



















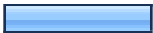









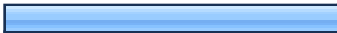



1. Of which Norwalk Public School community are you a member?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Brien McMahon High School		16.3%	52
Briggs High School		0.3%	1
Brookside Elementary School		4.4%	14
Columbus Magnet Elementary School		11.0%	35
Cranbury Elementary School		9.7%	31
Fox Run Elementary School		12.2%	39
Jefferson Elementary School		5.0%	16
Kendall Elementary School		0.6%	2
Marvin Elementary School		3.4%	11
Naramake Elementary School		0.3%	1
Nathan Hale Middle School		2.5%	8
Norwalk High School		8.8%	28
Ponus Ridge Middle School		3.8%	12
Roton Middle School		7.2%	23
Rowayton Elementary School		10.7%	34
Silvermine Elementary School		7.8%	25
Tracey Elementary School		5.0%	16
West Rocks Middle School		17.2%	55
Wolfpit Elementary School		9.1%	29
answered question			319








2. What is the best way for the PTO Council to deliver information regarding our schools to you?

		Response Percent	Response Count
PTO Council Email Blast		62.1%	198
Norwalk Public Schools Website		21.9%	70
PTO Council Website - NorwalkPTOCouncil.org		5.0%	16
The Hour Newspaper		10.0%	32
Norwalk Daily Voice		9.7%	31
Norwalk Patch		2.5%	8
School Handouts in backpacks		16.3%	52
Twitter		1.9%	6
Facebook		7.5%	24
Word of mouth		1.9%	6
Through your school PTO Newsletter		22.3%	71
Through your school PTO Email Blast		49.8%	159
Other (please specify)		3.8%	12
		answered question	319
		skipped question	0

3. If you would like to be informed about Norwalk Public Schools District-wide events and issues, please enter your email below.

	Response Count
	204
answered question	204
skipped question	115

4. How do you currently hear about district wide issues affecting the Norwalk Public Schools?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Local Print Newspaper 	35.1%	110
Norwalk Public School Website 	18.8%	59
Online Media 	24.6%	77
Email 	42.2%	132
Word of Mouth 	39.3%	123
School PTO 	58.5%	183
School Administration 	28.4%	89
Other (please specify)		13
answered question		313
skipped question		6











5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

	Response Count
	319
answered question	319
skipped question	0









6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

	Response Count
	319
answered question	319
skipped question	0


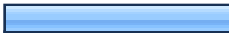

7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Close School Locations		6.3%	20
Raise Norwalk City Taxes		20.4%	65
Renegotiate Teacher Benefits		32.9%	105
Renegotiate Teacher Salaries		27.3%	87
Reapportion city funding to fully fund the Board of Education budget requests		55.8%	178
Teacher cuts		1.3%	4
Administration cuts		15.0%	48
Materials cuts		1.6%	5
Increase State Funding through ECS		70.2%	224
Other (please specify)		32.0%	102
answered question			319
skipped question			0







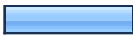
8. What are you willing to do to support the Norwalk Public Schools during the budget process?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Attend Common Council meetings at which the budget cap will be set		43.5%	134
Attend Board of Education Meetings		56.8%	175
Write my government representatives		55.2%	170
Sign petitions online		82.8%	255
Travel to Hartford to support State ECS funding reform		14.6%	45
Volunteer more in my school to make up for loss of staff		39.0%	120
Pay higher taxes		25.3%	78
I plan to sit this one out		1.9%	6
	Other (please specify)		26
answered question			308
skipped question			11

9. What do you think about the \$1.8 million dollars the Norwalk Public Schools had to borrow from the city last year because of budget problems?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Norwalk Public School should repay this money as scheduled.		11.1%	33
The City of Norwalk should extend the term to allow for more time for the Board of Education to repay the loan.		34.0%	101
The City of Norwalk should forgive the loan.		64.0%	190
		Other (please specify)	56
		answered question	297
		skipped question	22

10. The Norwalk Public Schools are holding public meetings in the next two weeks to gather input from families about the 2013-14 budget. The following focus discussion groups will be held for the Superintendent to get input from various Stakeholders before presenting the Superintendent's recommended budget to the Board of Education. Which meeting do you plan to attend?

		Response Percent	Response Count
November 12 at 7pm at West Rocks Middle School		6.9%	21
November 14 at 7pm at Nathan Hale Middle School		3.6%	11
November 19 at 7pm at Ponus Middle School		10.5%	32
November 26 at 7pm at Roton Middle School		12.8%	39
November 28 at 7pm at Norwalk High School		19.7%	60
I cannot attend any of these dates, but would like to attend a meeting		34.5%	105
I do not plan to attend		18.8%	57
answered question			304
skipped question			15

Q2. What is the best way for the PTO Council to deliver information regarding our schools to you?

1	or BIG TENT - Jefferson PTO	Nov 28, 2012 10:27 PM
2	District wide mailing on priority issues	Nov 28, 2012 7:36 PM
3	SMS	Nov 28, 2012 7:31 AM
4	x	Nov 21, 2012 8:25 AM
5	Save paper, toner, copiers, etc. Almost everyone has email and if they don't register the email, give those parents the paper notice in a timely manner.	Nov 21, 2012 5:48 AM
6	To stop using vulgarities when they do	Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM
7	And avoiding to use flash in any of the web pages as I check everything with the phone and mine won't allow flash.	Nov 18, 2012 7:49 PM
8	Newsletter needs to be translated into other languages, especially Spanish.	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 PM
9	BTW, I am really annoyed that the schools are not updating their websites.. I think it is very childish. If they are trying to make a point it is not working. I think is is ridiculous that a teacher gets extra pay in the first place. It should be mandatory in todays age.	Nov 14, 2012 7:31 AM
10	phone call	Nov 14, 2012 6:41 AM
11	Roton Reporter School Email Newsletter and Blasts	Nov 13, 2012 11:15 AM
12	I would use every media site that is available to us.	Nov 12, 2012 11:00 AM

Q4. How do you currently hear about district wide issues affecting the Norwalk Public Schools?

1	Email from pto	Dec 2, 2012 3:48 PM
2	Please note I never receive most of school hand outs	Nov 28, 2012 7:36 PM
3	TV	Nov 24, 2012 6:50 PM
4	The HOUR reporting is incomplete and often biased in support of union positions. The BLOGS are disgusting. And the adults are setting the example for the students? It's tragic. Where does a busy parent go to find honest information?	Nov 21, 2012 8:25 AM
5	Strangers	Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM
6	As a Center for Global Studies parent (at BMHS) who is out of district, email is the ONLY reliable way to keep tabs on the district news.	Nov 16, 2012 6:42 AM
7	Email blasts from Roton school and BMHS	Nov 16, 2012 4:47 AM
8	My assistant principal and cooperating teacher.	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 PM
9	Board of Ed meetings	Nov 14, 2012 10:23 AM
10	face to face	Nov 14, 2012 6:41 AM
11	Roton Reporter School Email Newsletter and Blasts The Hour Breaking News Emails	Nov 13, 2012 11:15 AM
12	Local TV Stations	Nov 13, 2012 11:13 AM
13	Norwalk Daily Voice	Nov 12, 2012 11:00 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

1	Full time Assistant Principals in each school	Dec 7, 2012 6:20 AM
2	Budget, orchestra, band, AT SAFETY	Dec 6, 2012 8:58 AM
3	equitable funding and support	Dec 5, 2012 6:55 PM
4	increase our budget give us back our librarians!!!! How can you expect our children to score high on CMTs and be avid readers if you don't offer a librarian?!	Dec 5, 2012 3:28 AM
5	Enough teachers	Dec 4, 2012 5:49 PM
6	higher graduation rates, better college attendance rates, more honors and AP class participation	Dec 4, 2012 8:06 AM
7	Return librarians	Dec 3, 2012 7:37 PM
8	To improve the student to teacher ratio as well as to improve the safe guards for the budget.	Dec 3, 2012 8:26 AM
9	Teacher education; teacher evaluations by parents; smaller classes so that teachers have time to advance gifted students that are willing to learn (currently, in kindergarten, teachers have to spend a lot of time on students that are unprepared for K; those students whose parents make education a priority are not taken seriously);foreign language instruction should start from kindergarten, giving students a choice between French or Spanish); school bus safety (there have been reports of guns on school buses).	Dec 3, 2012 8:17 AM
10	Low student teacher ratio and a safe learning environment.	Dec 3, 2012 5:10 AM
11	To Bring the Library back for the elementary students and to lower classroom size.	Dec 3, 2012 3:57 AM
12	reasonable class sizes and staff to support our teachers	Dec 2, 2012 8:26 PM
13	Smaller class size	Dec 2, 2012 7:17 PM
14	Maintain a fun exciting and challenging curriculum	Dec 2, 2012 3:48 PM
15	Quality teachers providing quality education for all children in district.	Dec 2, 2012 3:38 PM
16	replacing librarans	Dec 2, 2012 3:36 PM
17	Class size	Dec 2, 2012 3:32 PM
18	To have professionals enough and resources for the kids!	Dec 1, 2012 4:55 AM
19	I would like my child to be taught so that she EXCEEDS state's expectations.	Nov 30, 2012 8:57 AM
20	Making sure we have enough teachers in each school to educate our children.	Nov 30, 2012 6:54 AM
21	budget	Nov 29, 2012 5:58 PM
22	Academic standards	Nov 29, 2012 8:54 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

23	protect and further academia to increase quality of education in our state	Nov 29, 2012 8:47 AM
24	My specific top priority is having enough teachers for the amount of students in the classrooms without overloading the teacher and if needed there should be an aide in the classroom to assist. . My second priority is that at Jefferson we need to have Mrs. Kathy Gallegher back. Having an assistant principal going to two different schools in counterproductive and not very efficient. . My third top priority is that we need to have our Librarians back in our school full time. We currently do not have one and the kids are not using the library nor using the computers that the school has in the library.	Nov 28, 2012 10:27 PM
25	Accountability and recourse for a egregious errors	Nov 28, 2012 7:36 PM
26	Creating an environment where my 3 children will thrive educationally and socially.	Nov 28, 2012 7:10 PM
27	Consistent funding for teachers and administration.	Nov 28, 2012 2:09 PM
28	improving the education for our kids and ensuring that they are getting the best education possible.	Nov 28, 2012 11:12 AM
29	Proper and thorough education of my children	Nov 28, 2012 9:47 AM
30	understanding renovations and budget cuts/changes to rowayton elementary	Nov 28, 2012 9:46 AM
31	To provide our students with the best education that can be offered.	Nov 28, 2012 9:21 AM
32	The Best Education for my kids	Nov 28, 2012 8:32 AM
33	budget is impacting my children's education... to the point that we are considering leaving Norwalk and moving to another city.	Nov 28, 2012 7:31 AM
34	read, write, arithmetic, safety	Nov 28, 2012 5:56 AM
35	Best education and full staffing	Nov 28, 2012 4:30 AM
36	keep staff	Nov 28, 2012 3:21 AM
37	Reforming how we fund our schools. Spending decisions should be made by the parents at each school.	Nov 27, 2012 8:24 PM
38	student:teacher ratio, and gifted education	Nov 27, 2012 7:39 PM
39	the special education.	Nov 27, 2012 5:16 PM
40	Fulfilling the needs of all the children not only those with special requirements.	Nov 27, 2012 4:44 PM
41	To bring back librarians!	Nov 27, 2012 4:43 PM
42	Better Funding	Nov 27, 2012 4:31 PM
43	Elementary Literacy Program	Nov 27, 2012 2:54 PM
44	Restoring resources that directly affect students' academic life.	Nov 27, 2012 12:48 PM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

45	Teaching	Nov 27, 2012 12:29 PM
46	Silvermine Elementary: The Librarian situation. I understand that person is part-time. We need that part of the curriculum to be fully staffed.	Nov 27, 2012 12:20 PM
47	Budget and spending. We need a full time librarian again The library is where our kids got the computer lab work done aswell.	Nov 27, 2012 12:07 PM
48	Thant the students get the funding they need to learn as much as they can. Also that they are able to go on field trips.	Nov 27, 2012 12:01 PM
49	Keeping the curriculum as full as possible with great programs.	Nov 27, 2012 8:28 AM
50	Increase funding	Nov 27, 2012 7:56 AM
51	1. ELA Curriculum leadership 2. Big thinking ideas about how the middle schools are going to implement core curriculum 3. technology -- how to implement and support it with media specialists, online support programs and the like.	Nov 26, 2012 7:54 PM
52	budget	Nov 26, 2012 6:47 PM
53	Budget	Nov 26, 2012 6:44 PM
54	My kids education!	Nov 26, 2012 2:05 PM
55	Budgets	Nov 26, 2012 2:01 PM
56	raise education standards	Nov 26, 2012 1:25 PM
57	Assistant Superintendent, Intervention aide, reading aides.	Nov 26, 2012 1:04 PM
58	Professional development and purchase of curriculum materials for the Common Core	Nov 26, 2012 1:01 PM
59	A rigorous curriculum that challenges and inspires the students. This requires a well-trained, knowledgeable staff that has the content knowledge to present this information to the students. Good staff development opportunities should be a priority.	Nov 26, 2012 12:49 PM
60	Best education possible	Nov 26, 2012 12:47 PM
61	Continued improvement to cirriculum	Nov 26, 2012 12:34 PM
62	Small class size and teacher quality.	Nov 26, 2012 12:00 PM
63	Adequate staffing	Nov 26, 2012 11:43 AM
64	Implement Common Core Standards; remove tenured teachers who are not performing; replace the staff at Brookside who were moved/transferred/let go	Nov 26, 2012 8:16 AM
65	reinstating Elementary School teachers and librarians and hiring aides	Nov 26, 2012 8:09 AM
66	Giving our children a great education. This includes keeping the cirriculum up to date with the times.	Nov 26, 2012 7:55 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

67	cutting edge curriculum	Nov 26, 2012 6:10 AM
68	Bring back the support services like Reading and Math Specialists, Reading Aids, Early Intervention, AT Chairman	Nov 25, 2012 1:54 PM
69	A good education	Nov 24, 2012 6:50 PM
70	right now? the librarians. literacy is critical and there are such good librarians. why are we cutting their hours/ positions? it's the fundamental part of great learning.	Nov 24, 2012 6:35 AM
71	That the BOE and local government support the schools and make sure there is enough money allocated in the budget for basic needs, such as librarians and enough aides.	Nov 23, 2012 5:30 AM
72	Curriculum class size quality teaching	Nov 21, 2012 3:45 PM
73	Teaching our children accurate history (as opposed to revisionist history) and teach them all sides of the issues (i.e., creationism along with the theory of evolution, not just this theory as fact), so that they could all make an informed decision on thier own, and NOT be indoctrinated with the leftist theology, such as climate change (for example - inform them of Professor Phil Jones' admission that his record keeping is 'not as good as it should be' - rather than hide this fact from the children.), and the false premise that the "rich" don't pay their fair share! Teach them the facts, not the leftist talking points - this should be the top priority of all of our teachers.	Nov 21, 2012 3:40 PM
74	To reinstate cut staff ASAP. Allocate money for kids who are pushed out of the sped programs due to lack of funds, and provide more staff in regular Ed so they aren't left to fail.	Nov 21, 2012 3:39 PM
75	Reinstatement of teachers from last cuts and adding additional funding for new NPS school budget	Nov 21, 2012 2:59 PM
76	quality teachers and staff	Nov 21, 2012 10:17 AM
77	Impress upon the school system that we need to prepare our students for the jobs of the future: Analytics (i.e. analyzing and interpreting vast amounts of data), Sciences & Engineering. Emphasize the global economy: Spanish speaking economies and China will drive much of the future, not the US, France and Japan. Immediately implement Common Core in middle and HS. Improve science curriculum in middle school so students are prepared for the sciences. Offer Chinese to middle and high schools for all students. On another note, the district is desperate for a fully functioning feeder system for high school sports. MS sports (though they were severely lacking in quality) are now, nonetheless, cut to zero. Where is our city's team spirit?	Nov 21, 2012 8:25 AM
78	Reinstalling full time library assistants in all elementary schools.	Nov 21, 2012 7:40 AM
79	Smaller class sizes	Nov 21, 2012 6:37 AM
80	Have higher expectations for the kids. Reach out to those who are not engaged so they don't fall through the cracks and bring the other kids down.	Nov 21, 2012 5:48 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

