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Joshua P. Starr, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

January 14, 2010

Mrs. Jackie Heftman  
President  
Stamford Board of Education

Re: 2010-11 Superintendent's Budget Request

Dear Mrs. Heftman:

Attached for your consideration is an Operating Budget in the amount of \$223,706,265 (1.96%) and a Grants Budget in the amount of \$21,898,991.

Considerable effort was expended to develop a budget that preserves positions and enables us to continue our instructional reform effort. My budget request is driven by the Strategic District Improvement Plan and attends to State and Federal Mandates. This year, due to the arbitrator's decision regarding the SEA Contract, ARRA funds and the final year of the GE Developing Futures grant, I can bring forward a budget that sustains our momentum yet is as cost conscious as possible.

Many areas in the budget were pared down to a bare minimum to assist the BOE and City Officials to bring in a spending plan that reflects the current fiscal climate. As you can see from our highlights chart (section 3, page 16), when non-controllable items (such as Other Post Employment Benefits-OPEB and Pension Cost) are removed from my Spending Plan, the increase is 1.86% and if my investment in Literacy were removed, the increase is 1.79%

I look forward to your support to bring forth this budget. I believe it will enable us to build on the progress of our educational reforms that have helped prepare our children for college and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Sincerely,

Joshua P. Starr, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools