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**From:** Carole Soule <carolesoule2002@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2016 8:39 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Cc:** Marty McCammon; Russell, Amanda  
**Subject:** City Budget Proposal

Good morning, Mayor Weston, Deputy Mayor Carrier, and Councilors -

I just wanted to voice my support for the proposed budget. Although our family's property taxes will increase slightly, I believe it is a reasonable amount given the gains for our city. I am so pleased that the new high school project is moving forward, and believe it will be a huge asset to our city for years to come. Thank you again for supporting the School Board's goals, and the children and families of Dover!

Best regards,  
Carole Soule McCammon

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**From:** Bob Hall <bvalebob@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2016 11:30 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Subject:** Budget

Hello;

My wife and I are seniors living on fixed income and we are very concerned about the possible 4.3% increase in property taxes discussed in today's Foster's Daily Democrat. I've been carefully reading all Foster's articles concerning budget activities in Dover and surrounding towns/cities and it seems that some communities are making a concerted effort to reach the tax cap. I hope that in the upcoming finalization of the budget that the Council act in recognition of the tax cap that has been supported in multiple votes by residents. While we understand some additional expenses for the new high school, all efforts should be made to reign in property tax increases. From the articles and city website presentations that I have read it seems that the City is trying to be responsive to the tax cap, the School Board once again seems to ignore any sense of fiscal restraint. Social Security has had miniscule, if any, increases in recent years – yet the cost of living in Dover seems to be increasing exponentially.

In the upcoming weeks, as you work to finalize the budget, please do all possible to reach the tax cap. Our property taxes are already the most significant item in our personal budget, but a very large percentage, and seem to be getting even larger, at a rate higher than anything else.

Regards,  
Bob Hall  
Ward 3

**Lavertu, Karen**

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**From:** Bob Hall <bvalebob@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 06, 2016 4:29 PM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Subject:** Budget Workshop - 6 Apr - Education

Hello –

I was planning on attending tonight's workshop because I'm especially interested in learning more as to how the School Department can possibly even begin to justify their budget request. Unfortunately I will be unable to attend due to a prior scheduling conflict.

From all that I've seen and read it appears to me that the School Department has not exerted serious effort to address tax cap obligations and is instead hoping that, because the new school costs are so overwhelming an item, that their budget request will slip through without challenge. While I read that other cities and towns are treating the tax cap seriously and doing all that they can to approve "must have & critical need" items it does not seem that the Dover School Board is willing to prune their budget request to anything less than their "want & nice to have" items.

I've heard from three of you that serious evaluations will take place to insure that the final budget addresses critical and must have items. It is my understanding that Council cannot line item approve/veto the School Budget, but must approve or reject it in toto. That being the case, my recommendation is that the submitted School Budget be returned to the School Committee for some serious pruning.

I'll try to take a look at the recording and possibly attend future workshops.

Thank you for considering my inputs.

Regards,  
Robert E. Hall  
Ward 3

**Lavertu, Karen**

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**From:** Carole Soule <carolesoule2002@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016 9:15 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Cc:** Marty McCammon; Andrew McCammon; Russell, Amanda; Arbour, Elaine  
**Subject:** Concerning the Budget...

Good morning -

Thank you for taking the many perspectives of Dover's citizens into consideration with regard to the budget. However, I am writing to ask you to first consider the future of Dover (our children) who we are tasked with educating for generations to come. Schools and new school buildings cost money, and a lot of it. But the healthiest communities are those which put education first. Let's not go backwards when there is so much forward momentum throughout the city. Good schools attract new families to move to the area, which attracts business, which attracts new development, and so on.

I believe that cutting the school budget to the extent some residents are discussing isn't responsible, and the sudden panic about the new high school is both too late and irrelevant at this point. I understand that my taxes will increase as a result of Dover's growth, and support it all the same. As a parent of three children in the Dover Public Schools, I look forward to a state-of-the-art facility, curriculum, and faculty that will prepare my children for their futures. I believe that some of the angriest and loudest in our community are interested in little more than making local headlines and causing a ruckus. I also believe this city council is largely above such antics, and is committed to doing what is best for our entire community.

I will be interested to learn where the necessary cuts might be responsibly made throughout our city. Thank you for your service.