81	Rigor!!! And more educational opportunities, such as more honors classes, more field trips, and more school choice.	Nov 21, 2012 5:17 AM
82	Returning Asst Principals to Elementary Schools	Nov 21, 2012 5:14 AM
83	Reverse budget cuts, require library media specialists in all schools including elementary and middle schools.	Nov 20, 2012 8:13 PM
84	Making sure NPS are financially supported by Norwalk and CT state. If things don't improve or if they worsen, I fear we can't stay in this community long term.	Nov 20, 2012 4:12 PM
85	challenging curriculum	Nov 20, 2012 4:01 PM
86	Money	Nov 20, 2012 1:43 PM
87	To be at or exceed the level of teaching, class room sizes and programs offered as many of the good schools overseas.	Nov 20, 2012 1:30 PM
88	Stop the drug use	Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM
89	Educational Quality	Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM
90	Taking away needed items and leaving ones that aren't needed. Such as time paid for janitors even when they are not there. Or throwing away perfectly good items just cause you want new ones.	Nov 20, 2012 1:12 PM
91	To get rid of Bruce Mellion and start having a fair and just system by which the kids are not penalized and teachers are not kept on because of tenure. Teachers should remain employed if they are high performing and enough of the nonsense of riffing (sp?) and last in first out. We are losing incredible teachers because of this. Do we want to have our kids educated or pad the pockets of the teachers union heads. I think great teachers should be rewarded. why is our education budget paying for a union head who isn't ever in the classrooms?	Nov 20, 2012 1:10 PM
92	A high quality education that is on par or surpasses other local school districts	Nov 20, 2012 1:07 PM
93	I want the schools to be funded and for all of the school materials to be present when school starts.	Nov 20, 2012 1:07 PM
94	Fund our schools to the level they deserve in order to provide equivalent education levels to neighboring towns	Nov 20, 2012 12:59 PM
95	To ensure that NPS continues to provide a comfortable educational setting with ample supplies and staffing to enhance the learning experience.	Nov 20, 2012 12:47 PM
96	Availability of more AP Courses in High School. Not enough classes and schedules are available so the students can't take the AP courses that other districts offer w/o any issues. It seems Norwalk District does not do much to encourage brighter students to take more challenges. The programs and teachers are more prioritized towards students not performing well. I feel that programs have to care for students at all levels so everyone has equal opportunity to aim higher and excel regardless of what their starting point is!	Nov 20, 2012 12:09 PM
97	Reinstate after school sports and programs.	Nov 20, 2012 11:14 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

98	Fully funding the school. Providing the right tools and resources for the total student body.	Nov 20, 2012 11:12 AM
99	Improve the overall level of education	Nov 20, 2012 10:33 AM
100	education	Nov 20, 2012 10:32 AM
101	Adequate budget to maximize education effectiveness for the students	Nov 20, 2012 5:13 AM
102	No more cuts to programs - educational, extracurricular or sports!	Nov 19, 2012 3:44 PM
103	Maintaining the Bank Street model at CMS	Nov 19, 2012 11:17 AM
104	Spread the success that Columbus Magnet Elementary has proven to our children, by adopting their high teaching standards across Norwalk Middle and High Schools. Keep the great teachers in place that WANT to be here. Get rid of the ones that don't and recruit ones that do. The teachers union needs to be held accountable for our mess today.	Nov 19, 2012 10:11 AM
105	2.) Funding, specifically fair and increased ECS 1.) Safety	Nov 19, 2012 8:47 AM
106	Staffing: Columbus Magnet School holds a special place with Norwalk Public Schools and needs its original staffing levels to continue to implement it dynamic Bank Street/HOT School Model	Nov 19, 2012 8:10 AM
107	More staffing to reduce class sizes, assist with needs such as Literacy and Intervention needs, implement additional programs.	Nov 19, 2012 7:51 AM
108	QUALITY EDUCATION	Nov 19, 2012 7:42 AM
109	Budget issues	Nov 19, 2012 7:33 AM
110	That we have enough teachers and administrators to be sure our children get top quality education	Nov 19, 2012 7:31 AM
111	Hiring CERTIFIED Library Media Specialists and IMPROVING Classroom Instruction	Nov 19, 2012 7:05 AM
112	Columbus holds a special place within NPS and needs its original staffing levels to continue to implement its dynamic Bank Street/HOT School Model. It is the best school in NPS system.	Nov 19, 2012 6:44 AM
113	Budget plan	Nov 19, 2012 4:52 AM
114	adequate school funding	Nov 19, 2012 4:47 AM
115	That the kids get the education they deserve with the funding the schools need.	Nov 19, 2012 4:36 AM
116	Ensuring NPS have adequate staffing to support the children in each school in every facet of the child's education. To ensure that each child receives the top quality education that is due. This only can be done with the appropriate administrative support, teachers, aides, janitors, security staff, counselors, cafeteria workers, coaches, and nurses.	Nov 19, 2012 4:12 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

117	Staffing	Nov 19, 2012 2:58 AM
118	Restaffing Columbus yo its original staffing levels to continue to implement its dynamic Bank Street/HOT School Model.	Nov 18, 2012 8:07 PM
119	Increase the budget so the get better infrastructure - computer, equipment- And also the teachers URGENTLY need assistants. As much as we volunteer we run out of time.	Nov 18, 2012 7:49 PM
120	keeping teachers and aides	Nov 18, 2012 7:23 PM
121	Good structured education.	Nov 18, 2012 7:20 PM
122	Save Columbus Magnet	Nov 18, 2012 7:15 PM
123	Restoring some of the student-facing positions that were cut due the budget last year.	Nov 18, 2012 7:12 PM
124	budget for more good teachers, aids and full time librarians	Nov 18, 2012 6:56 PM
125	Money allotment	Nov 18, 2012 6:50 PM
126	Supporting the Bank Street/HOT school, Columbus Magnet School	Nov 18, 2012 6:32 PM
127	Smaller class size and classroom teacher aids.	Nov 18, 2012 6:23 PM
128	obtaining appropriate state funding for Norwalk, and then the following appropriate budget allocations	Nov 18, 2012 6:18 PM
129	Improving standardizes test scores	Nov 18, 2012 6:09 PM
130	Restore full time librarians and middle school extra curricular activities	Nov 18, 2012 5:50 PM
131	Student support services- para professionals, reading teachers	Nov 18, 2012 5:43 PM
132	Quality instruction for our children. Teacher support and better ratios.	Nov 18, 2012 5:04 PM
133	Education	Nov 18, 2012 4:56 PM
134	Improve mastery of curriculum	Nov 18, 2012 4:52 PM
135	ensuring no other teacher cuts (including administration) happen!	Nov 18, 2012 4:48 PM
136	Keeping columbus the way it was supposed to be... A bank street/hot school. It needs all the staff back.	Nov 18, 2012 4:43 PM
137	Reinstate all teachers that lost jobs - Bring back all librarians - Give Columbus back their full staff (+ section cut) so to be the magnet school the city agreed to for the last 30 years.	Nov 18, 2012 4:42 PM
138	Please bring back the full time librarians.	Nov 18, 2012 4:40 PM
139	That Columbus Magnet School is staffed with enough teachers and aides to successfully run the school. This is a special school that needs the staffing.	Nov 18, 2012 4:26 PM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

Children do not learn if there are huge class sizes.

140	Making up for lost time- reinstating librarians and teaching aides, and reducing class sizes, caused by recent budget cuts	Nov 18, 2012 4:24 PM
141	Proper funding to continue the excellent programs offered at the school.	Nov 18, 2012 4:18 PM
142	Rigor	Nov 18, 2012 4:17 PM
143	Librarians and aides... Anything to give our children a better education.	Nov 18, 2012 4:17 PM
144	BUDGET, the class sizes are too large now that teachers have been cut. And we need a library, what is a school without a library. These need to be put back into the budget. I personally feel Norwalk Public Schools were doing well and had no other real concerns until these budget cuts this year. Things need to go back to how they were.	Nov 18, 2012 2:37 PM
145	Funds should NOT be divided evenly across the board but rather portioned per total number of students in each school. Our elementary school, Jefferson, has over 600 students and receives the same amount of funds as Wolfpit who has half the amount of students. This is not fair.	Nov 18, 2012 1:21 PM
146	full staff at CMS and librarians district wide	Nov 18, 2012 1:13 PM
147	Quality education for all students.	Nov 18, 2012 11:27 AM
148	The kids. That should be the top priority for any school district. The kids need to be able to learn to their best ability each and every day. That means they need libraries, they need the technology required for the curriculum, they need strong leadership in the form of a principal/assistant principal pair that can work together to keep the school running smoothly and they need teachers who are excited and motivated to teach them.	Nov 17, 2012 8:41 PM
149	It is difficult to answer such a broad question. I would say the priority should be to deliver a high quality education.	Nov 17, 2012 6:21 PM
150	Staff retention, Student scores, the 4+ Million dollars shortfall, Teachers Unions, BOE members and Interim Superintendent should be dismissed and let go.	Nov 17, 2012 2:54 PM
151	Remove Tenure	Nov 17, 2012 1:59 PM
152	funding for sports/extra-curricular activities	Nov 17, 2012 1:38 PM
153	Keep the Academically Talented program (middle school), no cuts to special ed, no cuts on orchestra and put back in intramurals at WRMS.	Nov 17, 2012 10:53 AM
154	reinstating librarians & vice principals to full time	Nov 17, 2012 10:32 AM
155	Quality of teaching	Nov 17, 2012 10:21 AM
156	Class sizes	Nov 17, 2012 5:38 AM
157	Creation of meaningful after school enrichment classes like Mad Science, sports, languages, etc... Like Westport/Weston/Wilton schools offer in	Nov 16, 2012 9:57 PM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

	cooperation with local organizations such as Continuing Ed programs, IST, etc...	
158	quality education	Nov 16, 2012 7:23 PM
159	Regarding too many students in a classroom.	Nov 16, 2012 5:40 PM
160	For our children to have a competitive educational experience, including teacher from research-based models, small class size, and cutting edge technology.	Nov 16, 2012 5:14 PM
161	Doing what is best for the children	Nov 16, 2012 4:54 PM
162	Schools that don't have to constantly teach to a test. Children need to be provided the opportunity to think outside of the proverbial box.	Nov 16, 2012 2:28 PM
163	Lower student/faculty ratio.	Nov 16, 2012 2:06 PM
164	Finding out why there is not proper funding for education. Find out where the money is really going.	Nov 16, 2012 1:31 PM
165	Budget	Nov 16, 2012 8:12 AM
166	More teachers and aides for the kids and improved safety at Ponus.	Nov 16, 2012 7:40 AM
167	Funding	Nov 16, 2012 7:23 AM
168	Bringing the music/drama program funding at the HS level at parity with sports programs	Nov 16, 2012 6:42 AM
169	Quality teachers/instructors	Nov 16, 2012 4:47 AM
170	Librarians	Nov 15, 2012 7:55 PM
171	Getting the best education they can deliver	Nov 15, 2012 6:46 PM
172	highest possible academic standards	Nov 15, 2012 6:25 PM
173	Meeting students needs- ESL, learning disabilities, etc through funding and school and family teamwork	Nov 15, 2012 6:07 PM
174	increase the budget for norwalk public school	Nov 15, 2012 5:44 PM
175	Quality education that meets or exceeds national standards. A school district that provides schools with adequate resources (professionals and materials) to meet this goal.	Nov 15, 2012 4:58 PM
176	The teachers being re evaluated every two years on there ability to teach without looking like the school year or week is too much for them or that they tell there students they dont get paid enough for this.	Nov 15, 2012 2:37 PM
177	making sure common core is rolled out in a effective manner	Nov 15, 2012 12:27 PM
178	making sure common core is rolled out in a effective manner	Nov 15, 2012 12:27 PM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

179	Safe environment the promotes meeting the educational needs of all student. Setting high academic standards and meeting those standards	Nov 15, 2012 9:21 AM
180	Raise the bar in terms of performance at the top - set the standards for the district higher vs. being so focused on the bottom	Nov 15, 2012 9:06 AM
181	Reducing class sizes.	Nov 15, 2012 8:33 AM
182	ECS formula	Nov 15, 2012 7:32 AM
183	Having good resources for the teachers and students.	Nov 15, 2012 7:05 AM
184	Libraries, assistant principals, no budget cuts moving forward	Nov 15, 2012 4:01 AM
185	Retaining academically talented programs and reasonable class sizes	Nov 15, 2012 2:02 AM
186	To see that Jefferson is not forgotten	Nov 14, 2012 9:16 PM
187	another guidance counselor another art teacher	Nov 14, 2012 5:59 PM
188	Academics	Nov 14, 2012 5:54 PM
189	Better administration and teachers!!! Concern for the children and not their salaries!!!	Nov 14, 2012 5:40 PM
190	Reform. Magnet schools. Removal of the status quo. Strong leadership.	Nov 14, 2012 5:32 PM
191	To ensure a well- rounded education that includes academics, art, music and physical education. I do not want to see class size increase more than it has. It is not fair to the teachers and especially not fair to the students. Teachers are too busy worrying about keeping a class under control when they need to be teaching. Smaller classes mean better learning for everyone.	Nov 14, 2012 5:17 PM
192	Provide training needed to keep teachers in touch with upcoming Core Curriculum requirements. Provide consistent technology for all elementary schools for above. Have full time librarians at all elementary schools for the above.	Nov 14, 2012 4:55 PM
193	Security/full-time assistant principals	Nov 14, 2012 4:47 PM
194	Need to reinstate aids, intervention specialists, librarians, assistant principals, etc. that we're cut due to the budget issues. We need them all to accommodate and enhance learning for all students.	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 PM
195	Challenging curriculum, managing disruptive students who arent listening to teachers	Nov 14, 2012 4:45 PM
196	Good education for my children	Nov 14, 2012 2:17 PM
197	Keeping people from leaving	Nov 14, 2012 1:55 PM
198	Sports programs in middle school to feed the Highschools. -Ask the students to pay a fee to play!!! Several other school districts do this.	Nov 14, 2012 1:42 PM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

199	Sufficient budget to cover much needed costs of public education.	Nov 14, 2012 1:06 PM
200	budgets	Nov 14, 2012 12:50 PM
201	Funding for programs to meet the common core state standards. Staff to meet with children at tier 2 and 3 of SRBI. Full time assistant principals and library staff.	Nov 14, 2012 12:44 PM
202	Teachers, Funding, Activities	Nov 14, 2012 12:38 PM
203	Reinstating lost teacher positions and librarians.	Nov 14, 2012 12:14 PM
204	Study	Nov 14, 2012 11:43 AM
205	Getting a quality education for my children.	Nov 14, 2012 11:42 AM
206	Getting intramural sports back in the Middle schools and getting more funding to get the teachers, aides, administrators back in the schools.	Nov 14, 2012 10:30 AM
207	High graduation rates; students reading at grade level	Nov 14, 2012 10:23 AM
208	1. Increasing staff in order to reduce class size. 22 in kindergarten is unacceptable and suffocating for the teacher responsible for all of those children! 2. Reinstating CERTIFIED FULL-TIME Library Media Specialists in EVERY school.	Nov 14, 2012 10:18 AM
209	To reinstate full-time librarians to the elementary school.	Nov 14, 2012 10:14 AM
210	That the schools are able to get the money they need to continue educating our children as they are today and then some.	Nov 14, 2012 10:08 AM
211	Smaller class size and enhanced classroom support are priorities. With lack of parental control in some households, it is incumbent upon teachers to discipline children who create distractions for the entire class. With less teachers and larger class sizes, it is noted that more disruptive children are residing in each class. Unfortunately, this phenomenon discriminates against the majority of better performing students who have engaged parents, as these students get less quality time and teacher support because the teacher's time is directed toward the students who are lacking.	Nov 14, 2012 10:05 AM
212	Budget	Nov 14, 2012 9:57 AM
213	computer literacy starting at kindergarten	Nov 14, 2012 9:55 AM
214	Teacher support. Ensuring there are enough teachers for every grade level. Consistent funding of school programs such as enrichment, After The Bell, etc.	Nov 14, 2012 9:42 AM
215	That students be academically competent by the time they leave high school. Students should not need to take remedial classes in subjects like reading and math at a school like NCC charging parents tuition for students to learn material that they should have mastered before graduating from high school.	Nov 14, 2012 9:33 AM
216	Literacy programs for all students struggling from k-12 grades. Without the ability to comprehend, learning can not take place.	Nov 14, 2012 9:32 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

217	the quality of education - the bar seems to lower every year for our kids. They are not pushed hard to do well and always get second chances on tests - this is not the real world.	Nov 14, 2012 9:09 AM
218	To find a strong leader who can help develop and deliver a plan to improve and raise educational standards in Norwalk.	Nov 14, 2012 9:02 AM
219	Would like more city money to fund the schools.	Nov 14, 2012 8:41 AM
220	Kindergarten Readiness Programs in all Elementary buildings.	Nov 14, 2012 8:29 AM
221	Enough teachers and administrators to support the number of students in our schools	Nov 14, 2012 7:54 AM
222	Ratio of students per teacher are too high...smaller classrooms are needed.	Nov 14, 2012 7:46 AM
223	Proper funding.	Nov 14, 2012 7:35 AM
224	Smaller class sizes. 23 kids in a kindergarten class is too many.	Nov 14, 2012 7:34 AM
225	A strong Superintendent and getting the budget under control.	Nov 14, 2012 7:31 AM
226	Funding for basic programs - like LIBRARY!	Nov 14, 2012 7:24 AM
227	the quality of my children's education and enrichment	Nov 14, 2012 7:23 AM
228	Getting Mrs. Kibby and Mrs. Gallager back full time. Getting more aides for the students who need them.	Nov 14, 2012 7:21 AM
229	Education	Nov 14, 2012 7:20 AM
230	At least maintain level of funding, dont see how further cuts would be anything but harmful.	Nov 14, 2012 7:16 AM
231	Obtaining the best possible educational experience for my child. Also the huge differences between the High Schools in sports programs and PTO's.	Nov 14, 2012 7:07 AM
232	size of classrooms, library time	Nov 14, 2012 6:47 AM
233	True education for ALL students within the town, MORE physical activity time. GYM time, physical/mental fitness. They go together.	Nov 14, 2012 6:41 AM
234	getting basic services back	Nov 14, 2012 6:35 AM
235	Low student-teacher ratio, intra/extra mural sports and activities.	Nov 14, 2012 6:26 AM
236	Getting a quality education for our children. One in which they can feel good about themselves and be successful in whatever they do with their future.	Nov 14, 2012 6:23 AM
237	Keeping good teachers teaching and being compensated for their work	Nov 14, 2012 6:20 AM
238	funding	Nov 14, 2012 6:16 AM
239	Quality of education	Nov 14, 2012 6:12 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

