

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BOB GODFREY

PROUDLY SERVING DANBURY | 110TH DISTRICT

Dear Neighbor,

Year after year, I have worked hard to ensure that quality education is available to every student in Danbury. From pre-school through college, I've voted to fund school operations and school buildings. That's hundreds of millions of your state tax dollars brought home for public, primary and middle schools, for Danbury High and Henry Abbot Tech, for Naugatuck Valley Community College, and for Western Connecticut State University. You can get a career-building education in Danbury without leaving home.

We have wrestled with overcrowding in our schools, which continues to add students beyond predications and suffers from twenty years of local underfunding. That's why I invited Connecticut's new Commissioner of Education, Charlene Russell-Tucker, to visit Danbury High and see the problems and challenges for herself. She had an eye-opening experience. Thanks go to Superintendent Kevin Walston, his staff, NEA Danbury president Erin Daly, teachers, administrators and students for giving her a warm welcome.

This newsletter reports on the ever-increasing commitment of the state to Danbury public schools, including the proposed Danbury Academy. I am proud to be a part of that policy. I will fight to ensure our taxpayer dollars go to public schools without being diverted elsewhere.

Sincerely,



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BOB GODFREY
REPRESENTING DANBURY | 110TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



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BOB GODFREY

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Bob and Commissioner Russell-Tucker during her visit.
Background picture of the proposed Danbury Academy Building

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DANBURY CAREER ACADEMY

My Danbury colleagues and I worked hard to increase state constructing money from the usual 50% of the cost to 80% of the cost to create the Danbury Academy at the Summit, the former Union Carbide building. The owners withdrew, and the city was approached by the owners of the Cartus site over near the mall. The delegation is working to change the funding authorization. The Danbury Career Academy will serve about 1,400 middle and high school students, and is expected to be able to open its doors in the fall of 2024. The relocation of about 1,100 high school students and roughly 360 middle school students will relieve significant pressure-but not all- from the already increasingly overcrowded public schools.

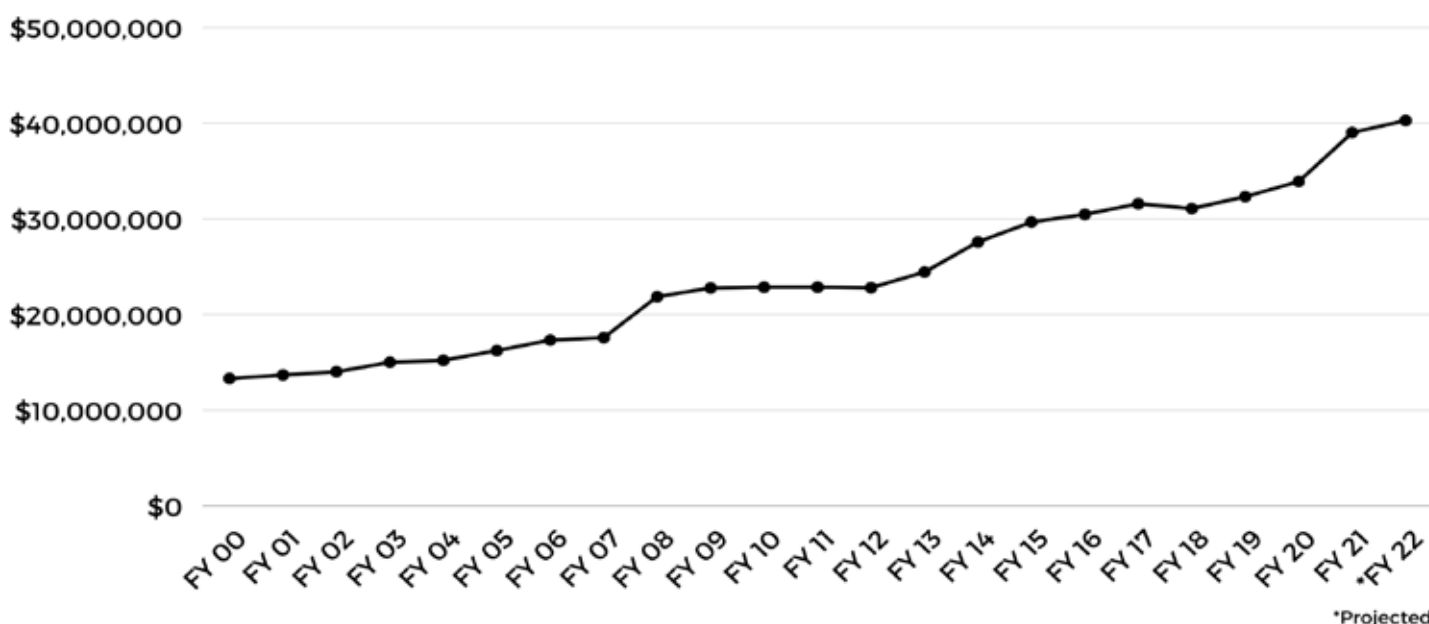
OVERCROWDING IN DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

While many towns face declining enrollment, Danbury has continued to exceed projections, a problem the school board and city leaders are painfully aware of. That's why I reached out to the State Department of Education Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker, to come down to Danbury and observe the problem so that we can work together to combat this mounting issue.

BRINGING FUNDING HOME FOR OUR CHILDREN

Each year, I fight for every dollar of available state funding for Danbury, especially for our students. I'm happy that in the new state budget, Danbury will receive a projected \$83,077,244 in Education Cost Sharing (ECS) funding in the FY 2022/2023 biennium.

DANBURY ECS PAYMENTS, FY 00-FY 22 PROJECTED



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