkins Park. Yet tennis courts and beaches are open. I was witness to the harassment of an under privileged person by your police officers. I left Norwich after 52 years and I'll never return. The flowers are beautiful, Norwichtown is beautiful, the rest of the area needs to know they are not forgotten. Put the hoops up, fix the football field, let the downtrodden know your are their city council as well. I believe the only way to change this broken , underrepresented council and police is to become more involved and that is what I plan to do. It is just a matter of time before more moms and grandma's get sick of having to explain why our children are treated differently/

I implore you to feel the pulse of your city and those living in its underbelly.

First Name	Michelle
Middle Initial	K
Last Name	Jenkins
Suffix	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email	<a href="mailto:mkjenkins6704@gmail.com">mkjenkins6704@gmail.com</a>
Phone Number	8605740886
File upload	<i>Field not completed.</i>

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**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Peter Nystrom  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 8:43 AM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** Fw: Education Budget request  
**Attachments:** Council\_letter\_May2020.pdf

RECEIVED  
2020 MAY 28 A 11: 50

TOWN CITY CLERK  
NORWICH CT

Hi Betsy, here is another bit of testimony for the budget. I am printing them to hand out so don't worry about it. Bonnie

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**From:** Mark Kulos <mkulos@snet.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 28, 2020 7:16 AM  
**To:** Peter Nystrom; Mark Bettencourt; Joseph A. DeLucia; Ella Myles; Stacy Gould; Derell Wilson; William Nash  
**Cc:** John Salomone; Josh Pothier  
**Subject:** Re: Education Budget request

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

Please find attached a letter concerning your upcoming vote on the budget for 2020-2021 on Monday, June 1, 2020. Please consider increasing the appropriation for the Education Department as implementing only a 2.4% increase will be devastating to the Norwich Public Schools.

I know you are faced with hard decisions to best serve all of the citizens of Norwich, but please consider the effects of the budget on the voiceless pre-K to 8 students who will be disproportionately harmed if the funding level is not increased.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope you all remain safe and well.

Sincerely,

Mark H. Kulos,  
CCD Taxpayer,  
Member Board of Education

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This email was scanned by Bitdefender

327 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360

May 27, 2020

To: Mayor and City Council, City of Norwich, Connecticut

I am writing this letter to ask the Council to implement the advisory request from the Ad Hoc City Council/BOE Budget Committee to fund the 2020-2021 Education Department at the requested 5.5% increase level. I am writing as both a concerned member of the Norwich Board of Education and as a taxpayer of the City of Norwich (CCD taxpayer - higher mill rate). Funding below this level will have serious repercussions in the scope and quality of education that can be afforded to the children of Norwich. As Norwich does not have its own high school, all of our secondary age students must attend tuition based programs (except for technical high schools). Most of these students choose to attend Norwich Free Academy (which ironically is anything but free) which this year has said that general education students can expect a 3% increase in tuition rates. Special education students can also expect increase rates, with one program showing a 65% tuition increase. I'm not sure if those students will be getting a 65% better education this coming year, but those are the fees set by NFA. Other partner high schools of choice also have tuition increases for the upcoming school year. Many of our special education students attend tuition based programs not available within the district as required by State mandated IEP (individualized education program) meetings. Some of these tuitions exceed \$100,000.00 per year. All of the above categories of students are required to be educated and the providers of the education set their rates (which the BOE has no direct control of costs) and expect to be paid in full for the services provided to Norwich students.

Since the above costs are set by others and out of the BOE's control, the fees must be paid or the BOE and the City of Norwich would be in violation of education mandates requiring us to educate our children. These costs exceed the 2.4% increase to the overall Education budget as proposed by the City Manager and provisionally adopted by the City Council as part of the entire 2020-2021 City budget. The only place to cut costs to cover the required fees would be in the part of the budget controlled by the BOE - our pre-K to 8 schools. Therefore, at only a 2.4% budget increase, programs in the NPS (Norwich Public Schools) for pre-k to 8 would have to be cut to meet the increased costs of the other categories of students. So the educational opportunities of our NPS students would have to be sacrificed in order to provide full educational opportunities for other classes of students. Some students must suffer so others can flourish. This is a forced dismantling of our schools in the lower grades, is inherently unfair and places the consequences of a reduced tax burden to property owners squarely on the backs of children from 3 to 13 years old. NPS already suffers from a perception of not being a very good educational system. With draconian cuts that would have to be instituted at a 2.4% budget increase, what school age families would want to stay in this City? If you are afraid of increased property owner flight from our City, see what will happen when the schools disintegrate. This Council should help to build a stable and better school system to attract families and taxpayers to the City, instead of helping to drive a stake into the heart of it.

