



GRISWOLD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Sean P. McKenna, Superintendent of Schools
Erik Christensen, Director of Fiscal & Personnel Services
February 12th, 2026

Glenn LaBossiere, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Christopher Champlin, Director of Student Services

Dear Town of Griswold, Griswold Board of Finance:

As Griswold moves forward and upward, we remain grounded in a simple, shared priority: protect what works for our students and community. The Griswold Board of Education is grateful to the taxpayers of Griswold for their continued support, and we honor that trust by proposing a budget designed first and foremost to maintain what we have built—our programs, our people, and the high-quality experiences families count on. This is a maintenance budget: steady, responsible, and focused on sustaining the assets that define Griswold's success.

Our schools continue to be the heart of our community. Griswold Elementary provides a strong start through a robust early childhood program. Griswold Middle School offers diverse academic and extracurricular opportunities that bridge students confidently to high school. Griswold High School's comprehensive curriculum and career readiness pathways—including opportunities that connect students directly to local employers such as Electric Boat—prepare graduates for both higher education and the workforce. These are core strengths we aim to preserve.

We are equally committed to maintaining safe, welcoming, and well-managed facilities that meet educational and community needs. Our focus is on modern, secure, and efficiently maintained environments. The transformation of the former senior center into the Griswold Soule Street Academy, made possible through nearly \$700,000 in ARP ESSER grants, illustrates how we prudently leverage external funding to enhance spaces without placing additional burdens on local taxpayers.

Despite statewide trends of declining enrollment, Griswold continues to resist that trend. Over the past decade, we have grown from four to seven sending towns, and families continue to view Griswold as a place to establish roots. Our affordable, highly regarded before- and after-care program, Wolverines Forward, strengthens Griswold Elementary's appeal to working parents and supports stable enrollment. Preserving these programs is essential to sustaining that momentum.

The proposed budget is a clear statement of our intent: meet immediate educational needs while safeguarding the district's long-term stability. It is an investment in continuity—keeping class sizes reasonable, retaining talented staff, upholding core programs, and maintaining facilities—so that Griswold remains a desirable place to live and learn in Southeastern Connecticut. We recognize current economic pressures and have structured this budget with discipline. Our operating model continues to generate meaningful revenue for the Town of Griswold, self-funding approximately 10% of our budget and easing the local burden.

Thank you for your dedicated service to the Town of Griswold. We value your partnership and respectfully submit this maintenance-focused budget for your consideration—one that protects the quality our community expects, preserves the progress we have made together, and keeps Griswold strong for the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Stuart R. Norman, Jr.
Chair, Griswold Board of Education

Sean P. McKenna
Superintendent of Schools