

## Andover School District

35 SCHOOL ROAD ANDOVER, CT 06232 TEL. (860) 742-7339 FAX (860) 742-8288 www.andoverelementaryct.org Valerie E. Bruneau Superintendent

John P. Briody Principal/Director of Curriculum

Holly L. Maiorano
Director of Special Education

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Shannon O. Louden, Chair Andover Board of Education

Dear Chairwoman Louden and the Members of the Andover Board of Education:

The proposed budget for the Andover Elementary School for the 2021-2022 school year is one that has been painstakingly developed collaboratively between Laura Edwards (outgoing Business Manager) and my office. We have developed a realistic and well thought out budget that takes into consideration the events of the past year, while also planning for the upcoming school year with as much forethought as we could possibly anticipate.

The central goal of AES has been and continues to be to uphold in its vision and mission to prepare our students for secondary education. We honor the Town of Andover's commitment to the children through providing the children with the highest quality education that includes top notch dedicated educators, safe and maintained facilities, and a safe and respectful climate that is fully inclusive of all community members and families.

The 2020-2021 school year has been a hurdle to say the least. Our town, as with others, has had to focus on needs rather than wants to ensure that our children continue to be able to remain in school during the pandemic. I am so proud of the Andover community for being able to meet the needs of all within our community. Our children are the beneficiaries of this hard work.

The proposed budget includes only the increases needed to support the anticipated needs of Andover Elementary School. This proposed budget is respectful of the taxpayer in these very difficult and tumultuous times, while not sacrificing staff, labor contract negotiation responsibilities, safe facilities, and special education and support services so desperately needed for the upcoming year. My goal was not to present a first draft budget assuming there would be a back and forth of negotiations. My goal was to respect this BOE, the town board, and the hardworking taxpayers of the Town of Andover by presenting an 'only what is necessary' budget. This community has supported AES and our children throughout this difficult year, and it has been much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Valerie Bruneau Superintendent