Best regards,  
Carole Soule McCammon

**Lavertu, Karen**

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**From:** Alyson Genovese <Genovese@globalreporting.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016 10:57 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Subject:** public forum for school district budget

Good morning. My name is Alyson Genovese and I reside at 31 Woodland Road. I have two children in public schools (one at Garrison Elementary and one at Seacoast Charter School) and have lived in Dover for nine years. This email is written in support of the current proposed school budget as written.

I understand that the proposed budget would require an additional tax to Dover residents. We already pay approximately \$13,000 annually in taxes and our property was just reassessed at a higher value so know our taxes will go up as a result of this new proposal. However my husband and I feel strongly that the proposed budget is an important step in ensuring that Dover is able to successfully educate children within Dover and maintain a strong quality of life. Our schools are old and in desperate need of repair/replacement, our classrooms are overcrowded and we are paying many of our teachers below market rate, which is causing many of our most talented staff to find work in other districts (but only after Dover has invested the time and resources in training them!). Our ability to maintain strong and positive schools directly benefits our children of course and is the right thing to do. But it also has direct impact of my own home value as well as attracting the businesses and citizens we want in Dover so the community can continue to thrive. I also know that crowded and under-resourced schools disproportionately affect children from low-income neighborhoods and those with learning disabilities... causing more expensive interventions by the City of Dover down the line with increased crime, addiction, welfare, healthcare and other costs.

I urge you to pass the school budget as written and appreciate your time and dedication to this matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your service to our city.

Regards,  
Alyson Genovese



**Alyson Genovese** | Head of Corporate &  
Stakeholder Relations, USA & Canada

m: +1.603.834.5585



**Lavertu, Karen**

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**From:** Margaret Fogarty <maggie@fogartyfamily.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 6:54 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Cc:** Dover School Board - All  
**Subject:** Support the school budget as proposed

Dear City Councilors,

I am traveling for work and am unable to attend this evening's public hearing, but I write to ask for your support for the school budget as proposed.

I applaud the City Council for having approved the construction of a new high school, which is an essential investment in our future as a healthy and vibrant community. I urge you to ensure that the debt related to this important project does not prompt you to undermine our current investments in Dover schools by forcing cuts in this year's school budget.

I hope you will create an allowance for the total amount of this project's debt so that the tax cap does not cause harm to our school budget. I firmly believe that when tax caps conflict with common sense investments in our community and our future, we should override them.

I trust the work that the school board has done on its budget, and I hope you will approve what they have proposed.

Thank you for your dedicated service to our community.

All the best,  
Maggie Fogarty  
16 Florence Street  
Dover, NH 03820  
(603)988-7115

## Lavertu, Karen

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**From:** Alisha Youch <alishayouch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 7:21 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Subject:** 2017 Budget

I am writing to encourage you to NOT accept the proposed 2017 budget in its current status. While I wholeheartedly support the effort to enhance education and livability in Dover by improving the condition of Dover High School, I feel very strongly about holding to the Tax Cap and the financial restraint which we, the city's residents, have endorsed.

Since purchasing our house in Dover in 2006, we have experienced a significant decrease in market price in the context of the 2008 housing crash. Over the same decade, we have seen a decrease in our valuation AND a commensurate increase of over 60% in our local property taxes. Our mortgage payment has increased by over \$400/month, solely due to our increased property taxes.

At the same time, our family has felt it necessary to seek an alternative to the Dover public schools for our high school student. For a variety of reasons - none of which will be corrected by way of the planned construction project - we feel Dover public schools are not in line with our educational or social expectations. As such, we have chosen to send our son to St. Thomas Aquinas at an annual out of pocket tuition cost of nearly \$13,000. As is evidenced by the St. Thomas, there is much more than a new building behind a successful school and thriving student body.

I accept my role as a Dover citizen and taxpayer to bear the financial burden of public education. It is to our city's benefit to provide the best education we can afford. The question at hand is, how much CAN we afford?

The willingness to incur excessive debt has contributed directly to the recent housing crisis and recession. Families and businesses have all had to be more creative and scrupulous in crafting and adhering to our budgets to survive. I appreciate the effort the City of Dover has made to do so, as well. However, I am frustrated that the School Board seems to place less value on fiscal responsibility and, more importantly, on the wishes of the citizens.

