

Budget Update #3
February 24, 2021

The Cape Elizabeth School Department held a workshop on February 23, 2021 for the purpose of moving forward with the development of the FY22 School Budget. The meeting was held via Zoom. There was an opportunity for citizens to comment on the budget at the start of the meeting as in every budget meeting. Questions, based on administrators' presentations of budget requests at the last meeting had been forwarded from School Board members to the appropriate administrators. Answers to those questions were provided at this meeting and are available on the website ([link](#)).

The FY22 School Budget increase over FY21 currently stands at 7.1 % The increase originally was 7.4%. This reduction has resulted from several factors including the reduction of the required retirement contribution for the district, and a reduction of requested course reimbursements from staff. We will continue to work to reduce the increase on the FY22 budget.

We are waiting for notification of our increase in the percentage of increase in our health insurance benefits which will be available in early April. In addition, we are awaiting word on the status of the Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI) funding from Augusta.

The next FY22 School Budget Workshop will be held on March 2, 2021 via Zoom. The meeting will focus on answering additional questions based on administrators' responses to the previous questions, a review of the ED279 document, and a discussion of the use of the fund balance. I encourage all Cape Elizabeth citizens to attend the budget development workshops. An opportunity for citizen comment on the budget will be held at each meeting. In addition, videos of the meetings are available on our website ([link](#)) by clicking the CETV icon at the bottom of the page, in order to keep the public up-to-date on the budget process.