240	Budget - making sure the schools have the budget needed for high quality learning.	Nov 14, 2012 6:07 AM
241	Bringing back elementary teachers, librarians and child development program(teacher) back to Norwalk High.	Nov 14, 2012 6:07 AM
242	My children's education does not lack other districts.	Nov 14, 2012 5:28 AM
243	Getting some of the cut-backs returned to the schools, ex. housemasters 12 months, librarians back to full time in all the schools, returning the intervention aids back to the middle schools where they are very much needed!	Nov 14, 2012 4:51 AM
244	quality of teachers, class size, enrichment activities	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 AM
245	small classes, art classes	Nov 14, 2012 4:43 AM
246	For students to be ready to do high school level work.	Nov 14, 2012 4:26 AM
247	Improving curriculum	Nov 14, 2012 3:56 AM
248	To provide the best education to the kids and have them prepared to compete in a global economy	Nov 14, 2012 3:27 AM
249	Not to lay off any more teachers as the affect of lost teachers is already felt by the children	Nov 13, 2012 10:12 PM
250	Quality education to be successful in 21the century. Teacher training and rigor in the classroom	Nov 13, 2012 8:27 PM
251	Small Class Sizes so Teachers can Teach and Maintaining the Health and Safety of our Children so they can Learn	Nov 13, 2012 8:05 PM
252	That my children have a quality education with loving teachers, dedicated administrators, an assortment of extracurricular activities, and a commitment BOE and town who puts education first because it is the best thing for our kids and everyone in our town overall. A stellar education drives student excellence and achievement and property values, it is good for all.	Nov 13, 2012 8:02 PM
253	Programs, improve the facilities, additional teacher's aides	Nov 13, 2012 7:59 PM
254	libraries, accessible materials and educational tools/resources for kids, decent sized classrooms- over crowding is an issue	Nov 13, 2012 7:40 PM
255	Class sizes test scores and lack of money for success (teachers programs etc)	Nov 13, 2012 7:27 PM
256	Improving the outcome for our students; Norwalk fails too many kids and too many parents, for years, have been leaving the district for better performing ones.	Nov 13, 2012 7:26 PM
257	The quality of teacher and the support from the school	Nov 13, 2012 7:20 PM
258	Class sizes	Nov 13, 2012 7:15 PM
259	The children learning as much as possible.	Nov 13, 2012 7:13 PM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

260	MORE STAFF and smaller classes	Nov 13, 2012 7:10 PM
261	Broaden availability of classes for high school students.	Nov 13, 2012 6:47 PM
262	student safety	Nov 13, 2012 6:46 PM
263	Making sure teachers have the resources they need to teach well - including reasonable class sizes.	Nov 13, 2012 6:32 PM
264	To reinvest in the future of our kids, our schools and our city.	Nov 13, 2012 6:30 PM
265	adequate funding of programs at the HS	Nov 13, 2012 6:18 PM
266	education, available funds for afterschool programs and trip parents cant afford	Nov 13, 2012 6:12 PM
267	AP classes and support for the average to above average student	Nov 13, 2012 6:08 PM
268	Class offerings and quality teachers	Nov 13, 2012 6:00 PM
269	Academic options for talented students - do not let them fall behind neighboring towns because of the need to make up the gap	Nov 13, 2012 5:51 PM
270	Restoring Teachers and programs	Nov 13, 2012 5:50 PM
271	reinstate librarians	Nov 13, 2012 5:44 PM
272	To keep the educators in the classrooms so that the district performs best at the State and National levels.	Nov 13, 2012 5:28 PM
273	Support the students by funding teaching positions and programs that directly affect them.	Nov 13, 2012 5:16 PM
274	small class sizes	Nov 13, 2012 4:55 PM
275	Keep the children education a top priority and mean it -- it is clear to me that they all talk about it but their actions are not consistent with what they say. It feels as if the administration is more concerned with keeping their jobs instead of keeping the education first.	Nov 13, 2012 4:38 PM
276	I'd like to be sure there are enough teachers teaching the curriculum and that the students are in school consistently. They have to many holidays and days off especially the first few months of school!	Nov 13, 2012 4:14 PM
277	AT programs kept, music education kept and after school programs for middle school	Nov 13, 2012 4:08 PM
278	Challenging our students at every level. For those in AT, better preparing them for the rigors of honors and AP courses.	Nov 13, 2012 3:38 PM
279	To eliminate the separation of schools and have them work collectively to education our children in an environment which is consistent across all schools	Nov 13, 2012 3:33 PM
280	keep academic programs and security/intervention at highest levels possible	Nov 13, 2012 3:21 PM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

281	Long range planning	Nov 13, 2012 3:10 PM
282	Rigorous curriculum and differentiated, high quality instruction	Nov 13, 2012 3:05 PM
283	Educate to the highest possible bar, not to dumb down the curriculum to meet the least common denominator.	Nov 13, 2012 2:10 PM
284	Having enough teachers and staff	Nov 13, 2012 1:58 PM
285	Re invest in educate and hire more experienced teachers the younger ones are useless.	Nov 13, 2012 1:53 PM
286	Class size and teacher qualifications	Nov 13, 2012 1:09 PM
287	New materials to be used to implement the Common Core	Nov 13, 2012 12:59 PM
288	To reinstate after school programs for the middle schools.	Nov 13, 2012 12:58 PM
289	To be adequately staffed to provide a full curriculum to the number of students enrolled.	Nov 13, 2012 12:56 PM
290	appropriate (e.g., not inadequate) funding, including educational cost sharing fairness adjustment	Nov 13, 2012 12:46 PM
291	A.T. and sports. Two things that Norwalk actually had going for it still!!!	Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM
292	to get the funding they need to provide the education our children deserve, with smaller class sizes and full time staff in Library and assistant principals	Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM
293	Continuity. How can the district come together and make improvements when the leadership and their focus never stays constant enough to achieve a goal, budgets are cut and teachers who show up every day and work far beyond their contractual hours not only on student academics but their students' emotional well being are being told that they are the problem.	Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM
294	Children	Nov 13, 2012 12:09 PM
295	engage my children academically	Nov 13, 2012 11:44 AM
296	To deliver a top quality education to our children with appropriate and up to date resouces!!!	Nov 13, 2012 11:44 AM
297	More materials new computers how are we Going to achieve change without the required tools.	Nov 13, 2012 11:41 AM
298	Have enough great teachers and support staff for high schools.	Nov 13, 2012 11:39 AM
299	High-quality education for everyone. This means teaching to a high standard and supporting/financing differentiation for students with special needs, English Language Learners, minorities, etc.	Nov 13, 2012 11:31 AM
300	New Administration....we need accountability in the School District.	Nov 13, 2012 11:31 AM
301	Bring back librarians, keep class sizes down and don't cut teachers OR close	Nov 13, 2012 11:26 AM

Q5. What is your specific top priority for Norwalk Public Schools?

	schools - all the things we fought for all summer	
302	Librarians, academically talented, technology	Nov 13, 2012 11:24 AM
303	Challenging, unique, safe, up to at least standards in technology, overall all the schools need facelifts...we are missing proper lunch programs and cafeterias, the gyms are old and run down. the schools are depressing and not inviting...i yet to go to one in this town that is presentable.	Nov 13, 2012 11:17 AM
304	Ensuring the AT Program is enhanced vs. depleted. Just addressing the programs that were cut is the wrong agenda; we should talk about what programs should be enhanced/improved.	Nov 13, 2012 11:15 AM
305	overcrowding of classrooms	Nov 13, 2012 11:14 AM
306	Ratings , Achievements	Nov 13, 2012 11:13 AM
307	new administration and accountability	Nov 13, 2012 11:11 AM
308	Fostering a challenging education environment for our children - too much time is spent on rudimentary work	Nov 13, 2012 11:07 AM
309	Keeping enough teachers in the classrooms	Nov 13, 2012 11:06 AM
310	Lower class size	Nov 13, 2012 11:04 AM
311	Getting the kids the services they need with a teacher:student ratio being low enough that the students can access the curriculum. Teachers are inundated with too much data collection, and not enough face time with the kids.	Nov 13, 2012 10:59 AM
312	to get us MORE money	Nov 13, 2012 10:59 AM
313	Implementing, fully, the common core curriculum.	Nov 13, 2012 10:47 AM
314	Keep a decent budget to pay dedicated teachers in order for them to help our children educational needs	Nov 13, 2012 6:29 AM
315	Uniformity of services	Nov 12, 2012 2:13 PM
316	more parent involvement	Nov 12, 2012 12:52 PM
317	Getting all the schools up and ready with all the technology needed so we are ready when the common core kicks into full gear!	Nov 12, 2012 12:26 PM
318	meaningful education for city children	Nov 12, 2012 11:42 AM
319	Technology!!!! Especially at the elementary level!!!	Nov 12, 2012 11:00 AM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

1	We lost our Assistant Principal, literacy aide, intervention aide, librarian, and some teachers.	Dec 7, 2012 6:20 AM
2	Loss of aides, loss of 1/2 vice principal, loss of our library for much of the time.	Dec 6, 2012 8:58 AM
3	loss of library time, instructional support staff	Dec 5, 2012 6:55 PM
4	My child lost the opportunity to go to the library and READ, pick out books enjoy the experience of READING due to budget cuts! Every child looks forward to going to the library at least once per week if not twice now she has to wait almost a week in a half before she gets an opportunity that's RIDICULOUS and then you expect our children to be avid readers and score high on standardize testing that's pathetic on your part! YOU I mean those who took our librarians away	Dec 5, 2012 3:28 AM
5	Library attendant	Dec 4, 2012 5:49 PM
6	The school library is only open half the time. My son's 5 kindergarten classes are crammed into 4 first grade classes and my daughter's 4 fourth grade classes are crammed into 3 fifth grade classes.	Dec 4, 2012 8:06 AM
7	much larger class sizes	Dec 3, 2012 7:37 PM
8	The student to teacher ratio increased, the classes are harder to manage, less productivity and learning in the classes. In addition, less special education resources.	Dec 3, 2012 8:26 AM
9	Librarian has been dismissed.	Dec 3, 2012 8:17 AM
10	I feel that there are too many kids in my son's class. I think it hinders his learning experience.	Dec 3, 2012 5:10 AM
11	My child has only been to the library maybe once this year so far. When he is finally able to go he is not allowed to take out any books and the library looks like a bomb went off. Plus he is in with 23-27 other students in his class with no aide.	Dec 3, 2012 3:57 AM
12	My children's already sparsely scheduled library visits have been canceled due to unavoidable scheduling issues related to weather closures. We need our library back!	Dec 2, 2012 8:26 PM
13	24 students in a 5th grade class.	Dec 2, 2012 7:17 PM
14	Less attention and help to each child	Dec 2, 2012 3:48 PM
15	The loss of school librarians has really impacted us. My children look forward to library time and are saddened to not have this any more.	Dec 2, 2012 3:38 PM
16	my son is not interested in reading and needs encouragment to fnd sutablenterstng books - we miss out librarian mrs hall as she related to and encourages all the children	Dec 2, 2012 3:36 PM
17	3rd grade classes have 26 children.	Dec 2, 2012 3:32 PM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

18	K classes with to many kids!	Dec 1, 2012 4:55 AM
19	My child's school lost their full-time librarian therefore she no longer is able to pick out new books as she use to. I wouldn't be surprise to see drop grades in English papers because students do not know how to obtain the proper research materials needed. Our school lost our full-time Assistant Principal therefore putting much more work on our Principal. Our school is a bi-linginal learning school. We live in an ear where our world is global and learning a second language is VITAL. Children that don't have bi-lingual parents at home NEED aides in the classroom to help them exceed in their development.	Nov 30, 2012 8:57 AM
20	We lost a lot of good teachers. Let's just make sure that the ones that are brought in to replace them are qualified.	Nov 30, 2012 6:54 AM
21	the elementary school lost an assistant principal- which was a great aspect of the school - and than only to 3 months later get another assistant priciple which obviously wasnt a budget problem also the loss of many teachers and aide that were a great asset to the school.	Nov 29, 2012 5:58 PM
22	Lost asst principal, librarian, and fourth grade teachers	Nov 29, 2012 8:54 AM
23	less incentive for teachers to continue teaching, less to spend on class materials, students are not able to benefit from programs and materials that are cut, less professional development for teachers and teaching methods make a big difference, elimination of positions, risk of larger classes, not enough computers,	Nov 29, 2012 8:47 AM
24	The impact is phones are overloaded, everyone seems to be running around, not very organized. Why are the phones not set up so that if you want to reach a teacher you can just enter their extension, this is the way it should be and the assistant does not have to answer the phone every 3 seconds. The technology is there, I am not sure why we are not utilizing it in the capacity that we should be using it? School websites are not updated because the librarian used to do that job, not a very good way to communicate!!!!	Nov 28, 2012 10:27 PM
25	Higher taxes for sub par education as it rates to other area towns and lower home values	Nov 28, 2012 7:36 PM
26	I considered taking my children out of the Norwalk Public Schools and taking them to my school district in which I teach. Having 23 children in a kindergarten class and having so many children being bussed in with no support to the teachers has made it very difficult to keep a quality education. Larger class sizes have a negative impact on primary grades, especially when there are no support staff (i.e. reading specialists) who are able to assist.	Nov 28, 2012 7:10 PM
27	Rowayton School did not have an Asst. Vice Principal from September - December. This impacted the grant writing committee parent group negatively in that we lost our link / liaison to the teachers grant request needs.	Nov 28, 2012 2:09 PM
28	Classes like art, music, gym were shortened and the library only has a librarian once every other week.	Nov 28, 2012 11:12 AM
29	Less music, arts, etc. School has to be about more than teaching the tests.	Nov 28, 2012 9:47 AM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

30	not sure, would like to learn more. especially concerned with loss of teachers (impacting class sizes), quality of technology and teacher's tools (smartboards), and frequency of art classes and music classes.	Nov 28, 2012 9:46 AM
31	How do you have an educational institution and make severe cuts to the librarians? Eliminating aides in the classrooms is a huge loss for the students and the teachers. I think 1/2 time AP's will work out eventually.	Nov 28, 2012 9:21 AM
32	Every year something gets cut and that is hard on the kids.	Nov 28, 2012 8:32 AM
33	an after school program that helped my son with reading is no longer available. We took our daughter out of the Mano a Mano program because of a lack of a qualified spanish teacher at the school.	Nov 28, 2012 7:31 AM
34	Large class sizes. Also, Silvermine elementary school's grounds are overgrown and poorly maintained	Nov 28, 2012 5:56 AM
35	Less librarians, less reading; one less vp and less support for kids and administrators, reduced discipline; less security guards and more danger.	Nov 28, 2012 4:30 AM
36	...	Nov 28, 2012 3:21 AM
37	The lost of the Assistant Principal and aides make it more challenging for the Principal and the teachers to run the school.	Nov 27, 2012 8:24 PM
38	My child is in kindergarten, so I do not have a baseline to compare to.	Nov 27, 2012 7:39 PM
39	my child every summer recived help in the summer camp reading this year she did have and now she is in trouble with the read. she is in special education and allways need help.	Nov 27, 2012 5:16 PM
40	My child has not brought home a library book once this year. It is a shame to visit the school and see the library dark and unused. Libraries are a fudemental part of school.	Nov 27, 2012 4:44 PM
41	My kids loved going to the library and had a great bond with their librarian. Now you walk by and the lights are off and kids get depressed.	Nov 27, 2012 4:43 PM
42	Our teachers are stretched so thin that the kids are not getting everything they should be.	Nov 27, 2012 4:31 PM
43	Loss of our assistant principal which resulted in him taking a job in another district...big loss for Norwalk.	Nov 27, 2012 2:54 PM
44	The first and most important was the loss of our Librarian Mrs. Balesterie. She is a wonderful librarian who went above and beyond her job duties. Second, We lost our full time Assistant principal. Our school has many challenges such as low academic levels and behavior issues. We need the full time presence of an assistant principal. third, I am very concerned that the distict is not prepared for the new common cor standards because our schools are not equiped with the the technology needed for this. We need to allocate the right amount of money for the most important issues. Lastly, my kids deserve to have teachers who are happy to be at work and who do not have to pulling money our their pockets to	Nov 27, 2012 12:48 PM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

	incur classroom costs. We need to stop reducing teacher salary and benefits so we can attract young and qualified professionals.	
45	My student may get less attention	Nov 27, 2012 12:29 PM
46	Infrequency of books coming home for review.	Nov 27, 2012 12:20 PM
47	Sad that they do not have the library and the extra activities any more. Really missing out.	Nov 27, 2012 12:07 PM
48	The fact that they can't go to the library as often as if they had a full time librarian.	Nov 27, 2012 12:01 PM
49	Classes are more crowded due to loss of teachers. Certain other activites that the children of the schools needed and loved were cut as well.	Nov 27, 2012 8:28 AM
50	With the loss of a full time librarian we feel that a major part of literacy education is missing. We are trying to do our part at home but our child was more motivated when his librarian was generating in him a passion for reading. We also feel that the loss of a full time Assistant Principal has negatively impacted the teachers and administrators and has made everything more difficult on a day-to-day basis.	Nov 27, 2012 7:56 AM
51	1. Large class sizes 2. Very little reading specialist support 3. No one in the library that can implement computer curriculum (we did not have this before the aid was reduced)	Nov 26, 2012 7:54 PM
52	not a lot of electives	Nov 26, 2012 6:47 PM
53	Decrease in media center access for students.	Nov 26, 2012 6:44 PM
54	too many kids in class that are not ready or prepared; second language, etc.	Nov 26, 2012 2:05 PM
55	Went from 4 classes to 3 classes and class size increased by 6-7 students	Nov 26, 2012 2:01 PM
56	less direct supervision and individual attention leads to a downgrade in learning.	Nov 26, 2012 1:25 PM
57	Our school is nt the sme without a full time assistant principal. Much of the principal's time that needs to focus on our upcoming changes with the Core Curriculum has been shifted to Assistant Principal duties. We also need more reading aides, not less.	Nov 26, 2012 1:04 PM
58	Need to add another guidance counsellor at BMHS. It has been very difficult to get in touch with my child's counsellor - She is responsible for too many students.	Nov 26, 2012 1:01 PM
59	Our school has a part-time assistant principal. We share her with Silvermine. It is hard for her to be effective when she shares her time between two schools.	Nov 26, 2012 12:49 PM
60	Library time is not good because hard to get books and re-shelving is a problem. Less teachers to help those who need it leaving the class behind because their attention is taken by those who are disruptive.	Nov 26, 2012 12:47 PM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

