

**Written Audience of Citizens comment for the Town
Council Meeting Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7pm**

Dave Evans <dkeatbrtc@sbcglobal.net>

Mon 4/6/2020 9:15 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Dear Town Council,

Please explain why you are spending \$461,487 more than was made available by grand list growth (\$1,478,540 from pdf page 6 of the March 2nd presentation {https://www.town.berlin.ct.us/egov/documents/1583190985_65038.pdf}) and reduction in long term liability (\$897,000 from pdf page 12 of the same presentation)?

What are areas you are considering removing from the budget that could achieve this ~\$500k or more savings to the tax payer?

The roughly \$43 (using negative \$500k in cell D103 of the 3/18/20 budget dashboard { <https://www.town.berlin.ct.us/egov/apps/document/center.egov?view=item;id=6390>}) for a home valued at \$280k) compared to the hundreds of dollars of tax increases over the past several years would be a welcome relief.

Sincerely,

David Evans
1233 Worthington Ridge
Berlin, CT 06037

2021 Town Budget

Kris Bresch <ktbresch@comcast.net>

Mon 4/6/2020 10:44 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

To the Town Council,

Please leave the budget as it is presented by the Board of Finance. As I feel that it is a fair budget & represents what is in the best interest of the town of Berlin. As well as the Residents of Berlin. Especially during this time of uncertainty.

Thank You,

Kris Bresch

Sent from my iPhone

Support

Sarah Patel <spotanka81@gmail.com>

Mon 4/6/2020 11:07 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Good morning,

My name is Sarah Patel and I support the very responsible budget being put forth.

Sarah Patel
65 Sbona Rd
Kensington

Sent from my iPhone

I support the proposed budget

Patricia Devaux <larcny@gmail.com>

Mon 4/6/2020 11:20 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

I support the proposed budget increase.

Patricia Devaux

298 Newton St, Berlin, CT 06037

Budget

Jim Barnes <rjbarnes3@comcast.net>

Mon 4/6/2020 5:15 PM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Please note that my husband, Jim Barnes, and I are in support of the budget as is.

Many regards,
Elvita Barnes

Budget approval

jon Peyton <jonpey@icloud.com>

Mon 4/6/2020 9:16 PM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Please vote for this approval thanks

Sent from my iPhone

In favor of budget

Jennifer Jurgan <jjurgan@wesleyan.edu>

Mon 4/6/2020 9:44 PM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Great job with the proposed budget! We are in full support of it.
Thanks for all you are doing for our amazing town!

Best,

Jen and Jay Jurgan
561 Percival Ave

Sent from my iPhone

Pass the Proposed Budget

Imelda Mongillo <imeldamongillo@gmail.com>

Mon 4/6/2020 10:12 PM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Hello,

First off, I wanted to sincerely wish you all health and good will during these unprecedented times with Covid-19. May we all continue to persevere and stay safe and healthy.

The reason for my email is to voice my support of the current proposed budget. While it did not meet each budget request by department or the Town Manager, the Board of Finance has proposed a very responsible budget with a 0% mill increase. During these hard times the last thing I would want is to have our Town Council not take advantage of the current opportunity; pass a budget that satisfies the major needs for the town (all inclusive of all areas) with no resulting mill rate increase. While the Board of Education budget is less than the original requested amount, I am very glad to see it is a positive increase from years ago and therefore support this fiscal year's budget request.

Please do not delay and pass the budget as proposed by the Board of Finance.

I would also like to thank all of those involved in creating such a responsible budget given our current pandemic.

Thank you in advance to the Town Council and the Mayor for showing a spirit of collaboration across the lines.

Respectfully,

Pass the Proposed Budget

Imelda Mongillo <imeldamongillo@gmail.com>

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Thank you in advance to the Town Council and the Mayor for showing a spirit of collaboration across the lines.

Respectfully,

Town budget

Laura Westman <ljwestman@sbcglobal.net>

Tue 4/7/2020 9:54 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Cc: Debbie Batista <dbatista@berlinschools.org>; jmr2jmr@comcast.net <jmr2jmr@comcast.net>

To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my wholehearted support for the town budget proposed. It is a reasonable and well-thought out proposal and I feel it should be passed as proposed.

The town, the Board of Ed and the Board of Finance have worked hard to craft a responsible budget for 2020-2021.

Please consider what is best for the entire town by properly funding both the town and the Board of Education.

Thank you

Laura Westman

4 Edgerly St

Berlin, CT

Education budget

Jackie DeFrancesco <jackie77@snet.net>

Tue 4/7/2020 9:59 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Cc: Debbie Batista <dbatista@berlinschools.org>; jmr2jmr@comcast.net <jmr2jmr@comcast.net>

Good morning,

I am supporting the education budget increase. I have children and Griswold School. The increase is needed to improve our children's education. They are our future!

Jackie DeFrancesco

Sent from my iPhone

Fwd: Pass the Proposed Budget

Imelda Mongillo <imeldamongillo@gmail.com>

Tue 4/7/2020 10:06 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Cc: Debbie Batista <dbatista@berlinschools.org>; jmr2jmr@comcast.net <jmr2jmr@comcast.net>

Good Morning,

I wanted to add to the email I sent yesterday.

As the President of Griswold's School Parents Club, I had the pleasure of hosting a virtual meeting with our parents. One of the topics of discussion was the current proposed budget. While all those in attendance were worried that once again our school district would not be able to fulfill some much needed positions, such as a full time Technology teacher for our school and the other elementary schools, we all agreed we were in support of the 3.2% increase and truly hoped the Town Council and Mayor would do the right thing by passing the current budget. If not passing at least increase the education budget to 4% which would allow for some of the much needed positions to be filled.

