

Suzanne Krodel

To: richard.weingart@snet.net
Subject: RE: Re: Chaplin BOE 2019-2020 surplus

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject:Re: Chaplin BOE 2019-2020 surplus
Date:Thu, 10 Sep 2020 15:08:21 -0400
From:Dick Weingart <richard.weingart@snet.net>
Reply-To:richard.weingart@snet.net
To:Jaclyn Chancey <jaclyn.chancey@gmail.com>
CC:Henrici, Kenneth <khenrici@parishill.org>

Hi Jaclyn,

Thanks for this note about the FY 2019-20 BOE surplus. We have a BOF meeting Monday night, Sep. 14 and I will present your request to the board. Since we haven't done this for awhile it will take some explaining and we are likely to postpone our decision until the October meeting. Also, the board will likely want some written assurances that the cafeteria fund will stay in the black going forward (whether or not we use the surplus to write off some or all of the deficit). I'll let you know about our discussions shortly after the meeting next week.

Again, thanks for your note. I think it's a good idea to review this subject whenever there is a substantial surplus.

Take care, Dick.

On 9/8/20 9:52 AM, Jaclyn Chancey wrote:

Dear Chairperson Weingart and Board of Finance Members:

As you may be aware, the CES budget for the fiscal year that just ended will have a surplus of approximately \$100,000, much of which was due to the school building being closed due to COVID-19. Obviously, this surplus will be returned to the town. (Other than making sure our fuel tank was completely filled, the administration saw no need to make additional purchases with the excess funds.)

We know that the BOF will make decisions based on the needs of the town as a whole. The BOE would like to request that you consider two potential uses for these funds:

(1) Putting as much as is allowed into the BOE non-lapsing fund as insurance against certain kinds of unexpected expenses. This could help us avoid future budget "jumps" and associated MBR implications.

(2) Applying some against the outstanding debt in the cafeteria / food service account. We were able to pay down some this year, but COVID-19 losses in this area meant this was less than anticipated. We do expect to continue paying down this debt over the next several years, so the importance of this item is solely based on the BOF's comfort level with carrying this balance.

As Board of Education chair, I was incredibly impressed with the Chaplin Elementary administration, staff, and families this past year. None of us were trained in how to run a school during a pandemic! I

know that you have seen the improvements in our financial management under Dave Solin. It's also important to highlight the leadership of Superintendent Ken Henrici and Principal Kevin Chavez-- particularly given that Kevin is a new principal. Finally, the investments in technology infrastructure that have been made over the past few years under Alexander Hill are the reason that we were able to pivot to distance learning as easily as we were. Other school districts faced significant budget deficits as they had to quickly bring their equipment up to date at scale.

Thank you for your continued partnership. Please let me know what else you need from the Board of Education or administration.

Best,

Jaclyn Chancey
Chairperson, Chaplin Board of Education

Town of Chaplin
Non-Lapsing Education Carryover Fund (Sec 10-248a)
Policy Dated 11/13/2012

State Statute as of January 2012:

Sec. 10-248a. Unexpended education funds account. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, and each fiscal year thereafter, notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act, municipal charter, home rule ordinance or other ordinance, the board of finance in each town having a board of finance, the board of selectmen in each town have no board of finance or the authority making appropriations for the school district for each town may deposit into a non-lapsing account any unexpended funds from the prior fiscal year from the budgeted appropriation for education for the town, provided such amount does not exceed one per cent of the total budgeted appropriation for education for such prior fiscal year.

Policy of the Board of Finance, Town of Chaplin:

The Board of Finance has established a Non-Lapsing Education Carryover Fund in accordance with C.G.S. Sec 10-248a beginning with the year ending June 30, 2012 and subject to the following:

- ❖ The Fund will be established exclusively for Board of Education purposes.
- ❖ The Fund will be controlled by the Board of Finance and administered through the Town's Finance Office.
- ❖ Upon request by the Board of Education and approval of the Board of Finance, unexpended funds from the Board of Education's annual adjusted budget in the General Fund, in an amount to be determined by the Board of Finance, shall be credited to the Non-Lapsing Education Carryover Fund in any given year. The amount credited in any given year may not exceed one per cent of the total budgeted appropriation for education for that specific fiscal year.
- ❖ The cumulative balance in this Fund shall not exceed 2% of the current fiscal year Board of Education's budget. Once the Fund balance reaches this level, no additional monies shall be credited to the Fund.
- ❖ Expenditures from the Fund shall be made only on capital purchases and/or emergency expenses. No money from this Fund shall be used for any purpose which shall increase the Minimum Budget Requirement of the Board of Education as defined by the Connecticut General Statutes. All expenditures from the Fund shall be approved in advance by the Board of Education and the Board of Finance, and subject to the same bidding and purchasing policies as other Board of Education expenditures.

- ❖ The Fund Balance shall be jointly reviewed by the Board of Finance and the Board of Education every year.

Approved by the Board of Finance: _____ Date: _____

Name and Title: _____

Approved by the Board of Education: _____ Date: _____

Name and Title: _____

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