

BUDGET NEWS 2015-2016

NEWTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD OF FINANCE RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Finance voted to recommend additional savings on the Board of Education 2015-2016 Budget at its meeting on Mar. 12. That Budget stands at a 0.34% increase over 2014-2015.

The Board of Finance deliberated at several meetings in February and March and heard from the Superintendent about how budget choices were made and savings the district would recommend. Additionally, the Board of Finance received details on the town-wide medical insurance program. That information led to a reduction in the necessary contribution from the Board of Education budget. Recommended savings are detailed below.



The Board of Finance presented their recommendation to the Legislative Council on Mar. 18. The school budget will be discussed at Legislative Council Education Committee meetings as well as full Council meetings. The Legislative Council will hold a Public Hearing on the Budget on Wednesday, Mar. 25th at 7:00p.m. at the Municipal Center.

MARCH 24TH, 2015

In this issue:

Board of Finance Recommendation	1
Recommended Budget	1
Budget Bifurcation	2
Budget Questions	2
Points of Pride	2
More Information	2

Upcoming Budget Meetings

- Mar. 25 7:00pm—Legislative Council Public Hearing on Budget**
- Apr. 1 7:30pm—Legislative Council Discussion and possible vote on Budget
- Apr. 8 7:30pm—Legislative Council Discussion and possible vote on Budget
- Apr. 28 Vote! Referendum on Budget**

RECOMMENDED BUDGET

2014-15 Approved Budget	\$ 71,345,304
2015-16 Superintendent original proposal	\$ 72,399,186
2015-16 Board of Education Operational Plan	\$ 72,253,488
<i>Adjustments</i>	
Diesel fuel bid - \$2.69 to \$2.1901 per gallon	\$ (50,589)
Medical self-insurance contribution	\$ (225,000)
Dental self-insurance contribution	\$ (265,513)
Reduction of 2 busses	\$ (124,440)
Budget recommended by Board of Finance	\$ 71,587,946

BUDGET QUESTIONS

Open Budget Hour

Thursdays 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

in April:

4/2, 4/9

Board of Education Offices

Dr. Erardi will also be attending faculty meetings, parent meetings, civic group meetings, and visiting community organizations during the budget season.

Dr. Erardi will continue to be available most days during his open office hour at 6:30am at the Board of Education Offices.

If you would like to meet with Dr. Erardi privately, please contact Kathy June at 203-426-7620.



BUDGET BIFURCATION

Within the past few years, Newtown has changed its Charter and now has a bifurcated budget. What does this mean?

When voters go to the polls to vote on the budget, they will vote for the education and town budgets separately. The vote is binding for each side. If one side is adopted and the other is not, only the side that was not adopted will be resubmitted to the voters.

Additionally, advisory questions are placed on the ballot allowing voters to indicate whether they believed the budget requested for each side is too low. The results of the advisory questions are included to be used as guidance to the Legislative Council before resubmitting any failed portion of the referendum

More information regarding the referendum process can be found in the [town charter](#) beginning on p. 21.

POINTS OF PRIDE

- ↑ In March 2015, the Newtown Middle School Health Center officially opened to support efficient medical care with reduced loss of school time. This School Based Health Clinic is fully funded by state grants and insurance payments.
- ↑ In 2015, Newtown High School Unified Sports has been selected to receive the Ann Malafrente Rookie School Award from the Special Olympics Unified Sports School Program for demonstrating an excellent participation and school-wide enthusiasm.

MORE INFORMATION

Contact the Newtown Board of Education by email: newtownboe@newtown.k12.ct.us

Get the latest budget updates on twitter: [@NewtownBOE](https://twitter.com/NewtownBOE)

Check the town meeting calendar: <http://tiny.cc/nboe1503n2tc>

View town board meeting videos: <http://tiny.cc/nboe1503n2va>

Look over the Board of Education's 2015-2016 Proposed Budget: <http://tiny.cc/nboe1503n2br>

Access BOE Agenda and Minutes: <http://tiny.cc/nboe1503n2am>

Find BOE Budget Information including the Budget Calendar: <http://tiny.cc/nboe1503n2bi>