Admittedly, I did not speak out against the School Board's budget when it was proposed. Honestly, I found the proposal process complex, dry and, frankly, intentionally vague as far as the School plans for funding the high school project. I trusted that the School Board - and the City Council - would honor the wishes and the votes of the Dover electorate by ensuring that any considered proposal would adhere to the budgetary priorities we established by way of the Tax Cap.

I realize now that this expectation was naïve. I am asking that you, my City Council, exert your influence and cast your votes on my behalf. We have an obligation to educate our youth. We also have an obligation to honor the will of our electorate, and to do so without subterfuge or by use of fiscal smoke and mirrors.

Allowing for exceptions to the Tax Cap under extreme situations is reasonable and, I expect, would be supported by the Dover electorate. I question the actual need (versus the want) for as extensive a project as that proposed for the new high school. I am neither an engineer nor a financial manager. Nonetheless, I suspect that there are changes to the approved project that could be considered without substantially decreasing the quality of the education the district provides. After all, it IS the excellent teachers that truly make the difference in education - not the presence of air conditioning, the number and quality of the athletic fields or the choice of paint and landscaping.

I ask that the City Council hold the Dover School Board portion of the 2017 City Budget to the Tax Cap as established and voted upon by the citizens of Dover.

Respectfully,  
Alisha Youch  
138 Varney Road  
603.767.1570

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(Please excuse typos. Sent from my mobile device.)

**Lavertu, Karen**

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**From:** timprovencal@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 10:11 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Subject:** DoverSchoolBoard@doover.k12.nh.us

Good Morning,

Please approve an allowance to fully fund both the construction of the new high school and the full budget for the coming school year.

I am strongly opposed to any action that prevents the full funding of the budget that the school board has proposed.

Thank you very much,

Tim Provencal  
16 Florence St.  
Ward 1

## Lavertu, Karen

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**From:** Alisha Youch <alishayouch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 11:25 AM  
**To:** Gagnon, Jason  
**Cc:** City Council - All; Joyal, Michael  
**Subject:** Re: 2017 Budget

Jason,

Thank you so much for your timely and thoughtful reply. You have raised a number of points and questions to which I would like to respond - and I will. Unfortunately, I've just arrived at work and am here until 7 pm tonight. (I am hoping I might sneak out a bit early to be able to attend the City Council meeting.)

I quickly wanted to clarify that my statement about the School Board's not being responsive to the wishes of the votes was specifically in the context of the Tax Cap. I feel strongly that their proposing a budget that knowingly and intentionally exceeds the Tax Cap - and associated with the local political "third rail" of "it's for the kids" - was dismissive of our electorate's expressed fiscal wishes. I expected they would present a project consistent with the needs of our families AND the budgetary limitations of our City.

I look forward to responding more fully, and hope to speak on this tonight. I would enjoy a chance to meet in a less hectic time to talk further.

Best,  
Alisha Youch

On Wed, Apr 13, 2016, 10:33 AM Gagnon, Jason <[J.Gagnon@dover.nh.gov](mailto:J.Gagnon@dover.nh.gov)> wrote:  
Ms. Youch -

Thank you for reaching out about this year's budget. I definitely agree that the budget process is complex (and dry!), made even more so by consistently moving targets (tax cap calculation, State of NH adequacy funding determinations, tuition student enrollment numbers, unresolved educational professional union contracts...). We are still early in the budget process, and it is my hope the details will become much clearer over the following month or so.

With respect to the school budget, I was surprised at just how far the initial proposed budget was over the tax cap. There was also some confusion at the meeting about the use of new State of NH adequacy aid as it relates to the tax impact of the new High School, so I'll attempt to provide some clarity on that.

When the previous Council approved the funding for the new High School project last year, my understanding (based on the conservative pro-forma generated by the City Manager) was that repayment of the bond would require the school portion of the budget to exceed the tax cap without factoring in any additional school operating budget changes. In that pro-forma, the new debt payment anticipated for FY17 was \$2.92M. The CM factored in the anticipated new State of NH adequacy funding of \$1.449M as 'new' revenue and included a 1-time transfer from Capital Reserve of \$450K as revenue to make the

anticipated net impact of that high school debt repayment [\$2.9M - \$1.449M - \$450K = \$1.001M]. This is in very simple terms, the net impact to the overall budget that the Council understood when approving the High School debt last year (in reality, it's much more complex than that because there are other debt obligations coming on/off line in the next few years as well as other factors beyond local control). I think it is important for everyone to remember that assumed increase in school budget of +/- \$1M did not include any other changes to the school budget. (I've copied the City Manager on this email in case my numbers are not correct.)

