Dear Region 20 Community,

On May 5, 2026, the Region 20 communities of Goshen, Litchfield, Morris, and Warren voted 1,033 to 430 in support of the proposed FY27 Regional School District No. 20 operating budget. This strong vote of confidence marks an important milestone as we complete our second full year as a unified regional school district.

The approved FY27 budget of **$44,555,698.43**, a **4.24% increase** over the current year, preserves our most essential programming while making targeted staffing adjustments to better meet student needs in a fiscally responsible way.

A key component of the budget is restoring a science teacher position at Lakeview High School, which had been eliminated in the previous budget cycle. Reinstating this position will strengthen our science course offerings and increase staff capacity for student support and supervision.

The budget also establishes a long-needed foundation for elementary intervention services. This year, Region 20 was likely one of the few districts in Connecticut without a single dedicated student-intervention position. With the passage of this budget, we will begin building a sustainable, data-driven intervention model. Four Educational Assistants will receive training to deliver targeted academic interventions, and a Coordinator will support teachers in analyzing and responding to assessment data to effectively meet students' needs. Over time, this structure will allow us to expand our capacity while maintaining a careful focus on fiscal stewardship.

Our commitment to long-term financial responsibility does not end with the budget's approval. In the coming year, the district will renegotiate contracts with teachers, educational assistants, maintenance and custodial staff, and administrators. These groups are the heart of our school system, and competitive compensation is essential to attracting and retaining the high-quality staff our students deserve. At the same time, we must balance these needs with the fiscal realities facing our communities. These negotiations will be among the most significant responsibilities the Board of Education undertakes this year.

The district will also continue its work on building utilization and long-term sustainability. In the weeks ahead, the Board of Education will resume discussions on school facilities and continue addressing long-standing building needs across the district.

I encourage you to stay engaged, attend meetings, and share your perspectives. Our schools are a vital part of the municipal infrastructure in each Region 20 town, and your involvement strengthens our collective work.

Thank you for your continued support of Regional School District No. 20.

Regards,

Jeffrey A. Villar, Ph.D.
Superintendent