

March 23, 2020

To RSU 16 School Board and Community Members,

This last week has been a trying and complicated week to say the least. As the Coronavirus Pandemic sweeps across our state and nation we are coming to grips with what our new normal might or will become.

We were scheduled to hold our first remote School Board Meeting on the budget on Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 6:00 PM. After consulting with Mary Martin, RSU 16 School Board Chair we have decided to cancel this budget meeting and come out with a new budget schedule.

Of all the many things we need to get right the first time the school budget is right at the top of the list. There are just too many unknowns about school budgeting and subsidy right now, that I'm not confident that we will be doing our students, employees and taxpayers any favors if we submit a budget for consideration in the midst of this crisis.

I will be sending out a new 2020-2021 budget schedule in the next day or two, adjusting the budget schedule to align to the State Election Date of June 9, 2020. Hopefully by that time we can consider the school budget with a better vision of what our economic future looks like in the wake of the Coronavirus Crisis.

Our regularly scheduled School Board Meeting will go as scheduled on April 13, 2020 at 6:30 PM. This meeting is planned to be done remotely, using the video conferencing platform Zoom. Details on how to participate in this remote School Board Meeting will be forthcoming in future updates.

Thank you all for your patience during these very uncertain times, this is new to all of us. Please stay safe and healthy in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Ken Healey