61	Our library is a complete shame- so sad for such a possible enlightening environment.	Nov 26, 2012 12:34 PM
62	My daughter watches movies in library instead of having a book read to her. Class sizes are increasing and that makes differentiated learning more difficult. Fewer math and literacy specialists are visiting the classroom.	Nov 26, 2012 12:00 PM
63	No librarian for my elementary school student, and no Assistant Principal to oversee reading & writing program within the school. In the high school, not enough Guidance Counselors and Assistant Principals means that each counselor or AP is in charge of too many students so no one can do their jobs adequately.	Nov 26, 2012 11:43 AM
64	Overcrowding in the classroom - 26 students in 3rd grade; loss of aides; loss of full-time librarian	Nov 26, 2012 8:16 AM
65	Class sizes are too large and there are less classroom aides which provides less individualized instruction for the children. The loss of our librarian at Brookside was a devastating loss, the current half time library aide does not have enough time to provide the same level of services and I see an impact. The loss of the literacy specialist is felt as well, there is not enough guidance for teachers and aides.	Nov 26, 2012 8:09 AM
66	One teacher for 20 students is not enough, particularly if there are one or more significantly disruptive students in the class.	Nov 26, 2012 7:55 AM
67	child in Kindergarten, not certain of impact	Nov 26, 2012 6:10 AM
68	The classrooms are larger and the imbalance of students who need help to students who are bored and unchallenged is off balance without the extra support for students in need.	Nov 25, 2012 1:54 PM
69	My kids are new to the school system, so we have not seen the impact	Nov 24, 2012 6:50 PM
70	My son is missing the librarian's skills and visits!	Nov 24, 2012 6:35 AM
71	The library is open half the time. Our Assistant Principal is at our school half the time. We have fewer aides and more responsibilities and added pressure is on those that remain. Overall teacher morale is not high and the environment is stressful. . . not an ideal teaching and learning environment. With a new math program that teachers do not feel comfortable with and which necessitates children having computer access at home, there is added pressure for those that do not. The cuts have impacted everyone, and there is a general stressed-out feeling. The individuals that are now split between schools feel that they are not able to do either job well.	Nov 23, 2012 5:30 AM
72	My child's 3rd grade class has 23 students and may be getting more. The library.	Nov 21, 2012 3:45 PM
73	No impact to our children... we're home schooling them because we saw this coming four years ago. I do, however, feel very sorry for the children of Norwalk, still stuck in the failing public school system, that will be impacted by more, and	Nov 21, 2012 3:40 PM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

deeper, budget cuts to come very soon. It's just as Margaret Thatcher said "Socialism is great until you run out of other peoples money." Unfortunately, Norwalk children will live this truth first hand in the very near future.

74	My child was pushed out of special Ed in Kindergarten despite the fact that Norwalk had identified language, OT and cognitive problems only a year before. She is now struggling and failing in regular Ed without support and her teacher now wants to retain her. Not only is my child not getting the services she needs, but she is being held responsible through the threat of summer school and retention and it is only November! Our kids are paying the price. My daughter is not the only student in this position either.	Nov 21, 2012 3:39 PM
75	Never knew when vice principal was in, horrible library schedule, cutting of programs that kept kids learning and off streets.	Nov 21, 2012 2:59 PM
76	My son is in a Kindergarten class of 24 children with 1 teacher and 1 aide who leaves before the children are dismissed. Individual needs of the children in this age group CANNOT be met by 1 person. I know of at least 2 children who suffered embarrassing bathroom accidents due simply to the poor adult/student ratio.	Nov 21, 2012 10:17 AM
77	Absolutely no impact from staff cuts. The impact on my children is the consistent LACK of forward thinking on program offerings. The district never has funding for NEW programs: (Chinese for all) and Common Core implemented in all subjects, rigorous science. We also need to address the needs of the 60% of graduating seniors that are not ready for college. It's an abomination.	Nov 21, 2012 8:25 AM
78	NPS has been pushing No child left behind for the last couple years and now they have cut libraries so students may only come to the library once a month.	Nov 21, 2012 7:40 AM
79	The kids have barely any library time now. The class sizes are too large and my kindergartener expresses her desire that the teacher spend more time with her. Even she notices the scrambling around the teacher has to do.	Nov 21, 2012 6:37 AM
80	The aides that were present in grades K and 1st were wonderful and they helped all of the kids in the class. I attribute that to their presence and helping the kids who needed extra help. Also, we lost the assistant principal and she was a very visible person. My daughter would always stop and say hello to her; she kept them in line.	Nov 21, 2012 5:48 AM
81	The loss of support staff and supplies expense is putting a bigger strain on teachers and taking away from the students.	Nov 21, 2012 5:17 AM
82	limited library time	Nov 21, 2012 5:14 AM
83	Library is absolutely useless. The students watch videos. Art is mixed due to shared teachers. The teachers and administrators are stretched to the brink doing multiple jobs at once and it naturally spills over to the quality of attention the children receive	Nov 20, 2012 8:13 PM
84	My child was supposed to have a team meeting with me (not official PPT, maybe a 504 plan?) at the beginning of the year; it hasnt happened yet; im guessing	Nov 20, 2012 4:12 PM

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that is due to no vice principal and reductions on other special needs areas, everyone who is still at the school is overtaxed. I havent complained as my childs needs are being met at this time by informal communication. But this lack of follow through opens the system to liability issues. I also worry about children whos parents are not able to advocate for them and make sure this informal communication happens. LIBRARY: kids check out books from library, but we have no librarian and no organized curriculum. My 3rd grader has 24 kids in his class; thank goodness we have a teacher who can handle it; she did not have tenure and might have been laid off but she is one of the best teachers we have had. I worry about losing these great teachers. I worry about class sizes increasing!!

85	less Library time	Nov 20, 2012 4:01 PM
86	We've lost our librarian, many of our teacher's assistants, and our vice principal. In addition, it would be nice to bring back team sports in the middle schools. And other after school programs that enrich our children.	Nov 20, 2012 1:43 PM
87	There are WAYYYYY too many children at Jefferson and not enough teachers. We have lost our librarian and the Assistant Principal is working on a part time basis which leaves the Principal with a lot on his hands. There's so much that he can do and oversea.	Nov 20, 2012 1:30 PM
88	The school smells	Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM
89	class size	Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM
90	Any cut in a school is detrimental to my child getting the absolute best learning possible.	Nov 20, 2012 1:12 PM
91	So many kids are leaving our schools if they can due to lack of funding, resources, larger class sizes. I am applying to private school for my older son as he is very high performing and its sad that the district will loose a high performing kid because there doesn't seem to be any change happening with support, teacher hiring and resources. we are worn down with cuts and battles and fights and as much as i hoped that would not be the case, we are being forced to make a lifestyle change because of this.	Nov 20, 2012 1:10 PM
92	all a part vice principal and librarian	Nov 20, 2012 1:07 PM
93	1. The hours of the library were cut and this is a travistity. Especially since my son just enetered Kindergarten and we are trying to foster a love of reading and now he has limited access to the library as a resource. 2. My sons math book s have still not arrived and it is late November.	Nov 20, 2012 1:07 PM
94	Part-Time VP and Librarian. My child doesn't go to the library as often as he could. There is no computer lab in our school either. In addition there are more than 25 kids in our K class. How is the teacher supposed to give individualized attention to each kid. Layer on the fact that you have kids bused in from other areas of Norwalk that require A LOT of help and attention. What happens to the rest of the students?	Nov 20, 2012 12:59 PM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

95	No impact that I'm aware of	Nov 20, 2012 12:47 PM
96	Teachers are not happy with the budget cuts and the pay freeze, and as a result the environment in the entire school system is not very healthy.	Nov 20, 2012 12:09 PM
97	It is ridiculous that the libraries aren't fully staffed. Our children should have libraries at their disposal all the time.	Nov 20, 2012 11:14 AM
98	Currently, our class is experiencing a lack of aides. We have a class make-up which makes it hard for the teacher (who is a good educator) to gain enough control to ensure learning takes place. Instead she spends most of her time focusing on crowd control. The administration seems at a loss as to how to help. Their reason is lack of funding and staff.	Nov 20, 2012 11:12 AM
99	We lost an assistant principal.	Nov 20, 2012 10:33 AM
100	did not feel the effect	Nov 20, 2012 10:32 AM
101	Reduced Library hours, aids, few programs, sharing admin, etc.	Nov 20, 2012 5:13 AM
102	It is almost impossible for my Junior to make an appointment with a guidance counselor as the counselor's workload has increased due to decreased hours of their secretary.	Nov 19, 2012 3:44 PM
103	The shifting of resources based on tenure, not training, as a result of the budget cuts has put staff in place that has not been trained in and / or does not subscribe to the Bank Street / HOT models. It seems that the long term impact will be a degradation of the school's unique offering to the district and students.	Nov 19, 2012 11:17 AM
104	Displaced teachers should NOT have been placed into random roles just to secure their job. My sons 2nd grade teacher was left w/out an assistant, who clearly did not want to be in that role. The union has messed up our schools and messed up our budgets. School districts need to help our kids by building a strong foundation, which begins with elementary schools and carries into Middle and HS.	Nov 19, 2012 10:11 AM
105	It is a shame that libraries were affected. Every school district surtrionding Norwalk can fully fund their libraries, why can't we? There has been an impact on literacy programs and libraries, which is a dreadful shame.	Nov 19, 2012 8:47 AM
106	Columbus Magnet School holds a special place with Norwalk Public Schools and needs its original staffing levels to continue to implement it dynamic Bank Street/HOT School Model	Nov 19, 2012 8:10 AM
107	The Bank Street and HOT school models cannot be implemented at Columbus as they were originally intended. Sharing a librarian between two schools has resulted in loss of library instruction, which is crucial to the reading development of elemetary school children. Sharing an Assistant Principal has resulted in fragmentation of coverage. Many staff are stressed and many are overworked. Morale is low and it trickles down to the children, ultimately affecting their progress and achievement.	Nov 19, 2012 7:51 AM
108	--Fox Run lost some very quality, qualified, outstanding teachers due to budget	Nov 19, 2012 7:42 AM

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cuts. Teachers who happened to have more tenure but not as much passion and motivation remained and were saved from the budget cut axe. --Fox Run's library access was diminished by HALF. The children have access to the school library half as much as last year. What a shame in a school that does so much to promote literacy!

109	My children have not yet been to the library due to moves and the retiring of a librian	Nov 19, 2012 7:33 AM
110	The environment seems more disorganized in general, the ability not to have a full time librarian has been especially devastating and without a full time assistant principal I feel the principal is pulled in too many different directions to lead the school and though the performance is great, this is not a sustainable solution	Nov 19, 2012 7:31 AM
111	Lost Library clerk - increased classroom enrollment, stressed out teachers, not up-to-date on technology - lacking many site licenses	Nov 19, 2012 7:05 AM
112	We would like Columbus to have get back its original resources to continue to implement its dynamic Bank Street/HOT School Model.	Nov 19, 2012 6:44 AM
113	No effect	Nov 19, 2012 4:52 AM
114	AP,librarian,teachers	Nov 19, 2012 4:47 AM
115	There has not be an impact.	Nov 19, 2012 4:36 AM
116	As stated above my concern is not only with my child at BMHS but with every child in every Norwalk Public School. Cutting the hours of aides, secretaries and support causes great delays in the process, also with the dissemination of vital information. Cutting teachers increases class sizes and cuts out the cirriculum that can be offered, for instance at NHS the pre-engineering courses are no longer offered. There are young men and women who could benefit from this early exposure as everyone knows that the United States is way behind in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics field compared to countries once considered 3rd world countries.	Nov 19, 2012 4:12 AM
117	Library reduced... Staff in classes reduced	Nov 19, 2012 2:58 AM
118	Losing the reading specialists as well as teachers aides at Elementry school level, Columbus for my child, has been difficult. My child struggles with reading and with larger class sizes, fewer aids, his teacher does not have the time to spend with him that he needs. I also feel that with fewer aids at Columbus, it's difficult for Columbus to teach in the HOT school/bank Street method. This school is special in the hands on/experiential teaching they are trained to offer. Without the correct support, though, they are just like any other school. They need to be supported with previous staffing levels to teach in this way.	Nov 18, 2012 8:07 PM
119	This is our first year, my daughter is a Kindergarten and my son a Preschooler - his case is different as special needs budget I think runs a different pat- I volunteer every tuesday to help the teachers and I can see how much work they are doing now that they lost secretaries and admons. I also see aides running to	Nov 18, 2012 7:49 PM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

	one room to another and the kids that needs them needs them 100%, not shared. I can only imagine how difficult is for the kids and afraid this will happen to mine when he becomes a kindergarten.	
120	not enough help for the teachers, parents are struggling to fill the gaps	Nov 18, 2012 7:23 PM
121	Lost 3 teachers	Nov 18, 2012 7:20 PM
122	Library every other week, crowded classrooms, more need for parent involvement to fulfill classroom needs by inadequate paid professionals, teaching assistants placed in positions because of tenure not skill set.	Nov 18, 2012 7:15 PM
123	Rare library sessions when they used to be weekly, fewer secretaries in the office so it's more difficult to get assistance, only a p/t asst. principal so it's tougher to get in touch with the administrators.	Nov 18, 2012 7:12 PM
124	she doesn't has library hours and class groups are bigger	Nov 18, 2012 6:56 PM
125	Teachers and teacher assistants Columbus is known for 2 teachers per room now down to 1 and an alternate , not librarian , no assistant principle	Nov 18, 2012 6:50 PM
126	My child has been to the library 1 time so fat this year and has checked out only 1 book, this is unacceptable- how can she learn to read without access to books!! Librarians need to be reinstated.	Nov 18, 2012 6:32 PM
127	Lack of a teacher aid in the classroom means that the teachers attention needs to be spread over more children, and those struggling do not have as much one on one instruction. In addition, the librarian used to serve as the multimedia person as well. Now the school is struggling with year book photos and school videos. Both of these add to the children feeling important in their school environment.	Nov 18, 2012 6:23 PM
128	The school libraries and communities have suffered greatly from losing librarians. Our school librarian, Beth Pearce, had a central role in the school community and culture. Without her, we've lost an element of our school character, and our children have become disconnected from the library. My daughter has brought 3 books home in 3 months of school - 2 were in poor condition, and 2 we had at home already. No one was there to guide her choices, and no one was there to take care of the books. It was a sad statement, and reflects on our city's commitment to reading and books.	Nov 18, 2012 6:18 PM
129	Austerity measures have curtailed critical resources, such as librarians, aids, and administrators.	Nov 18, 2012 6:09 PM
130	my children cannot get books from the library when they need them. my middle school daughters do not have any after school activities available to them	Nov 18, 2012 5:50 PM
131	Larger class size, less paraprofessional support	Nov 18, 2012 5:43 PM
132	The Bank Street model has been chipped away and it is proving very difficult to maintain the unique philosophy.	Nov 18, 2012 5:04 PM
133	Only 2 library sessions this year due to us sharing our librarian	Nov 18, 2012 4:56 PM

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134	It has been enormously disruptive in the schools directly and negatively impacting their education. It is extremely disappointing that the school budget continues to be cut year after and the lack of planning adds insult to injury, where we have teachers uprooted and having to learn how to teach an entirely new grade and then lose a month or more as we waited for schoolbooks, with a new curriculum (no less) because the budget was pending so long that books were ordered so late that they were out of stock. There really is no excuse for all of these problems to be happening one on top of another.	Nov 18, 2012 4:52 PM
135	loss of librarian and full-time asst. principal	Nov 18, 2012 4:48 PM
136	Columbus cannot be considered a real Bank Street school without the staffing. Columbus is just another school without the staff it had before the recent cuts. Give us back our staff so it can be the school we sent our children to before.	Nov 18, 2012 4:43 PM
137	Columbus school is a magnet school based on Bank Street method and Hot school approach - Due to the recent cuts and last year's large cuts - my children no longer benefit fully from that special program - A reason why all the parents at Columbus enroll them for the lottery. The City has agreed to this program and magnet school system and should honor that. It should NOT at all compare the magnet school to any other Norwalk Public school.	Nov 18, 2012 4:42 PM
138	The cuts to the librarians has affected both of my children but it is felt immensely at the elementary school level. Elementary school is when we introduce reading and build the foundations for good readers throughout life. To take away the weekly visits to the library and all of the support that the librarians give to the teachers and students has been a great loss to the elementary schools. Losing the intervention aides and assistant principals has affected the school as well.	Nov 18, 2012 4:40 PM
139	That my son is not getting the individualized attention that he received in the past. Also, my daughter's class has 23 or so children in her class in kindergarten.	Nov 18, 2012 4:26 PM
140	My children miss having time to spend in the library, reading books and learning about all the wonderful things the library has to offer. They also miss the librarian herself, Beth Pearce, a wonderful asset to Columbus. My kids are also missing out on the full Bank Street experience of having two adults in each classroom full time. That was one of the major attractions to Columbus for many families, and without that in place, something is lost.	Nov 18, 2012 4:24 PM
141	My kids miss going to the library every week. Response to issues or questions is slower due to the lack of our extra secretary. Disciplinary action now takes extra time away from the Principal's other responsibilities.	Nov 18, 2012 4:18 PM
142	Lack of library services	Nov 18, 2012 4:17 PM
143	Class size too big/children miss librarians and more hours at library/no after school sports at middle school level... Overall stressful	Nov 18, 2012 4:17 PM
144	See number 5. My son is in a class of 24, too big for 1st grade.	Nov 18, 2012 2:37 PM
145	No Librarian, therefore no Library time and our assistant principal is only part-	Nov 18, 2012 1:21 PM