Fast forward to this year, and the proposed school budget. Let me first say that I agree completely about the way the School Board presented their budget to the Council. I found it lacking in detail and explanation, and at the end of their presentation to the Council the only thing I knew for sure was that their budget was higher than I expected without fully understanding why.

From my Council perspective, it's helpful for me to look back at recent history to gain a bit of perspective on *why* the budget was presented the way it was before I get too dismissive of its value. You (like me) bought in Dover in 2006, when the world was alive with the promise of 'prosperity in perpetuity' (or at least that's what those in Real Estate were selling). Of course, this all came to an abrupt end in 2008. We all know what happened economically after that, but what's important in this discussion is what happened *politically* in New Hampshire and Dover at that point. When the economic sky fell, the electorate in NH reacted by putting a majority of people in office who pledged to cut back on taxes through significant spending cuts. I like to think of our American democracy as a perfect representation of 'trickle-down economics.' In this case, major funding cuts at the State level (eliminating State funding of State mandated programs in particular - "downshifting") caused local municipalities to have dramatic increases in local property tax funded obligations that previously were funded by the State. Again, this trickled down into our local elected officials, who were now faced not just with the continued rising cost of maintaining the existing level of service - they also now had to pick up the tab for programs the State dumped on the local taxpayer. The end result of this was an equal response by the local electorate to support candidates proposing to drastically cut local spending. In Dover in particular, those elected officials chose to especially target the school department in a manner that created animosity and division between the School Board and City Council.

What does that have to do with this year's budget? In Dover, the School Board is elected by the public with the responsibility to develop a school budget that meets State requirements at a minimum, and otherwise reflects the community's educational goals. The City Council then has ultimate bottom line authority on that budget. In my opinion, there are pros and cons to this setup but one unavoidable result is that there is always the potential for conflict between those working to provide what they believe is needed for a quality education and a Council where the majority may or may not prioritize public education funding. When the "stuff" was hitting the proverbial fan with local budgets post-2008, it also happened to coincide with a Council containing many members who have, on the record, stated their distaste for school boards in general. In my opinion, what ensued was not productive for the educational system in Dover and created a strong level of mistrust and animosity between the Council and the School Board. We've come a long way in the past few years toward mending that relationship, but there are still those on both sides that are having a tough time 'letting go of the old stuff'. To summarize, yes - I believe the School department should (and will) do a better job of expanding on the importance of items within

the budget when presenting to the Council, but individual Councilors need to recognize the elected responsibility of the School Board and stop trying to tell them what's important in education. Only then can the Council and School Board work in a truly collaborative manner to help move our City forward.

With that understanding of recent history as a reference point, I can say that myself and other Councilors have been proactively working with the School department to gain a better understanding of the *why* behind their budget. Once we (and the public) understand the *why* behind the numbers, we'll all be better able to assess whether the need/value of the school budget tax impact.

I do question your assertion that the School Board doesn't consider the wishes of Citizens, though. On this issue in particular, I have heard from as many supporters of the school budget as I have those opposed to it. Members of the School Board have told me many times that they receive little to no public input on where/how to cut costs during their budget process, but are constantly hearing from Citizens about deficiencies within the school system that need more funding.

With respect to the potential for a tax cap override, I agree that the electorate has voted to give the Council authority to override when the need arises and that the Council must not use this authority recklessly. My personal feeling is that the undertaking of the single largest capital project in City history (the high school) is one of those situations where the 'new cost' cannot fit under the tax cap without implementing devastating cuts elsewhere. One benefit of the financial austerity measures implemented by Councils post-2008 is that all of Dover's municipal operations (school and City side) are running very lean and efficient - but that also means there isn't any fat left to cut. Any significant reduction in existing budgets would have to come from elimination of existing programs and services that so many in the Dover community cherish or depend on. We are always open to suggestions on which programs should be removed from the City budget - if they're not important to the City, we shouldn't be paying for it!

