

FOCUS ON EDUCATION

SPRING 2022

Message from the Superintendent & Chair

Dear Members of the Lyme-Old Lyme Communities,

On February 2, the Region 18 Board of Education approved a budget of \$34,830,464 for the 2022-2023 school year. The proposed budget represents a 0.13% decrease from the adopted budget for the current year. When comparing this budget to our budget from four years ago, we are proposing to spend \$254,294 less than what we spent in 2019-2020. This represents a 0.7% decrease over four years.

Employee contractual obligations are the main drivers for this budget based on our enrollment growth at the elementary level. These costs are offset by reductions in health insurance costs, special education, debt service and transportation. We have developed a budget that continues to maintain all of our award winning academic and extracurricular offerings which are commensurate, and oftentimes superior, to both public and private schools throughout Connecticut.

This budget supports our commitment to continued adherence to class size guidelines, continuance of existing academic and extracurricular activities, adjustments for anticipated changes in the special education population, adequate funding for maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds, scheduled replacement of technology and equipment, and program improvements that are consistent with high academic and operational standards.

As always, we thank the communities of Lyme and Old Lyme for their ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Ian Neviaser
Superintendent of Schools

Steven Wilson
Chair, Board of Education



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Please join the Board of Education for the following meetings.

- **April 4**, District Budget Hearing, 6:30 PM
 - **April 6**, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM
 - **May 2**, District Budget Meeting, 6:30 PM
 - **May 3**, Anticipated Budget Referendum
6:00 AM - 8:00 PM
- VOTING LOCATIONS**
Old Lyme Residents: *Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School Gymnasium*
Lyme Residents: *Lyme Town Hall*
- **May 4**, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM
 - **June 1**, Regular BOE Meeting, 6:30 PM

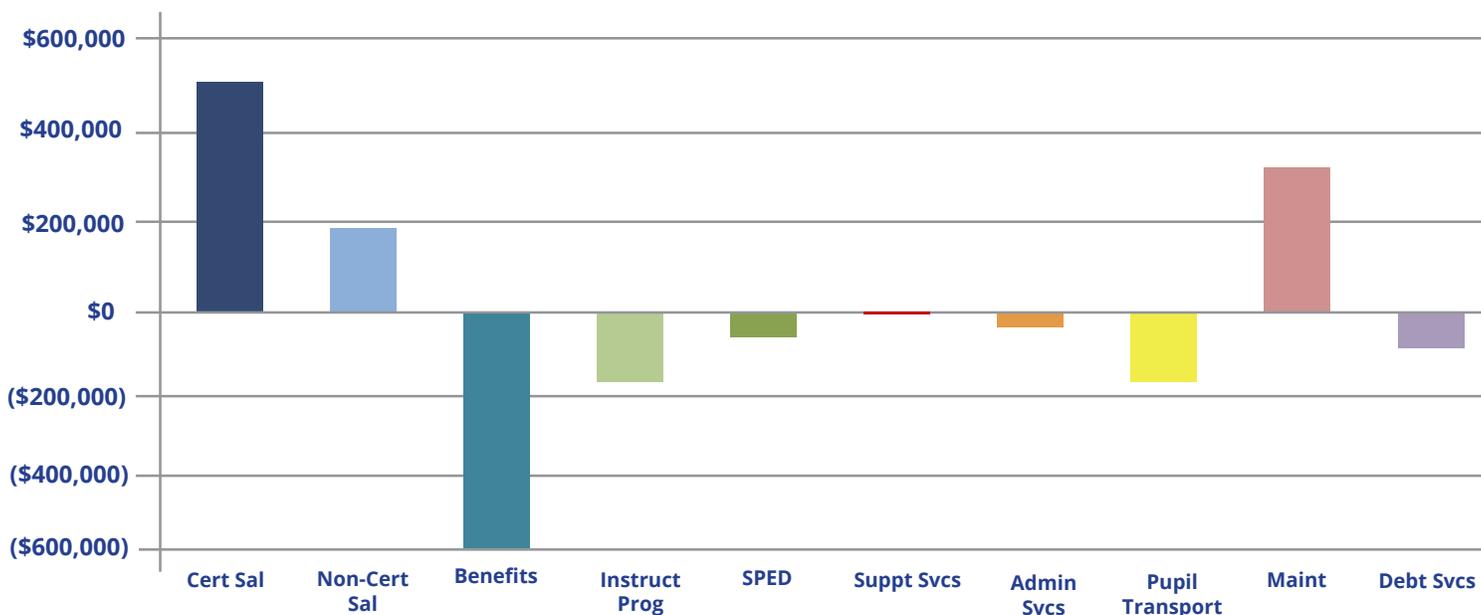
Meetings are held in the Board of Education Conference Room at Center School, 49 Lyme Street, Old Lyme. Agendas, links to live-streams of meetings, and links to recordings of previous meetings are available at www.region18.org under the "District Info" tab.

