

# **Deep River BOE 2020-21 Budget FAQ**

**(from questions asked at Deep River Budget Workshops  
held for the development of the 2020-21 Deep River Elementary Budget)**

On January 29th; February 27th; March 4th; and March 31st, 2020 the Deep River Board of Education held Budget Workshops to develop their proposed 2020-21 budget for Deep River Elementary School. During those workshops the administrative staff committed to answering all questions posed by board and community members; and committed to providing the answers in one FAQ document accessible by the public. In keeping with the commitment of the Board and the current administrative team to provide effective communication and transparency, this FAQ is being made available on the website.

## **Questions Regarding Specific Budget Categories**

### **100s (salaries)**

No questions asked

### **200s (employee benefits)**

**1.) Q: Are we locked into the 18%? If it comes in lower, will we lower the percentage or keep it and take the difference and put it into the reserve fund?**

**A:** Yes, we are locked into 18% district-wide. All those funds will be deposited into the reserve fund. Any excess after claims have been paid will help to build the reserve to a minimum of \$1,000,000.

**2.) Q: Is the BOF aware of the reserve appropriation?**

**A:** Yes. Input was solicited from all affected parties before the additional appropriation of \$240,000 was put forth.

**3.) Q: Why the decrease from \$20,000 to \$5,000 in Line 5250 Unemployment Compensation**

**A:** As of March 1, 2020, only \$300 was spent on unemployment compensation. Budgets are developed with the best data available to project future needs.

**300s (professional and technical services)**

**4.) Q: What comprises Line 5322-1210 School-Wide Enrichment Program?**

**A:** This line includes funding for full school programs such as Day of the Arts, Read Across America, Connecticut Invention Convention, Character Education, Mentor Breakfast, Math Olympiad, and Science Fair Awards. This line supports enrichment activities to support and enhance learning opportunities in our curricula and social and emotional programming for all students.

**400s (property services)**

**5.) Q: Line 5412 Electricity...is this the most updated? Is the note included?**

**A:** Yes, the old loan will come off in December 2020. The new loan for the project completed in November of 2019, has a separate, newly created account (Line 5413) just below electricity (Line 5412). The Feb/March bills have been provided to the Deep River Business Office, With this information, further reduction in the Electric and Natural Gas budgets will be discussed.

<b>OBJECT 400 - PURCHASED PROPERTY SERVICES:</b>								
5411	Water	6,410	6,410	6,410	6,450	0.62%	40	
5412	Electricity	53,965	53,965	53,965	40,000	-25.88%	(13,965)	
5413	Town Energy Efficiency Project Loan	0	0	0	26,733	100.00%	26,733	

**6.) Q: Discussion about Raptor and related infrastructure projects. Other options (outside installation) drilling a hole in the brick? Overhang?**

**A:** It was learned that an outside installation is not recommended by the manufacturer of Raptor.

**500s (other services)**

No questions asked

**600s (supplies and materials)**

No questions asked

**700s (equipment)**

No questions asked

**800s (other objects)**

**7.) Q: Line 5810 2905 LEARN it's zeroed out....did we mean to do this?**

**A:** Line 5810 2905 was reduced to 0 after BOE workshop discussion and recommendation.

### **General Questions**

**8.) Q: Many questions about cafeteria salaries and previous budgeting history. They want to understand. Are the salaries for the food service director and bookkeeper allocated via ADM 4 way or even 4 way?**

**A:** The allocation for the Food Service Director and book keeper was a four (4) way split by site: Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 (John Winthrop and Valley Regional) Cafeterias.