The BOE budget consists of two parts - 1) the “operations” budget which is funded by the taxpayers of Norwich and supplemented by the State of Connecticut Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant which can be used to offset the local taxpayer burden and be applied to operations as its use is unrestricted as to programs or purposes; and 2) the “grants” budget which is used to supplement the educational needs of the Norwich Public Schools - special programs which are not normally funded by the operations budget like many of the enrichment programs of art, music, foreign languages, etc. (Our magnet school programs are grant funded in most part). None of the operations budget funds can be used to fund grant programs and none of the grant budget funds can be used to pay for operations budget items - classroom teachers, maintenance, utilities, etc. The only useful comparison of the operations budget versus the grants budget is to see what portion of the total BOE budget is directly funded by local Norwich taxpayers and what portion is funded by grants (both unrestricted ECS funds and highly restricted, program specific grants). As local funding has been an issue for a number of years, creative grant writing has been able to reclassify many programs and positions so that they are totally or partially grant funded. The BOE has tried to reduce the local tax burden by actively pursuing grant opportunities. The problem is that a high dependence on grant funding is risky as many grants are limited in both time and scope, are highly restrictive and uncertain as to funding amounts from year to year. Once the grant funds evaporate so do the programs they fund (unless they are then assumed in the normal operations budget). A rough calculation shows that local taxes pay for just over 50% of the BOE budget and grants pay for the rest (including ECS).

Additional grant money pays for food service operations - 100% Federal grant funded - that provides for free meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) to all Norwich students and free meals to all Norwich children under 18 years old during the summer. The Federal grant is determined by the demographics of the City, mainly dependent on mean income levels. (So the poorer the community, the more grant money you get). During the corona virus school shutdown, free meals have been distributed to all Norwich children in need at 27 different locations with 3 meals per day for 7 days a week. This was done at no cost to the Norwich taxpayers and with no outlay from the BOE budget. As long as Federal funds apply, food service will continue to feed our neediest residents during this crisis and throughout the summer and school year. The food service grant money is not included in the BOE grant calculations as this is administered separately and doesn't directly affect the BOE budget or outcomes, yet it still provides a valuable service to our student community.

Adult Education, summer school, all day pre-K (Case Street), and before and after school programs are a mix of grant funded, fee based and some operations budget money. The operations money is used to maintain facilities and to act as a contribution to leverage greater grant funding amounts. Loss of operations funds to these programs could endanger the loss of grants and may result in the loss of these programs entirely.

The BOE request each year is for the operations budget, funded by a combination of Norwich tax money and the unrestricted ECS grant. The ECS grant has remained flat for a number of years which places a greater and greater burden each year on local taxpayers. As there are yearly cost increases in all categories (utility costs, insurance, contracted salary increases, etc.) the percentage ECS share of the burden decreases compared to the total required

each year. This is one of the main drivers in the increased burden on local taxpayers. A concerted lobbying effort needs to be made in Hartford to increase the ECS funding as this directly results in local property tax burden and mill rate increases to cover the expenses not being paid by State government. Failure of the ECS grant to keep pace with normal cost of living increases via yearly percentage step increases has a huge impact on all cities and towns in Connecticut. This is one of the great oversights of our State government which is required by our State Constitution to guarantee a free public education for all its children. (This is in fact the only Constitutionally specified service required to be provided by government in Connecticut). Article VIII, sec. 1. (“There shall always be free public elementary and secondary schools in the state. The general assembly shall implement this principle by appropriate legislation.”).

Of course the big monkey in the wrench is the corona virus effect. The City budget will probably be greatly changed even a few months in. Help from the State and Federal governments in the form of grants and FEMA funds may not be realized for several years. It will take a while to calculate the true costs to local government of this crisis. The way we educate students will most likely have to change if and when schools start up in the Fall. Split sessions, reduced classroom sizes, forced social distancing, continued distance learning, fewer children on buses - these are the new realities facing our students, staff, families and community. Tax and utility revenue will most likely be down as we are facing the greatest economic crisis to hit our country in over 90 years with skyrocketing unemployment and many businesses shut down (many of whom will never re-open). Revenues are unsure at best and projections for a rosy economy and quick recovery are mere puffery. Plus this is an election year and possible changes in leadership may occur.

Despite the above, you must still pass a budget. You have to use the revenue projections provided to you in the budget book (with some slight amendments in April Council meetings). You can't base your decisions on what you feel might happen, but on the figures in front of you. I urge you to make the best decisions you can regarding the budget. I urge you to consider more funding for education. I know this is a difficult year, a highly charged and unusual year and don't envy the decisions you have to make. It will then be up to the BOE to try to live within the budget you give us, make necessary cuts as required and try to give all of our students the quality of education which they all deserve.

