

**From:** [Stamford Alliance For Black Achievement](#)  
**To:** [Board of Representatives](#)  
**Subject:** Board of Education's Proposed 2023-24 Budget  
**Date:** Friday, April 14, 2023 11:08:43 AM

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April 14, 2023

Dear Board Member,

We are writing to ask you to fund the Board of Education's 2023-2024 proposed budget in full. As members of Stamford's Alliance for Black Achievement (AFBA), we are concerned that any cuts to the proposed budget will disproportionately affect Stamford Public Schools' most vulnerable students and will continue to perpetuate the opportunity gap, which we are working so hard, in partnership with the Board of Education, Stamford Public Schools personnel, and community members, to close.

The 3.9% increase in the proposed budget from 2022-2023 to 2023-2024 only maintains our current staffing and services as costs for healthcare, utilities, and special education continue to rise. Despite extreme budget cuts for the 2020-2021 school year, the district has not reallocated cut positions from time-limited grants to the operating budget to keep the budget from increasing too rapidly.

Should the Board of Finance and/or the Board of Representatives cut the proposed budget, we are deeply concerned that services on which our most needy students rely will be cut or completely removed. As you know, the pandemic already had an outsized impact on marginalized communities, and budget cuts will only exacerbate this. [See data related to CT math scores for an example of racial disparities in student achievement.](#)

As a collective that is committed to better outcomes for Stamford Public Schools' Black students, we believe that any cuts to the proposed budget will create more barriers to achieving our ultimate goals of increasing the academic achievement and social-emotional wellbeing of Stamford Public Schools' Black students. Please contact us at [afbastamford@gmail.com](mailto:afbastamford@gmail.com) if you would like to discuss our concerns in more detail.

We hope you will do what is in the best interest of our city's students and residents and approve the proposed 2023-2024 Board of Education budget in full.

Sincerely,

The Alliance for Black Achievement  
[afbastamford@gmail.com](mailto:afbastamford@gmail.com)