Budget Summary: \$34,830,464

	20-21 Actuals	21-22 Budget	22-23 Budget	\$ Increase or (Decrease)	% Increase or (Decrease) by Line Item
Certified Salaries	\$14,971,255	\$14,655,695	\$15,173,165	\$517,470	3.53%
Non-Certified Salaries	\$3,517,462	\$3,836,016	\$4,028,842	\$192,826	5.03%
Employee Benefits	\$4,544,621	\$4,489,107	\$3,894,186	(\$594,921)	(13.25)%
Instructional Programs	\$1,148,595	\$1,689,388	\$1,530,976	(\$158,412)	(9.38)%
Special Education	\$907,855	\$1,266,067	\$1,206,983	(\$59,084)	(4.67)%
Support Services	\$59,437	\$81,686	\$81,861	\$175	0.21%
Administrative Services	\$814,293	\$939,670	\$905,689	(\$33,981)	(3.62)%
Pupil Transportation	\$775,445	\$1,167,862	\$1,002,825	(\$165,037)	(14.13)%
Plant Op/Maintenance	\$3,803,165	\$3,702,794	\$4,042,274	\$339,480	9.17%
Operating Budget	\$30,542,128	\$31,828,285	\$31,866,801	\$38,516	0.12%
Debt Service	\$3,152,220	\$3,046,263	\$2,963,663	(\$82,600)	(2.71)%
Total Budget	\$33,694,348	\$34,874,548	\$34,830,464	(\$44,084)	(0.13)%