Sincerely yours,

Mark H. Kulos,  
Taxpayer  
Board of Education Member

**Betsy M. Barrett**

---

**From:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 12:53 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** FW: Norwich School Budget

Sincerely,  
Bonnie

**Bonnie S. Cuprak**  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 330  
100 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360  
860-823-3742  
[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)

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2020 JUN - 1 P 1:09

**From:** Shannon Lougee <shan6teacher@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 12:07 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak <mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org>  
**Subject:** Norwich School Budget

Hello,

My name is Shannon Lougee. I currently reside in Norwich and work as a math teacher at Teachers' Memorial Global Studies Magnet Middle School. I am writing to you today to ask you to please fully fund the budget for the Norwich Public Schools.

As a taxpayer, I know it is imperative that our schools succeed if we want to attract families to move to our great city. Norwich has so much to offer families; a rich history, fantastic restaurants, great access to highways...it would be a shame if superb public schools were not one of those things. We have many great homes for sale in our city, we want to fill those with families who want to send their kids to Norwich Public School and spend money in our city.

As a teacher in this town, I say we must fund the budget! We currently have fantastic students who attend our schools. These kids are smart, empathetic, have a thirst for knowledge and are full of joy. Unfortunately, their needs will not be met if the budget is not fully funded. Class sizes will be too large, basic supplies like pencils will not be available, and support staff will be stretched too thin. These students are the future of Norwich. Shouldn't we give them all that is necessary to succeed in life?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Shannon Lougee

**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 4:33 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** FW: Citizen comment on school budget  
**Attachments:** Kathleen Markey.docx

Sincerely,  
Bonnie

**Bonnie S. Cuprak**  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 330  
100 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360  
860-823-3742  
[mayoroffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayoroffice@cityofnorwich.org)

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NORWICH CT

RECEIVED  
2020 JUN - 1 P 6:50

**From:** Kathy Markey-Cirillo <kmarkey-cirillo@spraguek12.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 3:33 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak <mayoroffice@cityofnorwich.org>  
**Subject:** Citizen comment on school budget

Kathleen Markey-Cirillo

391 Plain Hill Road, Norwich

Mr. Mayor and council members,

As a parent, educator and long-time resident of Norwich, I strongly urge you to fully fund the proposed Norwich Public Schools budget. It is crucial to provide the resources that children need to be successful in school and beyond. Although I don't teach in Norwich, as a parent I know what Norwich schools were like when my children attended them. Due to years of underfunding, I have seen our schools go from hubs of opportunity and learning to overcrowded classrooms with limited resources. Our children deserve better. Schools don't spend money indiscriminately- every expense is necessary and can be justified. I have complete faith that the administrators, teachers and school families in Norwich have done everything that they can to mitigate the cost of educating our children. Please do

what's right for our children and fully fund the proposed Norwich Public Schools budget! Thank you.

Kathy Markey-Cirillo

---

Sayles School

25 Scotland Road

Baltic, CT 06330-1110

Phone: 860.822.8264 x176

Fax: 860.822.1347

Email: [kmarkey-cirillo@spraguek12.org](mailto:kmarkey-cirillo@spraguek12.org)

Web: [www.saylesschool.org](http://www.saylesschool.org)

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**Betsy M. Barrett**

---

**From:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 6:38 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** FW: Budget meeting comment

Sincerely,  
Bonnie

**Bonnie S. Cuprak**  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 330  
100 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360  
860-823-3742  
[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)

**From:** Marlaina Malone <mlm010305@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 6:23 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak <mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org>  
**Subject:** Budget meeting comment

From Marlaina Malone please fund the school budget, thank you.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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NORWICH CT

2020 JUN - 1 P 6:50

RECEIVED

**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 12:52 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** FW: The Education Budget

Sincerely,  
Bonnie

**Bonnie S. Cuprak**  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 330  
100 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360  
860-823-3742  
[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)

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2020 JUN - 1 P 1:12  
TOWN CITY CLERK  
NORWICH CT

**From:** Greg Perry P.E. <gregp@idcs.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 12:28 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak <mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org>  
**Subject:** The Education Budget

Good Afternoon,

Last week, an ad-hoc committee of City Council and Board of Education members recommended a 5.5% increase to next year's education budget.

