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| School Council Meeting  1/13/2025 |
| Charter: Confident, Connected, Happy, Valued, Respected   * Listen to each other * Work toward the same goal for kids * Presume positive intent * Share airtime- Give everyone a chance to speak * Be an active team member- keep your brain the group * Share celebrations * Compliment and praise, acknowledging what assets each person brings to the table * Discuss and acknowledge difference and share ownership when consensus has been reached * Maintain confidentiality * Be respectful of one another’s time, keep meetings focused and moving |

**Agenda**

1. Welcome/ Questions, Topics, Concerns
   1. Upcoming Events: Author Josh Funk visit on Jan 23-24. He will be doing presentation for each grade level. Flashlight Tag for Grades 3-5 on Jan 30th from 6:30-7:30pm
2. Budget Update
   1. Tentative Budget being developed. There will be a discussion on this at the Jan 21 School Committee Meeting.
      1. With a carry-over/level services budget (i.e. no staffing or program additions/cuts, no capital projects), we are looking at a 9% increase.
      2. Biggest driver of increase right now is healthcare costs, which are anticipated right now to be a 21-25% increase from last year’s costs.
   2. Budget Public Hearing is on Feb 4th. The plan is to adopt the budget at the March 4th SC Meeting.
3. Essex School Building Update
   1. Next step in the process is selecting an Owner’s Project Manager (OPM), who will be in charge of the upcoming feasibility study and overall building project
      1. Feasability study determines whether Essex Elementary needs to be a renovation, renovation + addition, or new construction.
   2. Bidding for OPM will be open around 1/22 and applications will be accepted until 2/5. Interviews will be held in mid-February, with final selection being sent to MSBA for approval on 2/20.
   3. Timeline
      1. Feasability Study/ Schematic Design: 20-24 months
      2. Design Development/ Construction Documents/ Bidding: 10-12 months
      3. Construction: 24-36 months

Future Meeting Topics: