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Ysgol Gymraeg Croes Atti

Mr G Jones
Pennaeth / Headteacher
Mrs M Salisbury
Dirprwy Bennaeth /Deputy Headteacher

Ffederasiwn Prifathrawon Uwchradd a Chynradd Sir y Fflint

28ain Chwefror 2024

Annwyl Rieni a Gofalwyr,

Toriadau Cyllideb - Yr Effaith ar ein Hysgolion

Mae Ffederasiwn Prifathrawon Sir y Fflint yn fudiad sy'n cynrychioli holl benaethiaid ysgolion uwchradd, cynradd ac arbennig Sir y Fflint. Penodir aelodau gan eu clwstwr lleol o ysgolion i gynrychioli barn penaethiaid mewn trafodaethau gyda'r cyngor.

Fel y gwyddoch efallai, mae gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn wynebu pwysau ariannol sylweddol ar hyn o bryd. Ar ôl ymgynghori â chydweithwyr, rydym yn ysgrifennu i sicrhau bod pob rhiant a gofalwr yn cael eu hysbysu'n llawn am y canlyniadau sylweddol posibl sy'n wynebu ysgolion ar hyn o bryd mewn perthynas â'n cyllidebau, a'r effaith y gallai hyn ei chael ar y gwasanaethau y byddwn yn gallu eu darparu.

Er mwyn pennu cyllideb gytbwys, mae Cyngor Sir y Fflint wedi gorfod gwneud penderfyniadau anodd i dorri gwariant ar draws ei holl wasanaethau. Mae hyn yn cynnwys addysg ac yn benodol y swm o arian sydd ar gael i ysgolion. Yn y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf sy'n dechrau ar Ebrill 1af, er bod cynnydd bach o 3.5% wedi bod i gyllidebau ysgolion, ni fydd hyn yn talu am y pwysau costau y mae ysgolion yn eu hwynebu. Bydd hyn yn cyflwyno heriau sylweddol ac yn rhoi pob ysgol, cynradd, uwchradd ac arbennig mewn sefyllfa gyllidebol anodd iawn.

Rydym yn cydnabod y bu cynnydd bychan yng nghyllideb addysgiadol Cymru ond mae chwyddiant, costau ynni a chostau staffio uwch wedi arwain at effaith sylweddol ar wariant llywodraeth leol a thoriad mewn termau real ar lefel ysgolion. Yn ogystal, dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf, mae'r gyfradd genedigaethau yn Sir y Fflint wedi gostwng, sy'n golygu llai o ddysgwyr yn ein hysgolion gyda'r gostyngiad canlyniadol mewn cyllid gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Yr hyn sy'n peri'r pryder mwyaf i benaethiaid a chyrff llywodraethu yw'r effaith a gaiff hyn ar ddysgwyr ledled Sir y Fflint.

Mae hwn yn gyfnod digynsail o ran cyllid a chyllidebau ysgolion, ac er gwaethaf ymdrechion gorau swyddogion y cyngor, aelodau etholedig, penaethiaid a chyrff llywodraethu, rydym yn poeni am yr effaith debygol a allai gynnwys:

- diswyddiadau yn achosi gostyngiad mewn staffio
- dosbarthiadau mwy
- llai o deithiau a gweithgareddau allgyrsiol
- llai o gefnogaeth i ddisgyblion ag anghenion ychwanegol

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llai o gefnogaeth i ddisgyblion sydd angen cymorth ychwanegol gydag ymyriadau llythrennedd a mathemateg
- llai o gymorth i ddisgyblion sydd angen ymyriadau lles
- llai o gefnogaeth i ddisgyblion ag anawsterau ymddygiad, gan arwain at fwy aflonyddwch a gwaharddiadau
- llai o gefnogaeth i ddisgyblion ag anghenion cymhleth mewn ysgolion prif ffrwd
- llai o adnoddau i ddisgyblion eu defnyddio
- gostyngiadau mewn cyrsiau, cymwysterau a'r cwricwlwm y gall ysgolion ei gynnig
- bydd atgyweirio a chynnal a chadw adeiladau ysgol yn dioddef
- iechyd a diogelwch cyffredinol mewn ysgolion
- dyfarniadau negyddol gan Estyn o ganlyniad i lai o wasanaethau

Fel penaethiaid, rydym am sicrhau ein teuluoedd y byddwn bob amser yn gwneud ein gorau glas i gynnal y ddarpariaeth graidd yn ein hysgolion, gan ddiogelu addysgu a dysgu trwy osod ein dysgwyr a'n staff wrth galon popeth a wnawn. Fodd bynnag, credwn y bydd yn rhaid i benaethiaid a llywodraethwyr ddewis rhwng darparu'r lefel bresennol o wasanaeth neu gydbwyso'r llyfrau. Felly, mae'n anochel, mewn llawer o achosion, na fydd ysgolion yn gallu darparu a chynnal yr un lefel o gymorth a gwasanaethau oherwydd y diffyg sylweddol yn ein cyllid.