On the school side of the budget, it's unfortunate that the new high school debt will come on line at a time when the School budget is still trying to overcome severe funding deficiencies enacted post-2008 crash, but that's the bed made by Councils and State legislatures over the last decade - and that's the bed that current elected officials are forced to sleep in. Please know that my personal approach to re-making this bed is to balance, as best I can, the recovery of adequate school funding and long-term cost reduction (through smart infrastructure and tax-base investment on the City side) with measured, sustainable taxpayer impact. I understand that no matter which choices I make come budget season, there will be those who agree or disagree in the short term impacts of those choices - but my priority is the long-term financial health of the City as a whole.

I am sorry that your tax assessment has increased by \$4,800 a year over the past decade - that seems very excessive! If you haven't made any physical improvements to your property to warrant the increase, I would consider speaking with the tax assessor about your valuation and exploring the possibility of reassessment and/or abatement.

If I may ask, what are the reasons you've chosen St. Thomas over DHS? I think it's important for those of us involved in the budget process to understand the needs of Dover's high school students so that we can allocate resources to meet educational expectations (and save families \$13K per year!). You specifically

mention factors other than the physical building as being important, and I agree completely. As counter-intuitive as it may sound, the driving force behind my support for the new high school building was to reduce long-term costs to the City (although I do think it will help educationally, as well). The educational program, and perhaps most importantly the *people*, are what make for a successful education in my mind. My understanding is that Dover's teacher pay is in the neighborhood of 25% +/- *below* that of comparable school districts, which makes it exceptionally difficult for Dover to recruit and retain quality young (read: those with a more manageable salary) teachers. If you like, I would be more than happy to sit down with you and discuss what you'd like to see done at our schools to help them meet the needs of your family - not having to pay tuition at St. Thomas would likely more than offset any increase in tax levy for the schools!

Again, please let me know if there's anything I did not address in this email that you would like to discuss.

Sincerely,

Jason Gagnon  
City Councilor - Ward 6  
City of Dover, NH  
288 Central Avenue  
Dover, NH 03820-4169  
e: [j.gagnon@doover.nh.gov](mailto:j.gagnon@doover.nh.gov)  
p: 603.969-7949

Dover: First in New Hampshire, First with you!  
<http://www.dover.nh.gov>

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**From:** Alisha Youch <[alishayouch@gmail.com](mailto:alishayouch@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 7:21 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Subject:** 2017 Budget

I am writing to encourage you to NOT accept the proposed 2017 budget in its current status. While I wholeheartedly support the effort to enhance education and livability in Dover by improving the condition of Dover High School, I feel very strongly about holding to the Tax Cap and the financial restraint which we, the city's residents, have endorsed.

Since purchasing our house in Dover in 2006, we have experienced a significant decrease in market price in the context of the 2008 housing crash. Over the same decade, we have seen a decrease in our valuation AND a commensurate increase of over 60% in our local property taxes. Our mortgage payment has increased by over \$400/month, solely due to our increased property taxes.

At the same time, our family has felt it necessary to seek an alternative to the Dover public schools for our high school student. For a variety of reasons - none of which will be corrected by way of the planned construction project - we feel Dover public schools are not in line with our educational or social expectations. As such, we have chosen to send our son to St. Thomas Aquinas at an annual out of pocket

tuition cost of nearly \$13,000. As is evidenced by the St. Thomas, there is much more than a new building behind a successful school and thriving student body.

I accept my role as a Dover citizen and taxpayer to bear the financial burden of public education. It is to our city's benefit to provide the best education we can afford. The question at hand is, how much CAN we afford?

The willingness to incur excessive debt has contributed directly to the recent housing crisis and recession. Families and businesses have all had to be more creative and scrupulous in crafting and adhering to our budgets to survive. I appreciate the effort the City of Dover has made to do so, as well. However, I am frustrated that the School Board seems to place less value on fiscal responsibility and, more importantly, on the wishes of the citizens.

Admittedly, I did not speak out against the School Board's budget when it was proposed. Honestly, I found the proposal process complex, dry and, frankly, intentionally vague as far as the School plans for funding the high school project. I trusted that the School Board - and the City Council - would honor the wishes and the votes of the Dover electorate by ensuring that any considered proposal would adhere to the budgetary priorities we established by way of the Tax Cap.

