April 20, 2010

Dear School Community:

On March 10, 2010, I presented the preliminary draft budget to the Fairhaven School Committee for their review. On April 14, 2010, the school committee conducted their annual open budget hearing. As part of the school department budget process, we have met with the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

The salary budget is $13,400,172. The operational budget is $3,596,441. The FY2011 Fairhaven Public School District Budget recommendation from the Superintendent of Schools to the Fairhaven School Committee is $16,996,613.

We itemize the base salary of each and every employee taking into consideration any step increases, lane changes, stipends, early retirement incentives, longevity and any other contractual obligations. Once completed, there exists an increase just to walk in the door in order to provide the same services. This is typical of any departmental budget within a municipality. There are no new positions in this budget proposal. This year's salary budget is presented with a zero percent (0%) increase. The Level Service Projection for Salary Expenses for FY 2011 is 13,400,172. The operational budget is $3,596,441. The operational increase from the FY 2010 budget figure is $20,000.

This year's budget is once again broken down by the services that are provided to our students and organized by the state codes that are set forth by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Our objective is to provide a more easily seen and understood explanation of each service. This entire process is available on the school department's website fairhavenps.org. By clicking the salary budget or operational budget you will be linked to the cover pages of both the salary and operational budgets.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Baldwin Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools