

I believe the BOE may view some of the questions as broad, not related to the BOF, or controversial. The simple reality is these are the questions my constituents ask me about the BOE. They know the BOE will not answer questions. The BOE typically does not respond to my constituents emails. Prior to public comment at a BOE meeting the Chairman informs the citizens, *“The Board and the Administration will not respond to questions or engage in dialogue during the public comment period. The Board and the Administration will determine when and how to address questions that arise during the public comment period.”*

Typically, the BOE does not respond to my constituent’s concerns. They also wonder how the BOE could ever respond to a citizen’s concerns *legally* within the rules of the Freedom of Information Act if they don’t discuss the question in public. As an example in your response to my questions you stated: *“With all of that said, the Superintendent was up front with members of the board of education about his familiarity with Liberty Landscaping since December 2022 when the topic of addressing the outdoor athletic complex needs first came up.”*

Which public meeting did that occur in? I may have missed it, and if so, I apologize. I also didn’t see a response to the question, *“When did the BOE authorize the use of public resources to send a cease and desist letter to a citizen?”* I understand the BOE’s position is that the Superintendent met the minimum ethics requirements. However, I believe my constituents expect more from me- and I don’t administer their children’s education.

The comment about Dr. Hewes’s raise wasn’t intended to scrutinize the current Assistant Superintendent’s salary. The comment was intended to highlight the transparency issues my continents believe exist regarding non-union raises.

With respect to the Assistant Superintendent’s salary, I am well aware she likely joined the district for the purpose of advancing her career and not for the salary. I am curious if she wishes to share her concerns with her salary with the community. Is the below table accurate (and I understand 2023 was a year in which she spent time in both South Windsor and Colchester)?

	2022 to 2023	2023 to 2024	2023 to 2024	2024 to 2025	2025 to 2026
	South Windsor	South Windsor	Colchester	Colchester	Colchester
<b>Base Salary</b>	\$179,500	\$184,885	\$172,000	\$178,020	\$184,251
<b>Annuity</b>	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$13,760	\$14,242	\$15,381
<b>Travel Stipend</b>	\$2,350	\$2,350	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
<b>Total</b>	\$184,850	\$190,235	\$187,760	\$194,262	\$201,632

The questions where I asked for the BOE to provide each union position and step was not intended to elicit their names; although their name and salary would be considered public records and available to a citizen who asked. The intent was for more information; for example, “Kindergarten: two certified step 7, one certified step 9” . This year’s BOE budget book is 61 pages and consists mostly of a PowerPoint presentation. For comparison, the BOE’s [2018-2019 budget book](#) is dense with information and was 217 pages in length. The members of this BOE have adopted a policy of providing minimal information and my constituents want more information.

The data from Table 1 and Table 2 are from [Edsight, "Per Pupil Expenditures by Function \(District\)"](#).

If the BOE will have a presentation on this topic, could that information be added to the agenda soon? This will give myself and interested citizens an opportunity to digest the information and ask better questions.

My understanding is the town and school have a joint insurance policy with Travelers.

- 1.) For each year during the past 5 years, can the BOE indicate how much in total Travelers has paid out for BOE related items.
- 2.) How much is the school's liability compared to the towns?