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	time.	
146	lack of aids in classroom has disseminated the unique approach taught at CMS	Nov 18, 2012 1:13 PM
147	Class sizes are too big in some grades and they do not have aide support. Access to library is restricted. The way recess is handled has changed. Loss of intervention aides puts added work on already over burdened admin. and teachers.	Nov 18, 2012 11:27 AM
148	Because of the shared librarian, book fair, and storm, my kids did not have library for all of October. They do have access to books at home and from public libraries, but many kids in the school do not.	Nov 17, 2012 8:41 PM
149	Jefferson's cutbacks in library staffing and in the assistant principals hours diminish our child's access to library resources and parent's confidence in the school's ability to manage the schools infrastructure.	Nov 17, 2012 6:21 PM
150	No Librarians are you joking kids should want to go to the library where THEY get to pick a book that they WANT to read. We're short staffed now, people were bumped and the ones that took their place have no clue on how to do the job...case in point, one woman who took over for someone who could actually do the job was looking on YouTube to "learn" how to use excel. Maybe she should have asked a student they should and probably would have known.	Nov 17, 2012 2:54 PM
151	Classes are too large, we lost three excellent teachers and retained some that shouldn't be teaching students in a classroom setting.	Nov 17, 2012 1:59 PM
152	no intermurals at WRMS	Nov 17, 2012 1:38 PM
153	Cranbury only has a part time asst principle, access to library is limited at Cranbury and WRMS, only one security guard at WRMS, and no intramurals at WRMS!	Nov 17, 2012 10:53 AM
154	REDUCED LIBRARY TIME...LITERACY IS BEING IMPACTED FOR MANY	Nov 17, 2012 10:32 AM
155	No literacy specialist.	Nov 17, 2012 10:21 AM
156	Less organization	Nov 17, 2012 5:38 AM
157	This overcrowded my sons 2nd grade class.	Nov 16, 2012 9:57 PM
158	large classes, sports cuts	Nov 16, 2012 7:23 PM
159	We went from having 16 or 17 in a class to 23 students. Big difference. Especially in kindergarten!	Nov 16, 2012 5:40 PM
160	My kindergartener has a large class. This is a very needy age. Students need individual attention and this is very difficult with large class sizes and no specialists to assist.	Nov 16, 2012 5:14 PM
161	librarian only in 2 days per week - all other days the library is dark - no consistency for the children , not enough books being checked out which will lead to lower the literacy scores and interest in reading	Nov 16, 2012 4:54 PM

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162	Library and media centers, drama, music and the ongoing threat to reduce sports. The lost after school sports programs at the middle school level not only impact the health, both physical and mental of those children, but also diminishes future sports success at the high school level as middle schools are feeders into high school sports.	Nov 16, 2012 2:28 PM
163	Larger classes for my daughter at McMahon, it seems.	Nov 16, 2012 2:06 PM
164	There is no reading intervention aid. I have had the hardship of paying a tutor to assist my child as have several other parents for their children. Very little library time at school for both my children.	Nov 16, 2012 1:31 PM
165	No librarian,(my kids didn't pick even 1book from the school library this school year) no full time assistant principal	Nov 16, 2012 8:12 AM
166	Loss of teachers at Fox Run when the school was already struggling to keep up with elementary school programs in surrounding towns.	Nov 16, 2012 7:40 AM
167	Shortage of qualified teachers due to budget cuts is detrimental to children's education.	Nov 16, 2012 7:23 AM
168	Larger class sizes; due to scheduling conflicts, my honors student had to move into mainstream classes.	Nov 16, 2012 6:42 AM
169	Impact on my son has been unnoticeable	Nov 16, 2012 4:47 AM
170	Larger classes, limited use of library	Nov 15, 2012 7:55 PM
171	I feel that it's a shame that we've lost our full time library aides.	Nov 15, 2012 6:46 PM
172	we miss our librarian - my kids complain every time they have to miss library because we have only a part time librarian; we miss our literacy specialist helping with my son; we miss having our vice principal on hand when there are behavior issues in the classroom and our principal has had to come talk to our 2nd grade son!	Nov 15, 2012 6:25 PM
173	Our children only get Library every 2-3 weeks since they now share a Librarian with another school. Our classroom aide is also divided between two first grade classes.	Nov 15, 2012 6:07 PM
174	less teacher means more number of students in a class which will compromise the focus of the teacher to his/her student. which in the end results to loss of interest of the student.	Nov 15, 2012 5:44 PM
175	My school no longer has a full time assistant principal. We no longer have a librarian.	Nov 15, 2012 4:58 PM
176	My sons loves going to the library. He has trouble reading and in the library he enjoyed going in there looking for a book he likes and actually read it.	Nov 15, 2012 2:37 PM
177	lower moral and alot of stress on everybody else	Nov 15, 2012 12:27 PM
178	lower moral and alot of stress on everybody else	Nov 15, 2012 12:27 PM

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179	Our Asst Principal was cut to part-time.	Nov 15, 2012 9:21 AM
180	work load of guidance counselors/office morale - loss of new teachers (last in)	Nov 15, 2012 9:06 AM
181	The class size for my child who just started kindergarten has jumped up significantly. This has caused my child to be taught in groups more so then getting individual attention or focus on his needs.	Nov 15, 2012 8:33 AM
182	lost 1 security monitor big mistake	Nov 15, 2012 7:32 AM
183	Loosing their assistant Principal to part time. She was approachable and kept dismissal well organized. Now that is only happening half the time.	Nov 15, 2012 7:05 AM
184	Librarian, assistant principal gone	Nov 15, 2012 4:01 AM
185	Librarian cuts causing reduced library hours Loss of intramural sports activities after school	Nov 15, 2012 2:02 AM
186	NO LIBRARIAN FOR THE LARGEST ELEM. SCHOOL IN NORWALK! -- SUCH A CRIME. Also, sharing an Asst. Principal, classroom sizes are larger because some teachers have been laid off.	Nov 14, 2012 9:16 PM
187	additional responsibilities placed on one person	Nov 14, 2012 5:59 PM
188	Lost teachers and a secretary. The assistant principal is now shared with another school.	Nov 14, 2012 5:54 PM
189	My child's classroom is in my opinion overcrowded, and the teacher is OBVIOUSLY overwhelmed. I feel that the administration is failing our children!	Nov 14, 2012 5:40 PM
190	None.	Nov 14, 2012 5:32 PM
191	Fox Run lost teachers that truly engaged the students in learning with new technics. These technics involved them hands-on, not just with pencil and paper. Also, my child was truly upset when he lost teachers he enjoyed and looked forward to having!	Nov 14, 2012 5:17 PM
192	The librarian and vice principal are vital to our school. Our v.p. is the face of our school especially to the kids. She is the one walking the halls and dealing directly with the children. It's ridiculous to have to explain why we need to have our librarian full time in the elementary schools. How can you push literacy and reading without giving ALL children the chance to be in contact with books?!	Nov 14, 2012 4:55 PM
193	West Rocks lost a security guard/asst principal & librarian; Tracey has a part-time asst principal, part-time librarian and lost a lot of aides. Discipline has become an issue.	Nov 14, 2012 4:47 PM
194	As a student teacher it has made things more difficult in the classroom. We have increased class sizes and decreased the additional sources of support for both teachers and students. Students have library every other week (how can we teach that reading is important if our libraries are closed more than they are open?) The main office needs the second secretary it lost so that our tutors can be in the classrooms working with students instead of in the office doing filing,	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 PM

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	attendance, etc.	
195	Don't think there isn't need for two sat principals at middle schools or even at elementary school	Nov 14, 2012 4:45 PM
196	I held a position at Brien McMahon and was bumped by a library aide. The bump turned out better for me as I am now working at another district. The fact that library aides are no longer available every day at the elementary schools and middle schools is absolutely disgraceful. I can't imagine that middle class families will move into Norwalk if they hear how awful these schools are now run. I know that my kids, if they were not in high school already, would not be attending NPS. There are wonderful teachers in Norwalk but the continuous cuts and bad choices made from the central office are turning NPS into Bridgeport schools. I can only hope that my freshman can continue to do well as I would hate to pull her away from McMahon and her friends.	Nov 14, 2012 2:17 PM
197	unknown, didn't notice	Nov 14, 2012 1:55 PM
198	No Sports	Nov 14, 2012 1:42 PM
199	No or part-time librarian at my daughter's school means she won't get the necessary help when visiting the library. Part-time assistant principal at my child's school also means less focus on specific programs for the children.	Nov 14, 2012 1:06 PM
200	we need to reinstate the librarians and put vice principals back full time to allow school to function at a productive rate	Nov 14, 2012 12:50 PM
201	disruptive students have not been addressed in a timely manner due to lack of aides and full time assistant principal- My child has been able to only borrow from the library 3 or 4 times thus far this school year due to half time librarian. With less teachers class size grew which impact the teachers ability to meet the needs of all students	Nov 14, 2012 12:44 PM
202	We lost the support of some very fine teachers, this has caused class size to increase and therefore less individual time. Not to mention some of the chaos not having additional admin staff causes for parents, children and other staff members.	Nov 14, 2012 12:38 PM
203	These cuts reduced after school and extra curricular programs which enhance my child's learning experience.	Nov 14, 2012 12:14 PM
204	Getting more marketing materials from school, instead of Children get homework.	Nov 14, 2012 11:43 AM
205	Department closures, and lost teachers.	Nov 14, 2012 11:42 AM
206	No intramurals, loss of library hours. Need these positions re-instated for next year's budget.	Nov 14, 2012 10:30 AM
207	We need the school libraries open! Many children do not get to the public libraries.	Nov 14, 2012 10:23 AM
208	We are in kindergarten... so we don't see change. But I can tell you that there is	Nov 14, 2012 10:18 AM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

a WEALTH of research that shows that having a certified library media specialist in a school improves student achievement.

209	Loosing the librarians has had the most impact on my child. He is currently in 2nd grade and having library once every 2-3 weeks, is unacceptable when, as a parent, i am trying to instill the importance of reading. The BOE has shown with their actions that reading is not an important part of their progression. I believe more can be (and should be) done at the admin levels (i.e. - the central office). There is waste and employees that have no business being employed at the central office. I believe, you should look at your own house first as administators than pushing the burden into the schools.	Nov 14, 2012 10:14 AM
210	classes are larger this year, which takes valuable one on one time from my child. The biggest issue was that we lost our library full time. The library is such an important part of school and it was an issue for me and for my child.	Nov 14, 2012 10:08 AM
211	Need to gain back necessary resources to provide optimal learning experience for students (i.e. full time library, vice principal supervision, etc.). Lack of resources has placed a larger burden and stress on teachers.	Nov 14, 2012 10:05 AM
212	The children do not have the opportunity to go to the library often. In addition, our assistant principal at Cranbury does so much for the school and we want her back full time!	Nov 14, 2012 9:57 AM
213	deficits in educational standards for all children especially no service for high ability kids starting kindergarten	Nov 14, 2012 9:55 AM
214	In a year where the Common Core principles are really starting to roll out, there is confusion among, teachers, parents, administrators and ultimately students. There needs to be a better way to roll out this program. Parents have many questions as to how to help our children at home when they are learning new ways of processing math. This isn't the way we were taught and it's like now we have to go through these classes with them and can't help as much as we want to. It's unacceptable to put our children in a position such as this, where parents don't have answers to their own children's questions on homework. Help us. I've written to Mr. Dadonna and received a poor response. Our PTO doesn't know where to turn for answers. If there were more aides, perhaps teachers would be able to focus on this issue more, maybe not. Maybe this wasn't even the correct section to include this, but no one has listened to this issue all year.	Nov 14, 2012 9:42 AM
215	That the Ponus library is locked shut half the week (in addition to the Norwalk Public Library being closed on Sundays), unlike the surrounding towns which have made education and student achievement high priorities.	Nov 14, 2012 9:33 AM
216	I haven't felt the impact.	Nov 14, 2012 9:32 AM
217	none yet since we are still in middle school but if HS sports are cut, we are going to private school	Nov 14, 2012 9:09 AM
218	At elementary level, My son has gotten one book from the library so far this year. Other staff oversees/supervises lunchtime and recess - they are not very tolerant, tired and cranky! Lunch and recess should be a time for kids to wind	Nov 14, 2012 9:02 AM

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down a bit and expend some extra energy. At HS, my son's books are falling apart, teachers do not have websites which kept us informed of assignments/grades/etc - spending on classroom/teacher/student supplies being reduced and reduced definitely impacts the students!

219	My daughter at Ponus says the "new books" library shelves are empty. She used to read every night for 1 hour. Now she literally doesn't read at all. She shuts her light early.	Nov 14, 2012 8:41 AM
220	Library is closed most of the time because we do not have a daily librarian. Our aides are stretched so far that they are getting sick. The stress is palpable.	Nov 14, 2012 8:29 AM
221	I don't know how a guidance councillor with a caseload of over 200 students can possibly give a student the attention he/she needs especially those seniors that are college bound, The budget cutback to the orchestra department is criminal. BMHS has an amazing amount of musically talented students and such a dedicated musical staff it surely HAS to be one of the best music programs in the entire state. Come to the concerts and see for yourself!!!!	Nov 14, 2012 7:54 AM
222	My children say they have less computer and library time.	Nov 14, 2012 7:46 AM
223	Not enough administrators in lunch room, security stretched thin.	Nov 14, 2012 7:35 AM
224	The library staff's time was cut. I also believe a reading aide was let go.	Nov 14, 2012 7:34 AM
225	na	Nov 14, 2012 7:31 AM
226	My daughter does not have access to library as often and is unable to check books out. She loves to read and the burden has been put on the teacher and the parents to purchase books and continue to encourage reading. Not having library does not show the children a commitment to reading.	Nov 14, 2012 7:24 AM
227	my children have limited library time. this does not help to develop and grow their reading skills the vice principal is now at 1/2 time in the school. This limits the interaction and rapport the children develop with the administration	Nov 14, 2012 7:23 AM
228	Marissa's teacher spends way too much time dealing with at least 3 kids that need a aide. It is very disruptive to the whole class.	Nov 14, 2012 7:21 AM
229	This was the worst idea ever! I'm not receiving the correct papers from school, my Childs teacher has no help!	Nov 14, 2012 7:20 AM
230	Library, kids not coming home with books like they used to. The resource isnt being used as much now.	Nov 14, 2012 7:16 AM
231	Cuts in the sports programs.	Nov 14, 2012 7:07 AM
232	not enough library time	Nov 14, 2012 6:47 AM
233	Impact....why didnt the sup. take a pay cut and divide it down into the public school system. I am not speaking a huge pay cut, just an easy 100,000.00 could have been divided into the system to NOT have so many small positions cut. Horrible that the big wage earners never gave that as an option. My explanation	Nov 14, 2012 6:41 AM

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might not make much sense here but iam sure you get my main idea.

