



Empowering learners to embrace and influence the future with courage and compassion.

February 2021

Dear Members of the Clinton Community,

In this time of great challenge and change, the Board of Education approved an operating budget for the 2021-2022 school year at its meeting held on February 3, 2020. The approved budget represents a total amount of \$34,171,057 or a 2.92% increase over the current year's approved operating budget.

The Board of Education is currently in its final year of the District Strategic Plan that established the strategic priorities and goals for the schools and district for 2018 through 2021 and has had a direct influence on the 2021-2022 operating budget development. All requests were vetted and evaluated against the mission of the district and the strategic plan priorities to ensure implementation and achievement of the goals. It is noteworthy that this budget development is occurring in the midst of a pandemic with the understanding that student needs upon return to school in August of 2021 will be influenced by the experience of the past year in which schools experienced closures and students learned both in-person and remotely. This budget supports the expected social-emotional and learning supports that will be necessary for our students to recover, accelerate their learning, and to thrive.

The Board of Education approved 2021-2022 operating budget takes into account the district response and recovery expenses related to the disruptions caused by COVID, and represents an investment in quality programs for students. The budget put forth by the Board of Education represents a balance of stewardship, commitment to our students and their learning, and an understanding of the need to educate the whole child, while at the same time meeting all of the legal mandates required of school systems.

The Clinton Board of Education has worked diligently to make quality budget decisions. The process of budget preparation, development, and consideration has been thorough. We respectfully submit this budget, and the supporting detail contained in the budget book, to the Town Council, the Town Manager and to the citizens of Clinton. We hope that you will review the information and participate in the public process that leads to the May referendum.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erica Gelven".

Erica Gelven
Board of Education Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maryann R. O'Donnell".

Maryann R. O'Donnell
Superintendent of Schools