

Letter: How to Influence Your Child's Educational Experience



To the Editor:

I would like to share with you all important facts about your Easton Board of Finance (BOF). The chart below summarizes the BOF members who fully supported the 4.09% Board of Education (BOE) budget increase and those who did not.

Name	BOF Role	6 Year Term	Supported BOE 2021-2022 Budget 4.09%
Wendy Bowditch	Member	Appointed by Andy K, Paul S, and Michael K. She will be on the November'21 ballot.	 NO
Andy Kachele	Member	11/5/19 to 11/4/25	 NO
Paul Skrtich	Member	11/5/19 to 11/4/25	 NO
Michael Kot	Member	11/7/17 to 11/7/23	 NO
Arthur Laske III	Member	11/3/15 to 11/2/21	 YES
Paul Lindoerfer	Member	11/3/15 to 11/2/21	 YES
Jacqueline Kaufman	Alternate	1/2/17 to 1/2/23	 YES
Ira Kaplan	Alternate	1/2/21 to 1/2/27	 YES
Gregg Saunders	Alternate	1/2/19 to 1/2/25	Not present

Why is this important?

You can directly influence who serves on the BOF by voting in our local elections this November 2021. The school programs and services available to our children are directly affected by how each BOF member votes. If the BOF members do not support the BOE budget request, education programs and resources will be cut.

If you were unable to make the BOF/BOE zoom meeting this past week, I strongly urge you to listen to the replay (link below). From one parent to another, let's help our children get the best possible education. That's why most of us moved to Easton, right? Talk to any parent who has lived here for a while, and they will tell you, the BOF has been cutting funding year after year. We need to change this! If you take the time to watch the BOF/BOE replay, I think you will be as shocked as I was at the comments made by several members.

Please take note of the 6 YEAR term for each member. Do you want a BOF that supports our children's education? If you do, it is CRITICAL that you vote in the local elections in November. Every vote is needed...Know your BOF!

If you are new to this process and need help understanding how it all works, please let me know and I will help. If I don't know the answer, I will help you find someone who does.

I would like to close by thanking those BOF members who believe in the importance of education. Children are the future leaders and we need to invest in them. I also want to thank our BOE and Superintendent for dedicating so much time and effort to give our children the best possible education. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

LINK TO REPLAY: <https://www.facebook.com/EastonCTBOS/videos/1063553970832412>

The BOE 4.09% budget increase request included:

- Restoring the HKMS Media Specialist
- Adding a 4th grade teacher at SSES to keep class sizes reasonable.
- Increasing the social worker from part-time to full-time
- Restoring funding for extracurricular activities at HKMS
- Professional learning for our teachers
- New math curriculum at SSES
- New Director of Technology & Digital Learning (split with Redding and ER9)
- Contractual increases and health care increases

Jennifer de Jesus

Easton Mom