

*March 2022*

*From the Desk of the Superintendent*

March is Board of Education Appreciation Month! I would like to take this opportunity to thank Colchester's BOE members Alexander Oliphant, Mary Tomasi, Jessica Morozowich, Donna Antonacci, Margo Gignac, Rosemary Gignac, and Christopher Rivers for their conscientious dedication in volunteering their time to support the best possible educational outcomes for our students. Colchester Public Schools is celebrating their efforts all month to express thanks for all that they do and the numerous hours they devote towards fulfilling our mission of *"We create innovative thinkers for a dynamic world"*. BOE appreciation videos were created by the BA Choir, WJJMS Chamber Choir, JJIS Bands, and CES students to be shared with the Board at BOE meetings. In addition, the BOE members will be presented with snacks made by the Bake Shop at Bacon Academy, keychains from the WJ Innovations class, and student artwork from throughout the district.

On Tuesday, March 8th, I presented my recommended budget for the 2022-2023 school year with a 0.87 percent increase. The budget continues the work of the district and reflects our commitment to meeting the needs of all of our students. The approach to this budget is to continue to address the impact of the pandemic on students and to return to our instructional improvement work. As such, this budget maintains the current level of staffing while looking to grant opportunities to increase support services.

As the 2022-2023 Budget season progresses, community members are encouraged to participate in the process. Presentations and budget documents will be posted to Colchester Public Schools website at [www.colchesterct.org](http://www.colchesterct.org). The full schedule of budget meetings is on both the town and school websites. The public may submit questions at [budget@colchesterct.org](mailto:budget@colchesterct.org) and each one will be answered. There is also a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section in the appendix of the proposed budget.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey E. Burt  
Superintendent, Colchester Public Schools