

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE for May 2019

Dear FPS Families,

I have several updates and reminders as we draw closer to the end of the year. Thanks to all parents who recently filled out the 2019-2020 FPS Climate Survey. Please click [here](#) to see the survey results.

FPS News

Budget

The RTM passed the FPS budget this past Monday evening. The reduction from the original request to the Board of Selectmen remains at \$700,000, but we are extremely grateful this year for an overall increase of 4.6%. The Board discussed a preliminary list of adjustments, which will be decided on at their next meeting and can be found [here](#).

Budget Increase

Do you wonder why the enrollment is going down and the budget still needs an increase? This question is asked often and people struggle to find the answer. Please click [here](#) to read a detailed explanation that was provided to the RTM this past April (Question 2).

Graduation Time

The BoE voted to change Graduation from 6:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Graduating on a Friday is a change in past practice, and the time change was approved to be respectful to all people and families.

Solar

The BoE voted to add solar panels at the back of RLMS, on the Burr parking area and on the Holland Hill roof. The Stratfield solar project was not approved due to concerns regarding inadequate space. Please see more on the solar proposals and designs, beginning on page 3: [Solar Proposal](#)

Early Childhood Center (ECC)

The ECC has outgrown its Warde location, which led to a second ECC site being added at Stratfield last year. In 2010, ECC had 75 students, and 172 are registered for next year. The BOE will continue to discuss plans for ECC at the May 21 meeting, which includes peer-balanced classes, smaller class sizes and a reduction in teacher caseloads.

School Construction

The Mill Hill funding resolution will be voted on at the May 22, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting. The goal is to have Mill Hill approved for project funding and submitted to the state by June 30th. Holland Hill is on time and work will progress throughout the summer. Once finished, Holland Hill will be expanded by 6 additional classrooms providing space for up to 504 students (6 classes x 21 students in each).

Have a wonderful end of the year! Thank you for allowing us the honor of teaching your children.

Dr. Toni Jones

Superintendent of Schools

