

## WHAT CAN I DO?

Make it your business to get as much information as you can about the budget. The proposed school budget can be found on the school district website at <http://www.newtown.k12.ct.us/site/files/proposedbudget2010-11.pdf>

This is **YOUR** town, and **YOUR** child's education. Together, we can make our community ***ONE voice for EVERY child.***

Make yourself aware of Budget Meeting dates. Times, dates, and locations for the Board of Education, the Board of Finance and the Legislative Council can be found on the town website. [www.newtown-ct.gov](http://www.newtown-ct.gov) The public is welcome at all of these meetings. Your attendance at these budget meetings is critical in the budget process.

*Many people remain silent when they have the ability to be heard, but speak loudly later about what was or wasn't done.*

If you can't attend a meeting, you can always email any member of the Board of Education, Legislative Council or the Board of Finance, to voice your opinion. Contact information for the Board of Education members can be found at [www.newtown.k12.ct.us](http://www.newtown.k12.ct.us). Contact information for all town Board members can be found at [www.newtown-ct.gov](http://www.newtown-ct.gov). Email addresses are also provided in this brochure.

*Thank you from the Hawley PTA,  
Head O'Meadow PTA,  
Middle Gate PTA, Sandy Hook PTA,  
Reed Intermediate PTA,  
Newtown Middle School PTA,  
& Newtown High School PTSA*

### Board of Education Members

Lillian Bittman, Chair	bittmanboe@aol.com
Kathy Fetchick	kfetchick@charter.net
Richard Gaines	r.gaines.boe@charter.net
William Hart, Jr.	whartboe@gmail.com
Christopher Lagana	claganaboe@gmail.com
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David Nanavaty	nanavatyboe@sbcglobal.net

### Board of Finance Members

John Kortze, Chair	john.kortze@wellsfargoadvisors.com
Jim Gaston	okjt@aol.com
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Joseph Kearney	jkearney19@aol.com
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### Legislative Council

#### *District 1*

Jan Andras	janandras@yahoo.com
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#### *District II*

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Mary Ann Jacob	mjacob4404@charter.net
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#### *District III*

Jeff Capeci, Chair	jeff@thecapecis.com
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# NEWTOWN PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS



## SCHOOL BUDGET INFORMATION 2010

*The sole intent of this brochure, created by the Newtown PTAs, is to provide information to the citizens of Newtown. The content herein does not represent the opinion of any Newtown School or Town Employee.*

# SCHOOL BUDGET PROCESS

*School funding comes from three main sources...*

## Local Tax Revenue

Local property taxes are the *main source* of revenue used to fund Newtown's share of the public schools budget.

In Connecticut, over half of the schools' funding is raised through property taxes.

## State Funding

Funding from the State has decreased significantly over the past several years. Each town received an Educational Cost Sharing Grant which is determined by a complicated formula and which is not guaranteed, only approved annually through a vote by the State Legislature.

## Federal Funding

The U.S. Congress determines the Federal portion of the school budget in the fiscal year to be used. On average, Federal contributions account for 5.4% of Connecticut school districts' funding.

## August-September

Even before school starts, school principals are busy gathering data, planning and projecting in order to prepare the next year's school budget.

## November

Principals and department heads submit budget requests to the Superintendent.

## December

Central Office administrators review school and department requests.

## January

The Superintendent's proposed budget is presented to the Board of Education for review and adoption.\*

## February

The adopted budget is submitted to the Board of Finance for deliberation and approval.\*

## March

The Board of Finance submits the budget to the Legislative Council for deliberation and approval.\*

## April

Legislative Council adopts a town budget. Town Budget Referendum vote (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in April per town charter). Tuesday, April 27, 2010.

## June-August

School principals adjust staffing and supplies to accommodate shifts in budget awarded.

\*Public participation is invited and welcome at these meetings.

## TOWN BUDGET MEETING DATES

Please confirm locations, dates and times as they can be changed at the last minute: [www.newtown-ct.gov](http://www.newtown-ct.gov)

### Board of Education:

**January 26, 7:00PM** - Superintendent's Budget Presentation  
NHS Lecture Hall, 12 Berkshire Road, Sandy Hook

**January 28, 7:30PM** – Regular/Budget Workshop  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

**February 2, 7:30PM** – Regular/Budget Workshop  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

**February 4, 7:30PM** – Regular/Budget Workshop  
Reed Intermediate School Library, 3 Trades Lane

**February 9, 7:00 PM**– Budget Adoption Meeting  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

### Board of Finance:

**February 18, 7:00PM** – Public Hearing  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

**February 22, 7:00PM** – Budget Meeting; Focus: Town Budget  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

**February 25, 7:00PM** – Regular/Budget Meeting; Focus: Education Budget  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

**March 1, 7:00PM** – Budget Meeting; Focus: Education Budget; Discussion & possible action on Town of Newtown Budget  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

**March 4, 7:00PM** – Budget Meeting; Focus: Town Budget; Discussion & Possible Action on Town of Newtown Budget  
NHS Lecture Hall, 12 Berkshire Road, Sandy Hook

**March 8, 7:00PM** – Regular/Budget Meeting, if needed; Discussion & Possible Action on Town of Newtown Budget  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

### Legislative Council:

**March 25, 7:00PM** - Public Hearing  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

**April 7, 7:00PM** – Regular/Budget Meeting; Discussion & Possible Action  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose St.

**April 14, 7:00PM** – Budget Deliberations, if needed; Discussion & Possible Action  
Location to be announced and updated

April 27th, Budget Referendum  
**Don't forget to VOTE**