I am hoping that the City Council approves this full amount. Any additional cuts would not be in the best interest of our school, students, or staff. Especially considering the pandemic, as we move forward into the future, it will be important to maintain low class sizes that will allow for social distancing. To accomplish this, we should be encouraging smaller classes which means retaining or increasing the staff that we have and not eliminating teaching positions.

Thank you for considering my position on this issue.

Gregory Perry  
Citizen of Norwich CT  
Parent  
Teacher at Integrated Day Charter School

Bonnie Cuprak

---

**From:** Jessica Quay <quayzekidsmama@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 6:56 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Subject:** Budget

I am writing to you as a tax payer in our city. I have three children, ages 7 and two 4 year olds. In the new school year they will be in second grade and kindergarten.

I am hoping you pass this budget that the BOE is asking you for. There is NOTHING left to cut! We don't have proper music, art or language classes. You absolutely can not disperse students to completely different schools, that is just ridiculous. My son did 2 years of kindergarten and this last year of 1st grade at Moriarty. If you move him, we'll be starting over with him.

You need to invest in our children, they are the future of this town. It is your own fault it's gotten this out of control, you can not throw their worlds upside down again, come September! If this happens, you might see a decrease in how many residents you have in our "great" city. Because we'll be out of here!

Sincerely, Jessica Quay, and children, Cole, Noah and Cora.

---

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TOWN CITY CLERK  
NORWICH CT

RECEIVED  
2020 JUN - 1 P 7:12

**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 6:39 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** FW: Norwich school budget

Sincerely,  
Bonnie

**Bonnie S. Cuprak**  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 330  
100 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360  
860-823-3742  
[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)

TOWN CITY CLERK  
NORWICH CT

RECEIVED  
2020 JUN - 1 P 6:51

**From:** JoAnna Timmerman <joeyanna70@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 6:35 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak <mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org>  
**Subject:** Norwich school budget

My name is JoAnna Timmerman. I have lived in norwich for 18 years. I am a home owner, a tax payer and the mother of 3 children. My 13 year old has missed all of her 8th grade activities and graduation dur to covid. My 6 year old first grader has missed out on vital learning and social interaction much needed for a solid start in her education. Now we have the stress of possible huge changes due to our education budget. I plead with you to accept the Board of Education budget as written and ensure our kids success. They do without so much like music and foreign language options, that other districts are able to offer. We need to find another way! We have put our trust in you to do what is right by our kids. Accept the budget! Do not let our children down!

Thank You!  
Sincerely,  
JoAnna Timmerman  
Brandon Girard  
Ellie and Kamryn

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**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 12:53 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** FW: Norwich Public Schools

Sincerely,  
Bonnie

**Bonnie S. Cuprak**  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 330  
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Norwich, CT 06360  
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[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)

RECEIVED  
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NORWICH CT

**From:** Silvana Moran-Vargas <[silvana.moran-vargas@uconn.edu](mailto:silvana.moran-vargas@uconn.edu)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 12:07 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak <[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)>  
**Subject:** Norwich Public Schools

Dear Mayor Nystrom,

My name is Citlali Vargas and I work for Norwich Public Schools as an ESL paraeducator. I am writing to you as a concerned citizen due to the proposed budget cuts the city plans to make and how that will affect not only me but many immigrant families. After years of doing my job I have learned how valuable a fully prepared ESL staff is for an effective learning environment, especially in a city as diverse as Norwich. As a mother of 3 Mexican-American children I know firsthand how important it is for young students to have allies in classroom who understand not only their language but have a deeper knowledge on their backgrounds. All in all, this email is to advocate for the students and parents that rely on people like to get the most out of our school system and to receive a better education. Thank you.

Best,  
Citlali Vargas

**Betsy M. Barrett**

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**From:** Bonnie Cuprak  
**Sent:** Monday, June 01, 2020 6:39 PM  
**To:** Betsy M. Barrett  
**Subject:** FW: Budget Hearing

Sincerely,  
Bonnie

**Bonnie S. Cuprak**  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor  
City Hall, Room 330  
100 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360  
860-823-3742  
[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)

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NORWICH CT

**From:** Mike Weckwerth <[rmikeweck@gmail.com](mailto:rmikeweck@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2020 6:34 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Cuprak <[mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org](mailto:mayorsoffice@cityofnorwich.org)>  
**Subject:** Budget Hearing

My name is Richard Weckwerth and as a taxpayer in Norwich I am requesting that you fully support the BOE's budget. After years of inadequate funding, the school system can not afford to decompensate further; Which would be unavoidable with your current budget funding plan. Please do what is right for the future of our City by funding education the way it deserves.

Sincerely, Richard Weckwerth  
Flyers Dr

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