I realize now that this expectation was naïve. I am asking that you, my City Council, exert your influence and cast your votes on my behalf. We have an obligation to educate our youth. We also have an obligation to honor the will of our electorate, and to do so without subterfuge or by use of fiscal smoke and mirrors.

Allowing for exceptions to the Tax Cap under extreme situations is reasonable and, I expect, would be supported by the Dover electorate. I question the actual need (versus the want) for as extensive a project as that proposed for the new high school. I am neither an engineer nor a financial manager. Nonetheless, I suspect that there are changes to the approved project that could be considered without substantially decreasing the quality of the education the district provides. After all, it IS the excellent teachers that truly make the difference in education - not the presence of air conditioning, the number and quality of the athletic fields or the choice of paint and landscaping.

I ask that the City Council hold the Dover School Board portion of the 2017 City Budget to the Tax Cap as established and voted upon by the citizens of Dover.

Respectfully,  
Alisha Youch  
138 Varney Road  
603.767.1570

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(Please excuse typos. Sent from my mobile device.)

## Lavertu, Karen

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**From:** Christy Thomas <chthomas@thomii.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 11:51 AM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Cc:** Dover School Board - All  
**Subject:** school budget

Hi,

I would like to express my support for the school budget as presented by the Dover School Board.

Dover Schools are a priority for myself and my family. I want teachers to make more money and keep their jobs. We need to do what we can to keep the good teachers from leaving. I also want a safe environment for our students and the High School is not currently viewed as safe in my mind. I trust the ability of our current school board to make the right decisions for our schools. I hope you do as well.

Thanks,  
Christy Thomas  
Dover Resident

**Lavertu, Karen**

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**From:** deborahdover@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 12:16 PM  
**To:** City Council - All; Dover School Board - All  
**Subject:** School budget

Dear Councilors and Dover School Board members,

First, we would like to thank you for your dedicated service to the city of Dover. We greatly appreciate all that you do.

Dover has made tremendous progress over the last several years via investment in our infrastructure and services, drawn new businesses to our community (such as Stonewall Kitchen), and are making plans for increased progress via our investment in a new high school.

There was a statement made in a recent article in Foster's Daily Democrat on April 11th that I thought was quite relevant:

"Finally, it seems unrealistic to expect the schools to take on such a large project's debt and cut their annual budget accordingly to accommodate it. This was the crux of the debate at last week's Council meeting. Building a new high school is an asset to the city, not just the schools. It is unfair to expect the schools to shoulder this debt alone, and taxpayers may have to swallow going over the tax cap to accommodate it."

We are **in support of the school board's budget as proposed.**

Regards,

Debbie & Sean Fitzgerald  
39 Isaac Lucas Circle

## Lavertu, Karen

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**From:** natalie koellmer <natk1019@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 1:34 PM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Cc:** Drew Koellmer  
**Subject:** tonights meeting

To all of the City Council Members -

Our family is unable to attend tonights city council meeting, but we would still like our voice to be heard.

Please DO NOT vote to ask the schools to cut their budget. You cannot expect the schools to consistently do more with less. I am so disappointed that this is even a topic of conversation yet again in this city. There is such poor planning for the future in this city and large failure to look ahead and understand what the needs will be - especially evident in this latest request. The city is growing larger and larger (keep building more condos!!!) yet an obvious oversight is that all of these families have children that need to go to school and get a good education. Building a new police station, parking garage, rebuilding roads....yet the buck stops at any hope for a brighter future and raising our property values with a great school system. Thumbs down.

A taxpaying single residence homeowner,  
Natalie Koellmer  
Ward 3

**Lavertu, Karen**

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**From:** Mike Thomas <michael@thomii.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 2:50 PM  
**To:** City Council - All  
**Cc:** Dover School Board - All  
**Subject:** The School Budget

I also would like the school budget as presented by the Dover School Board to continue forward as it was presented.

I graduated from that exact Dover High School and believe it's time to replace it, both my kids either are or will be attending DHS, they shouldn't be the third generation to attend that exact same school! I believe at this time the old highschool isn't a safe environment. I also believe we should pay teachers more money instead of making any cuts. We need to ensure top teachers want to stay at our schools, not force them to leave for more money elsewhere. I believe in the abilities of our current school board to make the right decisions for our schools.

Thank you for your time!

Mike Thomas  
Dover born and raised resident!