

December 20, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

With the festive season upon us, I am filled with appreciation for the dedication and hard work of all our students, parents, teachers, and staff. I would like to express my gratitude for the spirit of collaboration that exists between our parents and educators in the district.

This is also the time of year when we start to think about our annual budget planning. The process officially kicked off Tuesday, December 19, with a Tri-board meeting at the Simsbury Library. During the meeting, members of the Board of Education, Board of Selectmen, and the Board of Finance had an opportunity to share initial thoughts and data related to the upcoming budget development process.

I am always encouraged by the collaboration at the kickoff meeting and the recognition of the challenges facing the school district. Our budget website includes a calendar of all BOE meetings relative to the 2024-25 budget and will include additional documents as the board moves through the budget process. I also plan on updating you as the process evolves. We take the responsibility of developing a budget extremely seriously and recognize how important it is to balance the current fiscal reality with the needs of the school system. I look forward to sharing more information in the near future.

The BOE welcomed two new members this month, Jessica Parise and Josh Falco. Jessica and Josh replace outgoing and longtime board members Susan Salina, 16 years of service, and Todd Burrick, 12 years of service. Additionally the board elected new officers at their December 12th meeting. We welcome them in their new roles as Chairman Jeff Tindall, Vice Chairman Jennifer Batchelar and Secretary Sharon Thomas.

Congratulations to the SHS Girls Varsity Soccer Team, Class L State Champions and Central Connecticut Conference Champions! This is the first outright state championship since 2000. In pursuit of their 18-1-4 record, the team conceded only 10 goals in 23 games and only trailed for a total of 42 minutes the entire season. A special commendation goes out to MVP Maxine Samson as she scored the game-winning header in the second overtime of the state championship game. The [Board of Education recognized the SHS Girls Varsity Soccer Team](#), during their meeting on November 28.

As we prepare for the holiday recess, I encourage you to take some time for yourselves. Disconnect from daily routines, focus on your loved ones, and create lasting memories filled with joy and laughter. May this holiday season be a time for rest, relaxation, and renewed energy for the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Matt Curtis  
Superintendent of Schools