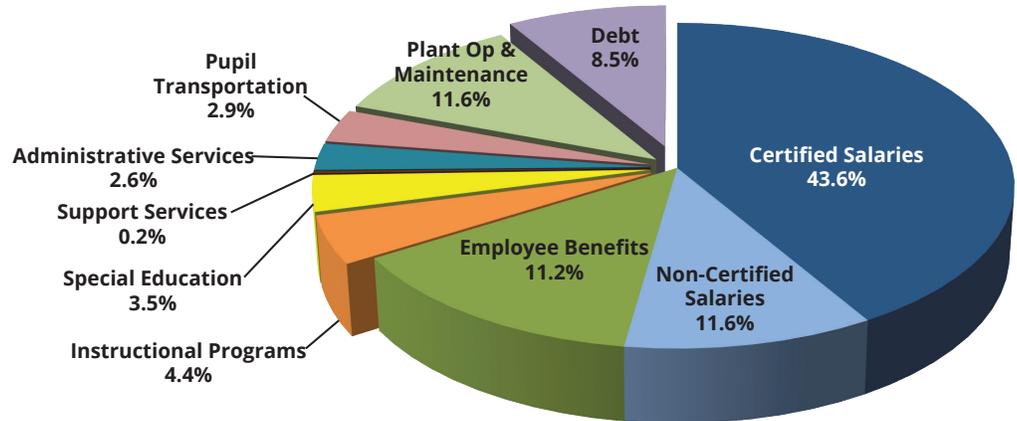


Budget Drivers Increase/Decrease

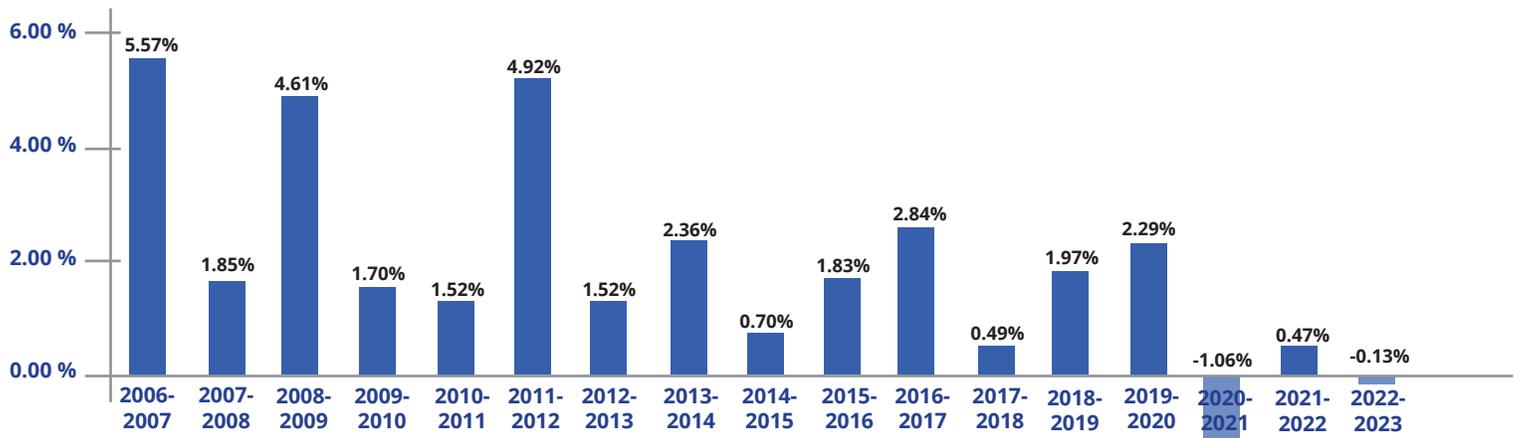


Proposed Budget

\$34,830,464
0.13% decrease



Historical Perspective



FOR MORE INFORMATION: Copies of the budget book will be available in April at www.region18.org, at the central office at Center School, 49 Lyme Street, Old Lyme or by calling (860) 434-7238.

2022-23 BUDGET

Program Improvements

- Interventionist position focused on bolstering math skills for the middle school
- Funding of 5th grade teacher and part-time high school English teacher, positions already filled and funded outside of last year's budget process
- Minor reduction in maintenance and custodial staff
- Teacher laptop replacement

Facilities Improvements

- First resurfacing of high school track since built in 2009
- Upgraded high school theater lighting
- Installation of concrete floor for the middle school outdoor classroom
- Resurfacing of high school commons floor
- Renovation of Mile Creek School gym floor
- Allocation for a study to look at installing bleachers at the multipurpose turf field and the field between the middle and high schools

Alumni Spotlight *Katherine Bergeron*



BIO

Katherine Bergeron has served as the 11th president of Connecticut College since 2014. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Wesleyan University, Bergeron earned master's and doctoral degrees in music history from Cornell University and has written two prize-winning books on French music and culture. Prior to Connecticut College, she was Dean of the College at Brown University.

RECOLLECTION

Of the many inspiring teachers at Lyme-Old Lyme High School, I have wonderful memories of Elias Hage and Alice Burbank, who I was honored to receive at my inauguration as president of Connecticut College in 2014. I also remember with fondness Mlle Ross and the advanced seminar in French she taught during my senior year. There were only five of us in the class, all women, which was quite special. But Mlle Ross, who had herself recently graduated from

Connecticut College, taught us as if we were college students. In the spring, she decided we needed to experience French cuisine and so, one April day, she took us to lunch at the recently refurbished Old Lyme Inn, which had a French menu. It was exhilarating and intimidating at the same time.

FUN FACT In graduate school, I sang in the Javanese gamelan ensemble and played alto saxophone in a jump blues band—all while writing my dissertation on Gregorian chant!