234	Pick-up is chaos because our Asst principal isn't there.	Nov 14, 2012 6:35 AM
235	No intramural sports in Middle School. Absolutely ridiculous. Physical activity not only keeps these kids sane, it keeps them out of trouble.	Nov 14, 2012 6:26 AM
236	I feel my children continue to get a quality education. None of my kids have said anything about how the loss has effected them.	Nov 14, 2012 6:23 AM
237	Have not had any except hearing about the cut in middle school sports.	Nov 14, 2012 6:20 AM
238	Less sports programs, less arts programs, more crowed classroom. Less supervision!	Nov 14, 2012 6:16 AM
239	1. Reduced activities for the kids 2. Reduced after school programs 3. More cuts would directly impact the quality of the education in the school district.	Nov 14, 2012 6:12 AM
240	Llbrarian there only half time. Teachers moved around or left, with the result that not the ideal teacher is in the classroom for the subject matter.	Nov 14, 2012 6:07 AM
241	My child has less time to go to library and is unable to take out books.Students at Norwalk High who are interested in Child Development, who may be interested in a teaching, nursing or other career where child development is important, have been denied access to this course where an on site day care facility exists. The facility was moved from Naramake to Norwalk High (at a cost \$\$\$ to bring the facility up to state code) and was used last year by the students as part of the curriculum.	Nov 14, 2012 6:07 AM
242	I have not notice the difference in my child's education.	Nov 14, 2012 5:28 AM
243	The budget cuts hurt the organization and preparation of the start of the school year. Things were very unorganized and unprepared which made the transition of my 9th grader going into high school for the first time more stressful than it should have been. This could have been due to the fact that the Housemasters were not there earlier in the Summer to get things ready.	Nov 14, 2012 4:51 AM
244	my elementary child has had the same library book for 1 1/2 months due to cutback in library service	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 AM
245	there were fewer art classes to choose from and my daughter is not in an appropriate class	Nov 14, 2012 4:43 AM
246	loosing teacher means larger classes which impacts learning.	Nov 14, 2012 4:26 AM
247	Library aides, sports, special ed aides	Nov 14, 2012 3:56 AM
248	Larger class size - not good. Library open only 2 wks a month Afterschool programs cut at Ponus	Nov 14, 2012 3:27 AM
249	In high school, the music program has been affected by this and the freshman sports has been affected too.AT programs are also being cut.	Nov 13, 2012 10:12 PM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

250	Library is not open daily!!	Nov 13, 2012 8:27 PM
251	There is 50% less library time, less access to books, larger class sizes so teachers don't have as much time to individually teach and assess children,	Nov 13, 2012 8:05 PM
252	Limited library time, shared AVP	Nov 13, 2012 8:02 PM
253	At this time, the only impact we are feeling is the lack of the librarian.	Nov 13, 2012 7:59 PM
254	the cut back on the school library had a big impact.	Nov 13, 2012 7:40 PM
255	Norwalk schools were struggling in the rankings statewide before the budget crisis. I am a parent of a preschooler and am seriously considering private school because of my concerns.	Nov 13, 2012 7:27 PM
256	Norwalk high school is dirty.	Nov 13, 2012 7:26 PM
257	Not enough library time	Nov 13, 2012 7:20 PM
258	Reduced library time due to sharing librarian. Limited resources in areas needed.	Nov 13, 2012 7:15 PM
259	My child is a senior and I do not see an impact at this level.	Nov 13, 2012 7:13 PM
260	the schools are working hard to minimize the impact, however, the larger classrooms and reduced staff (in ALL areas) are very noticeable. people are moving out of town and its destroying our City.	Nov 13, 2012 7:10 PM
261	I have students in both high schools in Norwalk. It is unconscionable that we are warehousing many students in study halls because classes are full or not available for our kids.	Nov 13, 2012 6:47 PM
262	I don't see any	Nov 13, 2012 6:46 PM
263	My younger daughter had to wait for After-school programs which the school's PTC now funds and there were less options. She has less access to the library as well. My older daughter just started high school and I was concerned to learn that the councilors have as many kids to manage as they do.	Nov 13, 2012 6:32 PM
264	class size went up by 5 children per class on average. Teachers and students have less access to the school library.	Nov 13, 2012 6:30 PM
265	(1) NO Spanish V offered at BMHS. My child was not able to take a 4th year of Spanish. Found out that Norwalk HS not only has Spanish V, but 2 levels of AP (one oriented to non-native speakers). Equity of course offerings and consistent schedules at both HS is vital. (2) LT term sub not hired for Anatomy and Physiology. An inexperienced phys Ed teacher is there until mid November.	Nov 13, 2012 6:18 PM
266	west rocks has lost a wonderful Security guard who protected our children and cares for our children when they are in the school or on the fields playing. Both Security guards worked to gether and it is alot for one guard to do all by her self	Nov 13, 2012 6:12 PM
267	dropping AP classes	Nov 13, 2012 6:08 PM

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268	College process difficult because of school being Overwhelmed too little staff	Nov 13, 2012 6:00 PM
269	Unfair Math Education - Roton Middle School has a teacher for 18 8th Grade Students for Trigonometry - not offered at Nathan Hale at all. Roton had Algebra 1 in 7th grade - at Nathan Hale only offered in 8th grade. Norwalk Public Schools should all be treated the same.	Nov 13, 2012 5:51 PM
270	Librarian only every other day. No after school activities or sports. Much less attention for my child from guidance.	Nov 13, 2012 5:50 PM
271	Not having a librarian. My children loved having library every week.	Nov 13, 2012 5:44 PM
272	The elementary school lost the librarian and the students suffered as they will not have access to the library when they need it.	Nov 13, 2012 5:28 PM
273	We need smaller class sizes to meet the needs of our children. Also, our children also need to the school library to be available to them every week. Now they only visit the library once a month.	Nov 13, 2012 5:16 PM
274	Less library time + larger class sizes = lower quality of education	Nov 13, 2012 4:55 PM
275	My child did not know who her teacher was until the day before school started when we got an email from the administration. It was unsettling to get a letter saying that your teacher was 'unassigned' -- that is hard for a young child who is anxious about school.	Nov 13, 2012 4:38 PM
276	The library isn't open as much as it used to be for the students to use.	Nov 13, 2012 4:14 PM
277	loss of after-school activities/clubs	Nov 13, 2012 4:08 PM
278	My child's math teacher was a substitute for the entire year.	Nov 13, 2012 3:38 PM
279	None that have been brought to my attention	Nov 13, 2012 3:33 PM
280	library loss, security reduced	Nov 13, 2012 3:21 PM
281	Elective courses for HS graduation are unavailable as requested.	Nov 13, 2012 3:10 PM
282	Loss of AP-less parental contact and support, less communication, less support for my child, less teacher support Library aides- only have library once every two weeks- research supports DAILY access to multiple books at multiple levels- children have 50% less access to library for book check out and research	Nov 13, 2012 3:05 PM
283	unknown yet	Nov 13, 2012 2:10 PM
284	Lost the liberian and aids	Nov 13, 2012 1:58 PM
285	Education levels are very poor admin as well Norwalk schools are not keeping to up to national standards	Nov 13, 2012 1:53 PM
286	My daughter's kindergarten class is 23 kids. Her class is not representative of the children in our neighborhood. My daughter is somewhat more advanced than other kids in her class. As a result of so many kids, it is tough for the	Nov 13, 2012 1:09 PM

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teachers to truly teach to the ability of all the kids. In addition, I don't feel like our kids have the resources that are available to children in other towns. As a result, our children will fall behind.

287	No VP in the elementary school so there was a delay in putting in an accommodation plan. Large class size in elem school. Math teachers in middle school and high school have out dated texts and must piece together curriculum.	Nov 13, 2012 12:59 PM
288	fNone as noted.	Nov 13, 2012 12:58 PM
289	No use of the library, which is where the computer lab is also set up. Not able to acquire and use technology that will be necessary to know in higher education, and is the standard in other school systems.	Nov 13, 2012 12:56 PM
290	Ironically, the effects are muted by the dedication of the school staffs.	Nov 13, 2012 12:46 PM
291	Lost a vice principal at the middle school.	Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM
292	Student are unable to use the library as they should. Also, it takes a greater amount of time to get information from the Principal's office. Also, larger class sizes leaves my child with less one-on-one time which he needs to focus.	Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM
293	the kids can only use the library 3 days of a 6 day cycle! Teachers often need the librarian's assistance when planning their time in the library and that has been cut in half. We need our librarian back full time in our school!	Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM
294	Detrimental	Nov 13, 2012 12:09 PM
295	*loss of library *loss of teaching time as teacher now needs to focus on discipline *pace of instruction has slowed to address this	Nov 13, 2012 11:44 AM
296	Biggest impact is not having a library book to bring home from school once a week!! This has been a huge loss! Also having the extra help from aides that students need.	Nov 13, 2012 11:44 AM
297	My son loves to read, but it is difficult to get new books at the library.	Nov 13, 2012 11:41 AM
298	Bigger class sizes, no weekly library at school,	Nov 13, 2012 11:39 AM
299	My children have not been to the school library once all year. They have had no technology lessons. The administration is way behind in terms of meetings with parents, sending out announcements, being available, and the website hasn't been updated at all. Communication with parents is being lost; probably among teachers also.	Nov 13, 2012 11:31 AM
300	No after-school sports at Roton Middle School. This is unprecedented! Does the district know there is an obesity crisis in this Country. If no sports, give the students more recess time.	Nov 13, 2012 11:31 AM
301	Librarian cut to too little time and then given another crappy job to fill her in and forced her to retire! Bad employee treatment by the city!!!! Mrs Hess was a dedicated Librarian she knew everyone lof the students and really promoted reading !!! It's a great loss :0(Nov 13, 2012 11:26 AM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

302	The library is hardly ever open. Our Assistant Principal can't prepare our school for the common core curriculum.	Nov 13, 2012 11:24 AM
303	we left the district to go to private school! i lost faith in norwalk!	Nov 13, 2012 11:17 AM
304	The cutting of after school volleyball. I have no problem paying for this program, however. I think that might make it a better program as it could probably accommodate more kids that way. 51 kids tried out and only 16(!) were accepted on the team. The average kid needs more opportunity to play sports other than soccer, football, baseball, etc.	Nov 13, 2012 11:15 AM
305	there seem to be a high # of students in classes on all different learning levels.	Nov 13, 2012 11:14 AM
306	Vice Principal in Silvermine Elementary, Guidance Counsular in West Rocks	Nov 13, 2012 11:13 AM
307	the librarians!	Nov 13, 2012 11:11 AM
308	the loss of a five day a week librarian impacts the kids - particularly those from low income families who do not have the luxury of being able to take their kids to B&N for books as I do	Nov 13, 2012 11:07 AM
309	The teachers have bigger classesbut they are doing all they can tokeepthe children engaged and learning	Nov 13, 2012 11:06 AM
310	We decided to enroll our son in private school in early November, mostly due to class size and lack of usual kindergarten supplies/budget (ex. No alphabet line or number line displayed, letter materials, etc).	Nov 13, 2012 11:04 AM
311	Library cuts takes away literacy. Aides cuts takes away children's opportunities to get individual support, and teachers can't split kids into groups for smaller groups.	Nov 13, 2012 10:59 AM
312	We lost our literacy specialist....a reading specialist in a school system with children that don't even speak English when they come in...the teacher has to spend more time with them. No librarian, no intervention aid, lack of money affects our students ever single day- NO GRANT writer...come on!	Nov 13, 2012 10:59 AM
313	Not aware of specifics in my school	Nov 13, 2012 10:47 AM
314	I am new at Norwalk Public Schools. I am unsure of the impact at this moment	Nov 13, 2012 6:29 AM
315	Less support to at risk, ridiculous amount of staff changes affects the school climate, library time limited, large class sizes interfere with teachers ability to meet individual needs	Nov 12, 2012 2:13 PM
316	plenty	Nov 12, 2012 12:52 PM
317	Are principal has to be handling more problem issues with students as our assist principal is only there part time as well as intervention aide gone completely. Our school office is very busy and the principal is in there as well because we also a. Office staff member. Library is very hard as we have it every other week because our librarian is shared as well - trying to get volunteers to shelf books so out librarian can work with the classes has been very difficult	Nov 12, 2012 12:26 PM

Q6. This year, many schools lost teachers, aides, secretaries, and/or administrators. Please give examples of the IMPACT of the recent budget cuts on your child and your school.

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| 318 | I don't think we know the full impact as of yet. I think that making the issues political is putting our kids in the middle. I think that harrassing administrators for personal agendas is counter productive. All of this comes down to asking our schools to fight against each other - when we should look at the overall impact to the Norwalk Educational System. The "at least my child's school should get what they want" attitude makes it easier for the board to dismiss parent's voices. | Nov 12, 2012 11:42 AM |
| 319 | We have lost aides, we are sharing an assistant principal, lost a librarian. We also had to re-do our own computer lab because if we would have waited for the district they would not have given new computers or updated computers until 2015. | Nov 12, 2012 11:00 AM |

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

1	I don't know enough about the city budget to provide an educated opinion, however I would think a combination of increased state and city funding would be preferable to closures and more cuts.	Dec 7, 2012 6:20 AM
2	Charge money for norwalk beach passes and direct that money towards the schools...	Dec 6, 2012 8:58 AM
3	The BOE needs to do some house cleaning and get themselves in order before they ask for any more money..the fact that there was no CFO until now if unbelievable!	Dec 3, 2012 7:37 PM
4	I think you should treat the school system as a business. You have the Norwalk High Pool that can be rented out to lets say Zeus. You also have the Planetarium which should be open to the public. You could open it once a month about a new topic and charge people 5-10 for entrance. A lot of families would love that and it gets money back into the system. Also you need to look at every staff member and make sure they are needing to do what needs to be done.	Dec 3, 2012 3:57 AM
5	Cut money from other areas of the city to leave more money for the schools. For example there was a lot of money put for the beach remodeling which is great but the board of education is a bigger priority. We need to look where all the money goes and set priorities. Not only cut the money for remodeling and improving recreation but for other areas that are less important than the Schools. Maybe small cuts on many different areas will work well and give more money for the schools.	Dec 2, 2012 3:48 PM
6	Furlow, eliminate any non-mandated testing, change staff calendars, such as from 12-month to 10-month,	Nov 29, 2012 8:47 AM
7	In order; Increase State Funding through ECS Renegotiate Teachers Benefits Renegotiate Teachers Salaries,	Nov 28, 2012 10:27 PM
8	Better accounting practice and regular external audits and accountability for major Accounting errors. With this said once this is implemented a true budget can be requested on what the needs and spending are. A much better evaluation process on all administrators and teachers	Nov 28, 2012 7:36 PM
9	Increase number of staff and parent volunteers who research and apply for grants. Specifically, each elementary school would organize their PTO to obtain a EIN. This EIN would make the school eligible for grant monies.	Nov 28, 2012 2:09 PM
10	Comments relating to the two boxes I checked. I don't know if: 1) Norwalk teachers have better benefits or worse benefits than other teachers. In general, teachers have fairly generous benefits as compared to other industries and probably need to be trimmed. They should get a competitive salary, and maybe more than it is today. 2) Norwalk Public Schools have mismanaged the BOE budget. If they have mismanaged it, then fire them and fix it. If not, and it is basically an issue of trying to do too much with less, then reapportion city funding. I am not in favor of raising Norwalk taxes until it could be proved to me that the city is not wasting money elsewhere.	Nov 28, 2012 9:47 AM
11	I do not know what teacher salaries are so it is unfair to recommend cutting	Nov 28, 2012 7:31 AM

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

	salaries. My understanding is that teacher salaries are not very high as it is. Closing Schools or doing anything that reduces the quality of education is not an option.	
12	stop using high schools foot ball fields at night	Nov 28, 2012 3:21 AM
13	There needs to be a total reform how we spend money for our kids education. For example, parents and teachers at each school will receive a "block grant" of the Board of Ed funds that would be proportion to the number of students enrolled at that school. Then the parents and teachers will allocate that funding from the teachers salaries and benefits to school supplies. This way parents and teachers will make the best decisions for their school and eliminate the need to have a central planning office that misallocates the funding. This is one example of s reform framework that can resolve the budget issues. The Board of Ed should set up a special commitee to explore reform options to change this broken process.	Nov 27, 2012 8:24 PM
14	Reduucing wastes at the board of Education and administration level.	Nov 27, 2012 12:48 PM
15	Not sure.	Nov 27, 2012 12:20 PM
16	Fundraising committees Families need to get involved.	Nov 27, 2012 12:07 PM
17	Not sure. Slightly new to Norwalk school district. Cuts are definitely out.	Nov 27, 2012 8:28 AM
18	There is no single answer to this question. Closing of schools would be a last resort but any other cuts will hurt all our students. State funding is a difficult problem to address but it must be done. Millions of Norwalk tax dollars are being shipped to school districts with less need while we struggle to educate our kids.	Nov 27, 2012 7:56 AM
19	Cut cost from other areas of Government; tough decisions, but needs to take place	Nov 26, 2012 2:05 PM
20	Where can I go to find out the metrics in order to compare and give you feedback? I have no insight into how the budget is run or allocated? How much is the budget? Does it cost per student? What would be interesting to know would be how well (or badly) our teachers are paid - one of my elected officials replied to to my email asking for more funds that our Norwalk teachers are one of the highest paid teachers in the area - how do I find this out/make sure this is true? I would never chose to close schools because what does that mean for those students whose school closes/do we have schools that are not needed/too small to fund the overhead, is there a real cost savings by combining schools even if the costs of transporting kids to those further schools go up? Has anyone put budget projects together for that? These are hard questions to answer with little or no facts.	Nov 26, 2012 12:47 PM
21	The school budget needs more funds allocated to it. In addition, we need to continue to negotiate with the teacher union.	Nov 26, 2012 12:00 PM
22	I don't understand why we fund band transportation and washing of football uniforms! Money should be directed to hiring or replacing teachers and staff, not to these non-essential items. I don't understand how the city determines	Nov 26, 2012 8:16 AM

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

rebuilding a firehouse into a massive firehouse is a priority versus teachers in the classrooms? Of course the fire dept is critical, but there has to be a compromise. The city needs to ensure the BOE is getting the funding they need!