Os bydd hyn yn digwydd yn eich ysgol dros y flwyddyn nesaf, gofynnwn ichi gofio bod eich pennaeth a'ch llywodraethwyr yn gweithio o fewn hinsawdd ariannol anodd iawn yn lleol, ond mae hyn hefyd yn rhan o fater ariannol llawer ehangach ledled Cymru a'r DU.

Fel penaethiaid rydym yn ddiolchgar am y gefnogaeth barhaus gan Gyngor Sir y Fflint i'n helpu i lywio ein ffordd drwy'r sefyllfa hon ac am wneud cynrychiolaethau ar ein rhan ar lefel genedlaethol. Byddwn yn parhau i weithio mewn partneriaeth â'r Cyngor i leihau'r effaith ar lefel ysgol. Fodd bynnag, bydd eich cefnogaeth a'ch dealltwriaeth yn ystod y cyfnod heriol hwn yn amhrisiadwy. Rydym wedi cyflwyno sylwadau yn lleol ac yn genedlaethol i gynghorwyr ac aelodau'r Senedd a byddwn yn parhau i wneud hyn. Ysgrifennwyd y llythyr hwn mewn ymgynghoriad â holl benaethiaid Sir y Fflint. Diolch am eich dealltwriaeth.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,

Ffederasiwn Prifathrawon Sir y Fflint

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Flintshire Secondary and Primary Headteachers' Federation

February 28th 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Budget Cuts - The Impact on our Schools

The Flintshire Headteachers' Federation is an organisation representing all the headteachers in secondary, primary and special schools in Flintshire. Members are appointed by their local cluster of schools to represent the views of headteachers in discussions with the council.

As you may be aware, public services in Wales are facing significant financial pressures currently. Having consulted with colleagues, we are writing to ensure that all parents and carers are fully informed of the potential significant consequences currently facing schools in relation to our budgets, and the impact this may have on the services we will be able to provide.

In order to set a balanced budget, Flintshire County Council has had to make difficult decisions to cut spending across all of its services. This includes education and specifically the amount of money that is available for schools. In this coming financial year beginning on April 1st, whilst there has been a small uplift to school budgets of 3.5%, this will not cover the cost pressures that schools are facing. This will present significant challenges and place every school, primary, secondary and special in a very difficult budgetary position.

We acknowledge that there has been a slight increase in the Welsh educational budget but inflation, energy costs and increased staffing costs have resulted in a considerable impact on local government spending and a cut in real terms at school level. In addition, over recent years, the birth rate in Flintshire has dropped, which means fewer learners in our schools with the resulting reduction in funding from Welsh Government. Of greatest concern to headteachers and governing bodies is the impact this will have on learners across Flintshire.

These are unprecedented times with regard to school finances and budgets, and despite the best efforts of council officers, elected members, headteachers and governing bodies, we are worried about the likely impact which potentially could include:

- redundancies causing a reduction in staffing
- larger classes
- fewer trips and extra-curricular activities
- reduced support for pupils with additional needs

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- less support for pupils needing extra help with literacy and maths interventions
- less support for pupils who need wellbeing interventions
- less support for pupils with behavioural difficulties, leading to more disruption and exclusions
- less support for pupils with complex needs in mainstream schools
- fewer resources for pupils to use
- reductions in courses, qualifications and the curriculum schools can offer
- repairs and upkeep of school buildings will suffer
- general health and safety in schools
- negative judgements from Estyn as a result of reduced services

As headteachers, we want to assure our families that we will always do our utmost to maintain the core provision in our schools, protecting teaching and learning by placing our learners and staff at the heart of everything we do. However, we believe headteachers and governors will have to make a choice between providing the current level of service or balancing the books. Therefore, it is inevitable that in many cases, schools will not be able to provide and sustain the same level of support and services due to the significant shortfall in our funding.

If this happens in your school over the next year, we would ask you please to remember that your headteacher and governors are working within a very difficult financial climate locally, but this is also part of a much wider financial issue across Wales and the UK.

As headteachers we are grateful for the ongoing support from Flintshire County Council in helping us to navigate our way through this situation and for making representations on our behalf at a national level. We will continue to work in partnership with the Council to minimise the impact at a school level. However, your support and understanding during these challenging times will be invaluable. We have made representations locally and nationally to councillors and members of the Senedd and we will continue to do this. This letter has been written in consultation with all headteachers in Flintshire. Thank you for your understanding.

Yours faithfully,

Flintshire Headteachers' Federation