

Mistretta, Susan

From: Suzanne Weete <suzanneeete@communitypartnersnh.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 3:38 PM
To: City Council - All
Subject: City and School Budget

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April 7, 2020

Dear Dover City Councilors-

We'd like to thank you for your leadership through an unprecedented time in all of our lives. Through this pandemic, you have continued to serve the great city of Dover, and all our citizens.

We write to you today because through this health crisis, we have seen so many bright spots. Neighbor helping neighbor, community members helping our small businesses and eating establishments, our health care professionals who are risking their lives to save those who are sick, our first responders who are keeping the peace and maintaining our distance within all corners of our community. Thank you to the amazing citizens of Dover who are doing what is right to get through this crisis.

At the heart of our community are our public and private school systems. Our children attend the public schools and even before we delve in to distance learning- we have been truly amazed with the school response to feed our students, bringing the food - to them – to ensure all kids can eat healthy throughout the week and weekend. The fact that our school system, in coordination with several community partners, was able to mobilize the distribution of food literally during week 1 of remote learning is absolutely amazing.

The quick pivot of our teachers at all levels and the administration to rise to the challenge of distance learning in times like these has also been amazing. It is certainly a different time – but our school personnel are working overtime to rise to the challenge and meet the needs of our children.

These are just two current examples of where the heart of our school administration and personnel operate from.

They operate from their heart. They do what's right and they get the job done.

We realize that the school budget is the largest part of our city budget. We also realize that many people in our community are truly struggling with cuts in jobs and pay. This pandemic is affecting us all in ways we've never expected. But this pandemic will end. And when that time comes, we must support our school district and give the resources it needs to continue to provide the education and lifeline – the heartbeat - for so many students and families in our community.

Please pass the school budget as is.

Thank you,

Seth and Suzanne Weete
Ward 6