



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

Clinton Board of Education Updates & Information – February 2018

BUDGET NEWS – Budget Book for BOE Proposed Budget

- The [Board of Education Budget](#) can be found on the district website. The Budget Book contains detail and background information about all operating costs, staffing, grant funding, debt service, capital expenditures, and other supporting information.
- On [February 5, 2018](#) the Board of Education approved an operating budget of \$33,135,941 which represents a 2.98% increase. The budget supports continued investments in academic and enrichment programs, as well as after school activities and athletics. Cost-containment efforts include health insurance adjustments, reductions in staffing to coincide with enrollment decline, and establishment of shared services with the town in the area of grounds maintenance and technology.
- On [February 22, 2018](#) the approved Board of Education operating budget will be presented to the to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. This meeting is open to the public and will be held at the Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SURVEY – [Click here to provide feedback](#)

The Board and administration have begun strategic planning that will set educational goals and create a multi-year plan for growth and improvement through quality programming, planning, and budgeting. The process begins by gathering feedback through a short survey that can be accessed on our website. All Clinton residents are encouraged to complete the survey by February 28th. All feedback will be gathered and analyzed, and be utilized to inform the development of the strategic plan. The Board of Education is also establishing a process for strategic planning in an effort to evaluate use of existing school facilities to meet programming, enrollment, staffing, and capital improvement needs. On Monday, March 26th, the Board will be hosting a public information night to examine the existing facts about our school facilities, to identify the questions to be explored and answered related to facility needs, and to share the process and timeline for this work. The date and time of the session will be shared through the school weekly blasts so that all who are interested in this work may attend.

NEW BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Congratulations to Kimberly Russo, our newly elected Board of Education Member! We are pleased to have Kimberly join our returning members, Erica Gelven, Doug Traynor, Todd Pozefsky, Sandy Luke, Peter Giannotti, and Lois Ruggiero. Erica Gelven was elected to serve as Board of Education Chairperson and Sandy Luke was elected as the Secretary of the Board.

CELEBRATIONS – Joe Macrino – CAS Assistant Principal of the Year



Congratulations to **Joe Macrino**, the Connecticut Association of Schools Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year! The Assistant Principal of the Year Program recognizes outstanding school assistant principals who have succeeded in providing high quality learning opportunities for students. Mr. Macrino has been recognized for demonstrating excellent leadership, commitment to staff and students, service to his community, and contributions to the overall profession of educational leadership. We are very proud of him and thrilled about this recognition. [*See entire press release by clicking here.*](#)

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENT UPDATE

- **Foundation Skills and Competencies** – Teachers in grades 6-12 continue their collaboration rolling out the district’s recently updated set of ten academic skills that apply to all content areas. These skills are clustered in the areas of literacy, math, communication, collaboration, problem solving, and research. The Foundation Skills and Competencies are linked to district curriculum, content standards, and are essential for future student success.
- **Science Curriculum Update** – Clinton Public Schools has joined CREC’s Next Generation Science Curriculum Consortium which provides a forum for teachers from districts across the state to share in the development of three-dimensional NGSS-aligned curriculum anchored in real world phenomena. This regional effort is designed to promote greater collaboration among science teachers while offering savings and efficiencies to participating districts by sharing the cost of curriculum writing and consultancy.
- **Math Curriculum Review** – The District’s Math Curriculum Renewal Team is reviewing the enVision math program currently used in grades K-6 to determine its effectiveness in meeting the needs of our students in the 21st century learning environment. The team is also examining instructional practices at the middle and high school levels to ensure teachers are using the most effective methods for engaging students in their learning.
- **Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Growth Assessments** – Students in grades 3-8 recently completed their second math and reading universal screening assessment. Students are screened three times a year to measure academic growth and progress towards meeting grade level standards. Teachers receive immediate results with MAP that show what students know and what they are ready to learn. The results can be used to help personalize lessons at the appropriate level for the students.
- **Homework Study Group** – Recently, this group of parents, students, and educators reconvened to review the implementation of the Board of Education’s revised homework policy. The group shared their personal experiences and worked to craft a short survey to be given to the entire school community to get their perspective on whether or not homework is becoming more meaningful and manageable.