23	I don't know if I was supposed to choose just one, but I think the best solution is a combination of the above. I spent many nights from last May through July attending various meetings of the BET, BOE and Common Council, trying to learn. I emailed and spoke with many members of our local government to try to get answers as to why we are in this situation, and learned that although we pay higher property taxes than our neighbors in New Canaan, their schools seem to have no budgetary issues. I learned about ECS, and lobbied their members for a larger share of the education pie. What I saw was a lot of in-fighting and political posturing from our local representatives. I also heard many parents, teachers, librarians and custodians speak from their hearts about the children of Norwalk, and the future of Norwalk. Without a strong school district, Norwalk will fail to thrive. There are many passionate, intelligent homeowners here and if this budgetary circus continues and our elected and appointed officials cannot get their collective act together, these homeowners will leave. I think the solution needs to begin with the Mayor, BET, BOE, and Bruce Mellion working together for a realistic goal of helping the Norwalk School District not just thrive, but succeed. Currently, there are many talented, passionate teachers and administrators as well. However, if they are not supported the best and the brightest will also leave.	Nov 23, 2012 5:30 AM
24	Better scrutiny of every budget line item.	Nov 21, 2012 3:45 PM
25	See what other towns are doing and how they are allocating funds.	Nov 21, 2012 3:39 PM
26	Streamline fundraising efforts into 1 or 2 major events in which the whole school/community participates instead of multiple smaller efforts.	Nov 21, 2012 10:17 AM
27	I have encountered several talented and dedicated teachers and administrators at NPS. I know they stand on the shoulders of many talented staff before them. I know NPS faces serious challenges in educating the diverse student population. But don't most cities? Isn't that the current issue in education in America? It's time to act. How else to say it? THE CITY CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY THE GENEROUS BENEFITS OF THE TEACHER CONTRACTS OF THE PAST AND STILL PROVIDE A QUALITY EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMS FOR THE YOUTH IN THE SCHOOLS TODAY. Many people are responsible for kicking the can down the road for us to pay today. The problem is, taxes are high already so today's students suffer cuts or inadequate programs in order to pay for teacher benefits. PENSION AND BENEFIT PAYMENTS FOR RETIRED STAFF SHOULD BE MOVED OUT OF THE CURRENT YEAR BUDGET SO TAX PAYERS CAN SEE THE TRUE COST OF EDUCATING STUDENTS ENROLLED TODAY. THIS WOULD BE REAL TRANSPARENCY. Parents are opting out - either sending their kids to private and parochial schools (which robs our schools of members of our community) or hiring tutors to make up for the less-than-rigorous curriculum. Parents also drive their kids all over Fairfield County to club sports programs because middle school sports are gutted and high school sports are inadequate. Like it or not, sports matter to students and also provide students with the necessary discipline skills to be	Nov 21, 2012 8:25 AM

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

good students. I'd love to think that increased ECS funding would help but I suspect the dollars would all go to retirement plans, benefits and salaries and NOT to new programs or improved curriculum or athletics. The school budget funds benefits and salaries FIRST and is in the business of educating students SECOND.

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| 28 | Have someone check the books to see how so much money can be lost and then found. There is a problem with the financial office for that to happen. Stop blaming the budget on the teachers salaries and health benefits. We have some of the best teachers around and we need them. They have more required to teach each year and they are always threatened with loosing pay or benefits. Promises are made through the contracts every 3 years and NPS always seems to break them. Find out where the lost money has been disappearing to. | Nov 21, 2012 7:40 AM |
| 29 | Parents bring in supplies and that is fine if they can afford it. School Administrators and officials in City Hall have pretty big salaries cuts should come from there, not teacher cuts. Push electronic emails for families. If there are families who do not have computers, have a program so that other families can donate to them. | Nov 21, 2012 5:48 AM |
| 30 | I haven't received a raise in over 5 years. My benefits are horrible and worsen. Teachers need to realize how lucky they are. | Nov 20, 2012 4:12 PM |
| 31 | Pretty streets and new buildings won't keep families in Norwalk. Strong well funded schools will. | Nov 20, 2012 1:43 PM |
| 32 | Stop buying boats and candy | Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM |
| 33 | Absolutely no cuts should be made what needs to be looked at is how important everyones job is and how much they actually take away from the budget that be going towards our schools and the children. Example how many in the board of ed as well as principals/teachers get a voucher for gas and only live around the corner. | Nov 20, 2012 1:12 PM |
| 34 | Union head cuts and firing everyone and rehiring according to merit like in New Hampshire. How can those receiving increases sleep at night knowing their colleagues are being fired and kids are being penalized? I don't understand that. | Nov 20, 2012 1:10 PM |
| 35 | Teachers should absolutely be paid fairly and given benefits WITHOUT cuts in our schools. What needs to STOP is the insane pensions and teacher payouts to teachers that DO NOT perform. We will be continually playing catch up with our school budget if the unrealistic pension does not cease or change. It is just not common sense to cut our schools any further - its the teachers union that needs to be cut. They are taking advantage of our community and country. BTW - the board of ed needs to be reassessed as well. | Nov 19, 2012 10:11 AM |
| 36 | Mke the ECS fair. Norwalk should not receive half the amount of ECs funds that Danbury receives. | Nov 19, 2012 8:47 AM |
| 37 | This was a failure in administrative planning. The public was told that the debacle occurred due to Finance's inability to properly calculate the IBNR (incurred but not yet reported) expenses. This information should have been | Nov 19, 2012 7:42 AM |

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

known BEFORE negotiating teacher salaries and benefits. Why are teachers' salaries and benefits increasing year over year. The rest of the economy is experiencing a pay freeze or a pay reduction. Why should teachers/staff be immune?

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| 38 | The students in Norwalk are at a terrible disadvantage. The saddest part is not all of it has to do with a lack of funding. The teachers need to step it up. Norwalk needs to do a better job of training the teachers. Teachers need to visit other high performing districts. This does not cost anything and they will see how terribly behind they are in their practices. New Canaan, Greenwich, Westport - these school districts offer FREE examples of exemplary teaching. Furthermore, the Board of Ed and Teachers Union need to start working together. They need to be more professional. Library Clerks who are largely untrained are not good enough in an information based society. We need Certified Library Media specialists. | Nov 19, 2012 7:05 AM |
| 39 | The existing funding needs to be examined thoroughly and any waste needs to be eliminated. If there are administrators that are employed that do not have the best interests of the children at heart and are not fully working towards the goal of ensuring the children of Norwalk are receiving the best education available the position they hold needs to be re-examined and evaluated for elimination. Teachers should be held accountable and evaluated quarterly. The curriculum should be examined and measured. Acquire additional funding through the state. Devote staff to writing grants to the Federal Government to not only serve children during school hours but provide safe zones for children outside of hours. There is federal funding for entitites who have a mission to dedicate resources toward strengthening their forces in the areas of Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics. Instead of have Briggs serve children that are not a good fit for regular schools, we should focus on creating a skill based school in Norwalk, i.e., Wright Tech in Stamford and Bullard Havens in Bridgeport. We must recognize that all children do not learn at the same rate and do not have the same interests. We need to foster the interests of children and give them the tools they need to be able to support themselves in the future. | Nov 19, 2012 4:12 AM |
| 40 | Any other than cutting teachers salaries, they do already take the extra work on them for the same salary. Maybe re-evalute how the current taxes are divided. Education should always BE the most important rute for taxes. | Nov 18, 2012 7:49 PM |
| 41 | It is important that Norwalk recognizes the value of Columbus Magnet school, and continues to maintain this city gem. At Columbus, children learn in a way that instills curiosity and a love of learning. Columbus offers a choice in Norwalk for parents who seek a different learning environment for their children. Without Columbus, many families would leave Norwalk or send their children to private school - Norwalk needs Columbus and Columbus needs Norwalk. | Nov 18, 2012 6:18 PM |
| 42 | I believe the teacher should have had a salary freeze like many other schools did the last 2-3 years (private schools did - even Ivy League colleges did). I am not asking for a salary cut, just a 1 year salary freeze for all teachers - all staff - and all admin at every level of the Norwalk PS and Board of education. | Nov 18, 2012 4:42 PM |
| 43 | Access the productivity of "seasoned" teachers to make sure they are worthy of their high salaries. It is ok to pay for length of service as long as they are worth | Nov 18, 2012 11:27 AM |

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

it.

44	Difficult to answer without having more detailed info on sources and uses of funds.	Nov 17, 2012 6:21 PM
45	Get rid of current Board they are not doing the job and looked puzzled when there was a 4 million dollar shortfall...isn't it their job to look after the money? I believe Dr. Marks was a sacrificial lamb. Our property values took a hit because our school system is in such disarray. I should run for the Board then you'll see changes starting with the Unions.	Nov 17, 2012 2:54 PM
46	Cut some of the positions at the central office. No teacher cuts!	Nov 17, 2012 10:53 AM
47	Fire the bad teachers and administrators	Nov 16, 2012 9:57 PM
48	Re-evaluate funding to the charter schools - best practices at the charter schools should be instituted city-wide so ALL the students benefit. Elementary schools should not need charter schools - they should all be learning the basics of reading writing and math. STOP sending Special Needs students out of district - hire the appropriate staff required to educate ALL the students of Norwalk. Make a 3 year plan that includes purchasing school buses so we do not need to have a contract with outside companies and the bus drivers can be available to work only for Norwalk schools per diem. Make the curriculum the same city-wide for all the schools - same books and materials.	Nov 16, 2012 4:54 PM
49	Please review the alternate plans already sent to the Board of Ed at the of the school year last year. Parents are very tired of being bullied by the BOE and by the teachers union. Our children are stuck in the middle and they are not receiving the best education possible. As a parent I have donated time, supplies, effort and of course money (which I really don't have).	Nov 16, 2012 1:31 PM
50	Raise the money and improve the schools and you will have more people move and stay in town that can afford to pay the taxes that support the school. We are considering moving out of town next year because of what happened to the school budget last year. We should be constantly adding to the school budget, not dealing with reductions off a budget that was submitted flat to the year before.	Nov 16, 2012 7:40 AM
51	1. Tax cuts and incentives for local businesses supporting our schools and educational programs; 2. Finding new sources for financing, such as Government Programs, Foundations, Charities, Endowments, etc. 3. Tighter spending and budget controls and removing programs and initiatives with little to no educational value.	Nov 16, 2012 7:23 AM
52	It's a whole package proposition: no stone should be left unturned. ECS is an obvious choice, but there are ways Norwalk can control their destiny too. My top choices would be to look at: Reaportion city funding District administration excess Teacher contracts People need to stop thinking that a big BOE budget is a bad thing-- it's one of the few things that the city has that directly correlates with property values.	Nov 16, 2012 6:42 AM
53	We need a better Board of Education made up of individuals who are focused on	Nov 16, 2012 4:47 AM

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

the schools and negotiation, not the next step in their political career. The superintendent and Board of Ed also needs to stop communicating "the sky is falling" when budget cuts need to occur. Budget cuts are a fact of life in all sectors. The tactic is overdone and over used. In the end NPS miraculously "finds" the money, making all the previous tactical scare a moot point.

54	How long is Norwalk going to get eleven million dollars only for the school year. Is that forever. That seems absurd to me .Costs go up and we should be getting more money from the state. Why is state education budget underfunded. We need more funds to roll out common core!!!!!!	Nov 15, 2012 12:27 PM
55	How long is Norwalk going to get eleven million dollars only for the school year. Is that forever. That seems absurd to me .Costs go up and we should be getting more money from the state. Why is state education budget underfunded. We need more funds to roll out common core!!!!!!	Nov 15, 2012 12:27 PM
56	Reduce administration overhead and compensation of the top earning echelon (principals, superintendents, asst superintendents, house masters) Salaries seem excessively high while starting teachers make so little and can't easily weather such cuts. The teachers are the ones in the rooms with our kids and officials in these other positions are earning well over six figures.	Nov 15, 2012 2:02 AM
57	renegotiate admin salaries and benefits I haven't had a raise in 5 years, why are teachers/admin. entitled to a raise. I think a pay freeze is a good idea like what was suggested earlier.	Nov 14, 2012 5:59 PM
58	Review where money is not being used properly and allocate it to areas that need it.	Nov 14, 2012 5:17 PM
59	Eliminate unnecessary spending, and jobs in the Norwalk Central Office. Cutting faculty, staff, aids, intervention specialists, librarians, assistant principals, etc. in the schools only hurts the students and negatively effects learning outcomes. We are cutting in the wrong places and the student's education is paying the price!	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 PM
60	Public sector has had to pay for benefits and health care .. Teachers need to be at par with public sector	Nov 14, 2012 4:45 PM
61	NO MORE CUTS.	Nov 14, 2012 2:17 PM
62	do things better and cheaper	Nov 14, 2012 1:55 PM
63	Ask the parents to pay for after school programs and help fund the extras such as orchestra,band, after school sports and other non essential programs. This way everyone doesn't pay taxes for these things but those that want teh programs can pay for the programs. There are plenty of programs outside of school- sports, music dance etc that people pay extra for so why not in the schools. Common sense. AND EVERYONE I have talked too, including some teachers, this says the same thing. And I have heard that this has been proposed but no response from the Board of Ed.	Nov 14, 2012 1:42 PM
64	Stop providing summer camp and educational assistants for all identified special	Nov 14, 2012 12:44 PM

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

education students.. Use the States regression model. If a child does not regress over winter break they do not summer programs. - Offer retirement packages to over paid teacher who have been teaching for over 30 years and are ineffective!

65	I honestly just don't have the answer.	Nov 14, 2012 12:38 PM
66	Referring to "Reapportion city funding to fully fund the Board of Education budget requests) As beautiful as Calf Pasture now is, it drives me crazy that there is a new tropical themed boardwalk, a huge minimalist sculpture, and other new acquisitions at the beach, yet there is not enough money to properly educate our town's children.	Nov 14, 2012 10:18 AM
67	There isn't a silver bullet that will address the current situation. I believe everything should be looked at and there isn't one item listed above that should be looked at in a vacuum. In regards to ECS, that is a fight that all of our legislators (democrat and republican) have been fighting for decades. It shouldn't even be on the list above since we can not effect a change and the State as a whole needs to address the formula.	Nov 14, 2012 10:14 AM
68	Long term vision, planning and careful budgeting involving all parties need to be first and foremost if this issue is ever to be resolved. The Board of Education in cooperation with the Teachers' Union and other city agencies such as the Board of Estimates need to form an executive committee to put forward a long term plan multi-year budget that may require sacrifice by all parties. It is clear that there are issues regarding budget development and oversight in the office of the Superintendent of Schools. There is also a lack of transparency regarding the budget reconciliation and public reporting of the realities of the situation. The Teacher's Union needs a reality check based upon the current fiscal climate; salaries and benefits that were standard for members in the past may be no longer viable in today's economy. Additionally, taxpayers may need to contribute to elevate Norwalk's School system which, in turn, will elevate property values and attract quality residents.	Nov 14, 2012 10:05 AM
69	At the high school level, have students pay to play a sport.	Nov 14, 2012 9:57 AM
70	Similar to all education providers throughout the US, costs are increasing exponentially due to the inevitable rise in labor costs, pension plans, technology, and building upgrades. It merely costs more to run educational institutions these days than it did in the past. I would offer teachers and staff a 401-k package for retirement savings with no contributions from the District. I would also require all teachers and staff to contribute to their health plans -- similar to the typical contribution made in the private sector. Since technology is here to stay, we must figure out a long term plan that minimizes the cost of obsolescence. Leasing equipment or requiring students to invest in their own computers/handhelds may be the only option as we move forward. We can't afford to pay 10's of thousands of dollars for equipment that becomes obsolete in 3-4 years. The obsolescence time frame will only be getting shorter in the future. Until we can resolve the issues mentioned, Norwalk taxpayers have to invest more in their students. We can not afford to make anymore teacher or administration cuts. We need leadership and small class size as we move ahead with the current educational framework. In the long term, we must	Nov 14, 2012 9:32 AM

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

address this framework and be prepared to think outside the box towards districts that have found ways to effectively cut costs. I have a feeling we either have to invest in teachers or technology. I don't think we'll be able to afford both.

71	Cuts are not the answer long term - have a long term plan and finding outside sources willing to help fund the plan is! We've got to start somewhere. Seems we're throwing in the towel this year. While we're soliciting feedback, we cannot hope to add to the budget and would expect cuts.	Nov 14, 2012 9:02 AM
72	They already cut supplies budgets, teachers, administrators, salary freezes, renegotiated benefits.	Nov 14, 2012 7:35 AM
73	During the budget issues last summer, I read in the paper that the closing of Columbus School could possibly save lots of dollars in the budget. This should be considered.	Nov 14, 2012 7:34 AM
74	the students should not suffer because of this huge oversight. do NOT cut anything that impacts the quality of the children's education and enrichment	Nov 14, 2012 7:23 AM
75	The children are our countries future. All the money spent on education is an investment in a strong America.	Nov 14, 2012 7:21 AM
76	Renegotiate retirees benefits and spouses. LET RITA GALBO RUN THE DEPT!!!!!!	Nov 14, 2012 7:20 AM
77	No more taxes. We have to also share true facts. The city will share the percentage of how many homeowners of real taxpayers foot the bill for schools but they don't show how many children of renter's use our school system.	Nov 14, 2012 7:07 AM
78	Well, our Mayor of course makes ALOT of dollars, why couldn't he forgo a percentage of his salary to make up a portion of the difference. The school system is divided so profoundly that we as a town should some how get together and work as ONE town, not sections.....making it easier to budget within the system. I know certain schools have private donations through out the year.....can't every school have some sort of "Angel investor" to make education successful for the whole town? Since storm Sandy, we all have had some sort of challenge. Let's remind ourselves that our children come first, not our material instant gratification mind set.	Nov 14, 2012 6:41 AM
79	I think the City needs to rethink how they fund the school budget. While I am not in favor of raising taxes I do think that low balling the education budget by the City is a mistake. The recession has effected municipal budgets but the "crisis" mode effecting the educational budget process is not the way to approach it. The us vs. them mentality is ineffective and unnecessary. It pits school against school and teachers against city decision makers. It is not a budget process that is business as usual and should not be treated that way. I think the teacher's should have accepted a hard freeze which would have helped.	Nov 14, 2012 6:23 AM
80	These are our children. They are the future. They deserve to go on field trips, have special programs at school, and have extra sports etc.	Nov 14, 2012 6:20 AM
81	Subsidized fees for education	Nov 14, 2012 6:12 AM

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

82	I think the board needs to take a good look at ALL the positions in the schools from teachers to admin and see if they really need as many as they have. In my experience of going through the school system, my boys are both now in high school, I have been very involved in their schooling and I have seen areas that need to be re-evaluated. Do we really need all those aids? Do we need so many assistant principals and at times a third one? Do the middle school really need to go on all those field trips? (Boston and Nature's classroom) I think if the WHOLE system was looked at we could find areas that could be cut or reduced which would increase some of our funds. When I went to school (we had LESS schools here also) but we didn't have all these EXTRA people helping out - it was the JOB of the teachers and principal...and we all turned out fine! Maybe if more pressure was put on the parents to get involved then we wouldn't need all the extra salaries we are paying out.	Nov 14, 2012 4:51 AM
83	Change the retirement benefits and stop hiring back retired people. Lower the MANDATORY union dues so staff can have that money in thier pay check.	Nov 14, 2012 4:26 AM
84	Better transparent accounting of all incoming and outgoing funds	Nov 14, 2012 3:27 AM
85	We need a strong leader for Norwalk Public Schools. We need a superintendent who is able to work with the city, but also able to stand up to politicians and also to the Board of Education when necessary. We need direction for our school district. The financial situation of our city and our country is not going to improve tomorrow. We need to have good leadership and direction as soon as possilbe.	Nov 13, 2012 6:47 PM
86	Can Norwalk really not "find" money to support it's future. Better schools equals more family coming (or staying) in Norwalk. Well educated children grow up to make better choices. Having clubs, sports and afterschool activities give children something to do and somewhere they can belong (they can thrive and want to be apart of something positive). Hopefully these can both help the crime problem Norwalk is facing.	Nov 13, 2012 6:30 PM
87	Norwalk has many great teachers, but there are some who should not be teaching. We have experienced them in all levels, including elementary, middle school and high school. It will be interesting to see if the new State evaluation process will allow Norwalk to finally get rid of them. Many of these inadequate teachers are paid the highest salaries and have been in the system for many years. As a side note to the point above, renegotiate contract so teachers are paid based on performance ie merit, not solely on length of service.	Nov 13, 2012 6:18 PM
88	hire an independent auditor to find out where the funds are going the most and gow to better manage what we do have.	Nov 13, 2012 6:12 PM
89	Teachers should be reviewed annually and rated as those are in the coproate world. YOur raise or lack thereof is directly effected by your performance. There should be no such thing as tenure for teachers.	Nov 13, 2012 6:08 PM
90	Cut all assistant principals at the elementary level, they do not teach the students. Reinstate the librarians to full time at every school because they do work with the students.	Nov 13, 2012 5:16 PM
91	Lower Board of Education administrative expenses -- do you all need assistants	Nov 13, 2012 4:38 PM

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

and secretaries? And when one calls, they are not there to answer the phones!

