

April 13, 2021, Q & A: Budget Facts – \$2.9M in Funding

Dear North Shore Parents, Community Members, and Faculty,

Q. Dr. G., Did the NS BOE increase the 2019-20 budget by \$2.9 million without voter approval?

A. Fact. It is true that the District experienced savings as a result of the Spring 2020 school closures and utilized \$2.9M of this to reopen our schools and facilitate the full return of all students in K-8 amid the Covid-19 pandemic. It is **not true** that this unprecedented use has been deemed to be illegal or an inappropriate use of taxpayer funds. This included \$2.7M in funding for one-time expenses in vital PPE, security, staffing, ventilation and filtration improvements, instructional materials, and outdoor learning canopies, for our students and staff. This funding allocation was publicly discussed in great detail with the Board of Education at a special meeting on August 24, 2020 with our school and district leadership. It also included a \$200K allocation to fund intensive and ongoing professional development for our faculty in remote learning through Columbia University. The funding was made in full and complete consultation with our attorneys and auditors and did not change the voter-approved tax levy. Voter approval was not required for this funding.

Please visit <http://www.northshoreschools.org/boe/Budget.html> for current and past budget information.

Have a good day!

All the best,



Dr. Peter Giarrizzo

Superintendent of Schools