We have a little of 500 students alone at Griswold. Technology, as we have seen during these unprecedented times, is a major part of our lives. It is important that at this young age they are taught and learn about technology. This is only one example of the ramification from recent budget cuts. I, as PC President, know all our parents feel the same way. We need to maintain and increase (if possible) the current level of resources for our Education. I personally have a 5th grader at Griswold and a Freshman at BHS.

Those of us on the call commended the great work by the Board of Finance in coming up with a responsible budget during this epidemic.

We support the budget, do not decrease the Education side and if possible increase.

Respectfully,
Imelda Mongillo

Budget

Lisa Alger <lisa.alger@hotmail.com>

Tue 4/7/2020 12:20 PM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Hi,

I am writing to you today in support of the proposed education budget. As a concerned parent, please vote yes on the increase. Thank you.

Lisa Alger

School Budget

Sarah P. Kowalczyk <sarahmegp@yahoo.com>

Tue 4/7/2020 1:10 PM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Good afternoon, I'm writing in support of the education budget to support the schools. I have 2 young children in the school system, and similar to all other parents, find the quality of school systems to be essential. School systems are a major component of decision making for families in picking towns to live in. Draw in families and keep existing families with solid school systems and the businesses, tax money, etc. will all follow.

Thank you,
Sarah Kowalczyk

Budget

Marcie Valuk <mlvaluk@comcast.net>

Tue 4/7/2020 10:42 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

As a parent with a child in 5th grade at Griswold and a 6th grader at McGee, I am voicing my support of the current town budget, which includes a 3.2% increase for the Education budget. We were hopeful that several much needed positions could be filled at the schools which were taken away in recent years due to budget cuts.

Please support the very responsible budget the Board of Finance has proposed. Or if you are so inclined increase the Education budget to at least 4%.

Thank You,

Marcie Valuk

Sent from my iPhone

Education Budget

Thomas Smith <tsmith037@msn.com>

Tue 4/7/2020 10:13 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Hello, I live on Peck St. in Kensington. I am sending this email to indicate my support of the proposed education budget with an increase of 3.2%, which will not cause an increase to the current mill rate.

In these challenging times, it is vital that we provide adequate funds to our education system in town to ensure that our children continue to get the quality of education for which the town of Berlin is known. While some might question the need for an increase during this crisis, we need to provide adequate funding to educators that are having to adapt to new challenges, create new processes and rely more heavily on technology for distance learning. Current challenges have required significant efforts from our educators to meet educational needs so our children don't fall behind.

We need to resist the temptation to decrease funding while facility use has decreased and athletic programs are on a hiatus so that there is adequate funding available once athletic programs can resume and distance learning is no longer needed.

I would like to thank all of you on the town council for your time and effort, I hope you and your families stay well. Please vote in favor of the education budget.

Tom Smith

Sent from my iPhone

Board of Ed budget

Sarah Holland <s_hlland@yahoo.com>

Tue 4/7/2020 9:57 AM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Hello,

>

> I am writing to you to ask that you please vote in favor of passing the board of education budget. The children of our town are our future and they deserve to be supported in what ever way we can. They need this money to keep our highly qualified and talented teachers and in order to keep the educational programs in place at the high level that our children deserve.

>

> I appreciate the Board of Finance keeping our town budget at a zero percent increase for the coming year in order to help out those who have been affected by this terrible time. However, the Board of Education still needs their needs met as costs increase every year.

>

> Please vote in favor of supporting their budget so we can keep our town moving forward. Thank you for your consideration.

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Sarah Holland

> Sent from my iPhone

BOE budget

Danielle Morisse-Corsetti <dmorisse@outlook.com>

Tue 4/7/2020 1:52 PM

To: Town Budget <townbudget@town.berlin.ct.us>

Cc: Dbastista@berlinshcool.org <Dbastista@berlinshcool.org>; jmr2jmr@comcast.net <jmr2jmr@comcast.net>

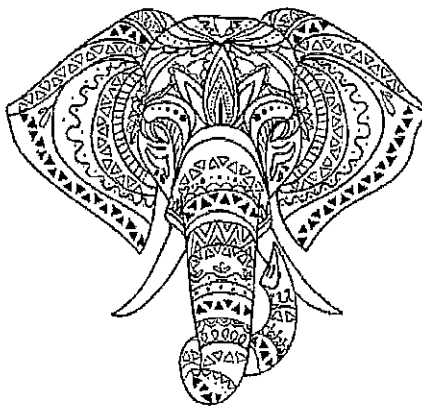
Good afternoon – I am writing as the PTO President of Hubbard Elementary school, and the mother of Hubbard, McGee and Berlin High students. I believe that after talking to several of my PTO board members my sentiments of support for the current budget speak for many Hubbard parents. While of course I supported the larger increase in the BOE budget that was originally proposed, I think the 3.2% increase is reasonable in these times. Anything short of those increased though would pose a serious threat to the education of our students.

I appreciate that it is hard to know the support and sentiments of the town without the opportunity for meetings and voting and wanted to let you know that I support the budget as it stands, with no further cuts.

Thank you for listening, Danielle Morisse-Corsetti

Danielle Morisse-Corsetti, LCSW
85 Cold Spring Road Building 100 Suite 124
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

www.IntentionalLivingCT.com
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860.839.8705



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