Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy New Year and Welcome to the start of the budget season for School Year 2017-2018!

The Board of Education wants to make sure you are informed and have a chance to be involved in the budget process. An engaged public is the best way to create and pass a budget that reflects the needs and plans of the town.

Our Superintendent and district leadership team build the budget from ground up beginning in September and it is presented to the Board, by Dr. Erardi, at our first meeting in January (see meeting details below).

Our **BUDGET NEWS** newsletters are sent out during the budget season to give you up-to-date information on the budget process and highlight aspects of the budget as they are presented and discussed at the different levels. The newsletter also contains the latest links and meeting information.

You are welcome to attend our budget meetings or stay informed through the newsletters.

*Current meeting dates regarding the 2017-2018 budget:

Tuesday, January 3, 2017	7:30pm	Budget Overview, Elementary and Reed
Thursday, January 5, 2017	7:30pm	Middle and High School, Pupil Personnel, Special Education and Health
Tuesday, January 10, 2017	7:30pm	Curriculum, Technology, General Services, Continuing Education, Benefits, Transportation
Tuesday, January 31, 2017	7:30pm	Public Hearing, Budget Discussion
Thursday, February 2, 2017	7:30pm	Adoption of Board of Education Budget

* Meetings will be held in the Council Chambers in the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street

Prior to the budget being set for referendum, copies of the **BUDGET NEWS** will be available at the Board of Education offices and sent to you through district email. The newsletters are all also available by following <u>@NewtownBOE</u> on Twitter.

Looking forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Respectfully,

Keith Alexander

Chair, Newtown Board of Education