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| 92 | Use "continuous process improvement" to eliminate waste and fraud, identify opportunities to get more out of what we have/use. If we measure it, we can improve it. | Nov 13, 2012 2:10 PM |
| 93 | Close wolf pit, and silver mine. | Nov 13, 2012 1:53 PM |
| 94 | I think that the town should look at redistricting schools. I also believe that children should have to go back to the schools in their district. There are too many games being played in which school kids are attending. Do you ever ask people to prove what district they live in after they register for kindergarten???? | Nov 13, 2012 1:09 PM |
| 95 | Cut out the politics associated with the BOE and get someone in there to manage the budget needs and funding as though it were a publicly-traded business, with everything transparent to the NPS "shareholders/student-families". | Nov 13, 2012 12:56 PM |
| 96 | This isn't an "other", but rather a comment on ways to fund the schools. - "Raise taxes" could include increasing use/access fees and business tariffs, not just upping the property tax. - "Renegotiate teacher benefits" at a minimum should include review/cleanup of health benefits extended to non-eligible relatives. - ECS funding should be fair/proportional before ANY taxes/levies/fees are raised or implemented. | Nov 13, 2012 12:46 PM |
| 97 | I would check administrative, but I would mean for central office. Get rid of the remaining department district department heads. I think that there needs to be a hard look at where money is being wasted, not where we can cut much needed funds like salaries, staffing, buildings and materials??? there are already not enough materials and teachers buy their own or send out for grants! One of the main issues behind resolving budget issues has to do with respect or the lack of it for the schools, the workers and the kids. Everything eventually trickles down to affecting the kids. It is such a shame that our leadership on all sides of the table are so short sighted to their own agendas. | Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM |
| 98 | My taxes have doubled in the past 7 years. Our classroom numbers are too big to close locations. Perhaps redistricting is more appropriate. Like those of us in the private sector, teachers, administrators and staff need to understand that there is no more money for raises or better benefits. I'm not asking that they give back, I'm asking that they don't get increases at this time. Norwalk needs to honor its contracts, whomever negotiates this contract and others in the district must have a long term vision for Norwalk. If we continue to threaten teachers and administrators that we are eliminating their positions every year, good ones will work elsewhere. Politics has no place in the education of my children. | Nov 13, 2012 11:44 AM |
| 99 | During this mess last summer the city spent how much on palm trees at the beach? Could this money have been better spent in the board of Ed ? During this time we approved a new gazebo in a park? Norwalk has its priorities screwed up when it comes to crisis which is what the BOE experienced this past summer. The wonderful bond rating means nothing if the schools here go to heck and back! A good school system is speaking to future Norwalkers, not that we have a Lowes or a BJS? As people it's out schools that matter !!!!! | Nov 13, 2012 11:26 AM |

Q7. What do you think is the best solution to resolving budget issues going forward for the Norwalk Public Schools?

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| 100 | re-organization in all areas....start completely over! work backwards...every year it is the same thing..not enough money but the amount we do have should be enough! this city is in a downward spiral! Someone who knows, lives and cares about norwalk needs to be on board with this...and take charge! we need to stop whinning about what we dont have a make it work...then make the appropirate requests for funding. their needs to be game plan to work towards...everyone can deal with cuts if there is a plan to get them back and grow from there. i dont know everything but what i have observed is lack of leadership and determination. those meetings last spring/ summer with everyone getting up to speak was crazy! and a waste of time. we dont have half of what other towns have and we need tell you and beg for those bare bones things to remain in the budget! Come on! it is all a game...and you get away with it because our lack of interested norwalk audience! good luck! | Nov 13, 2012 11:17 AM |
| 101 | I must say that I think there is probably still more low-level administrative staff than necessary at the Central Office and in some of the schools. | Nov 13, 2012 11:15 AM |
| 102 | verify residency annually. put all children back into their home district. only teachers should receive this benefit close briggs. it's a shame the money that is pumped into operating that school when the children do not even show up I would imagine the taxpayer would be astonished at the cost/student ratio. redistrict? (renegotiae teachers benefits) Put a retirement age in place Do away with a pension and move to a 401K. | Nov 13, 2012 11:11 AM |

Q8. What are you willing to do to support the Norwalk Public Schools during the budget process?

1	I already volunteer at school - volunteers do not replace skilled staff and teachers!	Nov 26, 2012 8:16 AM
2	Gather together to problem solve more solutions	Nov 21, 2012 3:39 PM
3	It's absolutely exhausting to be a parent in Norwalk. If you want better programs you have to beg for them or fund them or do them yourself. Many people hire tutors or drive their kids all over for club sports. Teacher benefits are not affordable. 80% of the annual budget goes to highly compensated tenured teachers and retirement benefits of teachers of yore at the cost of my childrens' educational and athletic experience. I've volunteered countless hours attended many meetings to no avail. Parents calls for change are not heeded as the real dealings happen behind the scenes in back door meetings.	Nov 21, 2012 8:25 AM
4	Unfortunately I don't have time... I work 12 hours a day as it is.	Nov 21, 2012 5:48 AM
5	I work and youngest is 3 so it is hard to attend meetings/go to Hartford. My husband gets home late	Nov 20, 2012 4:12 PM
6	Go on my boat	Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM
7	i have done it all for 6 years and nothing has improved, gives me little faith sadly any of it.	Nov 20, 2012 1:10 PM
8	I have already volunteered more to make up for the losses but having volunteers doesn't make up for the staff losses.	Nov 18, 2012 4:40 PM
9	Run for BOE	Nov 17, 2012 2:54 PM
10	attend meetings as needed	Nov 16, 2012 4:54 PM
11	I don't mind volunteering, but it allows the schools to replace people with skills and talents that the schools need.	Nov 16, 2012 2:06 PM
12	I have attended meetings, signed petitions, volunteer at school, and wrote many letters to date.	Nov 16, 2012 1:31 PM
13	Support materially our school	Nov 16, 2012 7:23 AM
14	I was so disheartened by the Board of Ed and Common Council meetings and behavior of the members last June - it will be hard to get me to go to another one of those meetings.	Nov 15, 2012 9:06 AM
15	No more taxes until the status quo is gone!	Nov 14, 2012 5:32 PM
16	Additional volunteers should not replace trained or more experience people!	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 PM
17	Volunteers are not going to replace trained employees. Taxes for the elderly and people that are struggling can't afford to pay higher taxes.	Nov 14, 2012 2:17 PM
18	Fundraisers, More in tax you have got to be kidding we pay enough already and have nothing to show for it.....	Nov 14, 2012 12:38 PM
19	Many parents and students showed up at the BOE meeting and their voice was	Nov 14, 2012 10:14 AM

Q8. What are you willing to do to support the Norwalk Public Schools during the budget process?

not heard. Why should any of us extend ourselves again if the BOE will institute the Superintendent's plans blindly and without adjustment.

20	try to help teachers as needed	Nov 14, 2012 7:23 AM
21	I think that pressure needs to be put on the budget cap and getting more ECS funding. Any civil organized events are worth participating that is free from personal attacks and focuses on how to reasonably acheive goals is worth participating.	Nov 14, 2012 6:23 AM
22	I already put in at least 5 - 10 hours a week for which i am not paid.	Nov 14, 2012 4:26 AM
23	I couldn't possibly volunteer more and still work full time...	Nov 13, 2012 12:46 PM
24	support my PTO's and local budget process	Nov 13, 2012 11:44 AM
25	i do so much for my elementary school. from donating my time in the classroom as needed to donating money. i am doing my part! i think the district is given enough money. the problem is the money is mismanaged district wise! we can make it work but someone needs to be responisble! the old saying in norwalk..once the program is cut it never comes back! well, that is a problem because you keep spending it somewhere! i really had high hopes for this town and now i see why others choose to go elsewhere!	Nov 13, 2012 11:17 AM
26	I don't think I could possible be at our school any more there about 2 hours a day now	Nov 12, 2012 12:26 PM

Q9. What do you think about the \$1.8 million dollars the Norwalk Public Schools had to borrow from the city last year because of budget problems?

1	Seriously, how can the BOE repay a loan without making further cuts? We need "adds," not more cuts!	Dec 7, 2012 6:20 AM
2	An external forensic audit of all financial statements is in order to assure parents (and tax payers) that not fraudulent activity occurred and to make sure that high risk areas are identified. The mismanagement of these finances raises all sorts of red flags that are not being addressed at all. Those who mismanaged the funds need to be held accountable.	Dec 3, 2012 8:17 AM
3	If the city of Norwalk can give money to the Golf Course then it should be no problem for them to give money for the future residents of Norwalk.	Dec 3, 2012 3:57 AM
4	For next questions all these dates are passed!!	Dec 2, 2012 3:48 PM
5	obviously there is some \$ available- where is the \$ going- i see no improvement in anything in norwalk- except the calf pasture improvement plan , which was a loss because all changes were demolished with the hurricane-	Nov 29, 2012 5:58 PM
6	If loan is forgiven some sort of agreement should be made and made public that any such error will never be forgiven again and personal will be eliminated	Nov 28, 2012 7:36 PM
7	not quite sure.	Nov 28, 2012 7:10 PM
8	Perhaps the City of Norwalk should look at its overall city budget to figure out where else to make cuts as opposed to the education of our children.	Nov 28, 2012 11:12 AM
9	Depends if money was legitimately needed or needed because of mismanagement. If legitimate, then forgive the loan.	Nov 28, 2012 9:47 AM
10	Why did NPS need to borrow 1.8 million dollars ? There is a funding problem for our education and it is unfair to hold NPS Accountable that way.	Nov 28, 2012 7:31 AM
11	If the city of norwalk as the surplus to spare they should forgive the loan. If not...allow more time for BOE to repay the loan. The city is developing in commerical and residential real estate, so the city will be eventually reaping revenue in the future. Investing in the public school system will obly make the city more attractive.	Nov 27, 2012 8:28 AM
12	I need to understand more about the use of the \$1.8M	Nov 26, 2012 2:05 PM
13	depends on how the budget was mismanaged	Nov 26, 2012 1:25 PM
14	Again I don't know enough about it.	Nov 26, 2012 12:47 PM
15	if that's needed	Nov 24, 2012 6:35 AM
16	Shameful!	Nov 21, 2012 3:40 PM
17	DO NOT LOAN THE SCHOOLS MONEY. The schools are starting off the next budget year in the hole. Fund the schools properly.	Nov 21, 2012 8:25 AM
18	BOE officials need to lower their administrative salaries and pay this back. Gross mismanagement, there needs to be more accountability and let each	Nov 21, 2012 5:48 AM

Q9. What do you think about the \$1.8 million dollars the Norwalk Public Schools had to borrow from the city last year because of budget problems?

school who added to this debt to find a way to pay it back.

19	It shouldn't even be considered a loan.	Nov 20, 2012 4:12 PM
20	Thats a lot of candy	Nov 20, 2012 1:17 PM
21	not sure	Nov 20, 2012 1:12 PM
22	They should figure out why they needed to borrow the money in the first place, make a plan that prevents furthering borrowing and find a better use for current money.	Nov 20, 2012 11:12 AM
23	hire a competent financial team to take charge of our budget. No more mistakes. Who was accountable for that oversight by the way? Was anyone made accountable, other than our kids?	Nov 19, 2012 10:11 AM
24	not sure	Nov 19, 2012 7:05 AM
25	Everyone needs to find out what the caused this shortfall. There is missing money. The city of norwalk should support the schools.	Nov 19, 2012 4:12 AM
26	How could the Norwalk Public Schools not have a CFO for so many years? That is totally unacceptable, the BOE should not be held responsible, the loan should be forgiven now that the position is filled and this can never happen again.	Nov 18, 2012 6:32 PM
27	Why was there a shortfall in the first place? No one knows or they are not saying...this has been going on for years.	Nov 17, 2012 2:54 PM
28	and then have an audit by an outside vendor to prevent the poor management from happening again	Nov 16, 2012 4:54 PM
29	Where was the money really lost to?. We need to find the leak. More money won't help if we don't.	Nov 16, 2012 1:31 PM
30	The City of Norwalk should find other sources of financing	Nov 16, 2012 7:23 AM
31	Don't know enough about this issue.	Nov 16, 2012 6:42 AM
32	We should not have had to borrow it!	Nov 14, 2012 5:17 PM
33	I think the BOE made huge mistakes and the students and staff in our schools should not have to pay the price for their wrongs.	Nov 14, 2012 4:46 PM
34	Maybe they can offer to forgive the loan if gains are made on test scores ...	Nov 14, 2012 12:44 PM
35	They collect enough from the taxpayers let the city figure it out. It took them 4 yrs to figure out they had an accounting error!!!	Nov 14, 2012 12:38 PM
36	I have not seen the loan document (terms, rate, etc) and can not comment but either way, the loan should NOT be forgiven.	Nov 14, 2012 10:14 AM
37	Hopefully we have heftier fiscal management now and mistakes like this will never happen again.	Nov 14, 2012 9:32 AM

Q9. What do you think about the \$1.8 million dollars the Norwalk Public Schools had to borrow from the city last year because of budget problems?

38	just this once be forgiven but thats it - get people in that know what they are doing and hold them ACCOUNTABLE	Nov 14, 2012 9:09 AM
39	These children are our future	Nov 14, 2012 7:54 AM
40	I'll sit out on this one. The account system went south.	Nov 14, 2012 7:07 AM
41	tax write off, come on town of norwalk.....	Nov 14, 2012 6:41 AM
42	It's just an interdepartmental transfer coming from taxes - so to pay it back, you have to raise taxes.	Nov 14, 2012 3:56 AM
43	My understanding is the accounting staff made a mistake on the budget. The people responsible for the mistake should find the funds elsewhere.	Nov 13, 2012 7:59 PM
44	Those administrators should be penalized as well.	Nov 13, 2012 7:13 PM
45	Obviously I have mixed feelings about this. The error should not have been possible. However, I don't think the schools should be penalized if the BOE is making sure we won't have this problem in the future.	Nov 13, 2012 6:47 PM
46	Again: Can Norwalk really not "find" money to support it's future.	Nov 13, 2012 6:30 PM
47	Renegotiate teacher benefits	Nov 13, 2012 3:10 PM
48	Schools are our city's future	Nov 13, 2012 3:05 PM
49	Forgive loan if city has a surplus to cover it, otherwise give more time.	Nov 13, 2012 2:10 PM
50	I am not a fan of dept under any circumstances. Kicking the can down the road is not helpful!!	Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM
51	and check the administration- the main loss of money came directly from the central office's lack of accountability and responsibility. The first two items hurt everyone in the school except those actually responsible for the problems!	Nov 13, 2012 12:20 PM
52	Norwalk City needs to make education a priority	Nov 13, 2012 11:44 AM
53	They've made the cuts, now pay the bills	Nov 13, 2012 11:31 AM
54	only creating more debt for norwalk schools! even stamford is head of us in all areas! so sad! because i think norwalk is better city than stamford.	Nov 13, 2012 11:17 AM
55	the was a 'gentlemen's deal between moccia, ditrio and mellion.	Nov 13, 2012 11:11 AM
56	Give us the same deal the Golf Course received (very long repayment terms)	Nov 13, 2012 10:47 AM