



East Providence School Department

145 TAUNTON AVENUE
EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02914-4505



KATHRYN M. CROWLEY
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

LUCY R. MADDOCK
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

September 13, 2016

Timothy J. Chapman, Esq.
City Manager
City of East Providence
145 Taunton Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914

Dear Mr. Chapman:

Attached, please find the School Department's General Fund Budget for the 2017 fiscal year. The School Department is requesting a modest increase in local support. In 2016, local funds in the amount of \$44,003,809 constituted 56.84% of our total budget. In 2017, we are requesting an increase of 2.3% for a total of \$45,015,838.53. This represents 56.65% of our budget.

Highlights of this year's budget include raises of 2.5% for certified and non-certified staff as well as raises of \$1,000 and \$500 on the base salaries of certified and non-certified staff respectively. Currently, East Providence teacher salaries for first step teachers rank in the bottom four for Rhode Island public schools. For top step salaries, East Providence ranks last. Raises are necessary for East Providence to attract and retain the very best candidates for our schools.

In addition to raises for staff, the budget includes a new line item for Worker's Compensation. Currently, the School Department funds on the job injuries through the operating budget. Worker's Compensation insurance will ensure that injured employees get the highest quality coverage with the least amount of associated expenses. It is also a significant component of our overall risk management program.

Other significant investments in the 2017 budget are increased expenditures on technology and new textbooks for the schools. As the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendents move the schools to blended learning programs, the School Department is committed to providing one-on-one digital resources for every child in the district on a scheduled roll out. This year chrome books were added to both middle schools. Next year, the School Department will be adding them to the elementary schools. Similarly, the Department is investing in new math textbooks and science curriculum all aligned to Common Core standards.

The budget was presented to the School Committee on Monday, September 12th, 2016. It passed with a unanimous vote. The Superintendent and I look forward to seeing you at tomorrow's City Council meeting. If you have any questions for us in the meantime, we are available at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Lucy Maddock, MA, MBA, CMA
Director of Finance