Ffederasiwn Penaethiaid Cynradd Wrecsam

8fed o Chwefror 2024

Annwyl Riant/Ofalwr,

Toriadau i Gyllidebau - Yr Effaith a geir ar ein Hysgolion

Sefydliad sy'n cynrychioli pob Pennaeth ysgol gynradd ac arbennig yn Wrecsam yw Ffederasiwn Penaethiaid Cynradd Wrecsam. Penodir aelodau gan glwstwr lleol o ysgolion i gynrychioli barn Penaethiaid mewn trafodaethau gyda'r cyngor.

Ar ôl ymgynghori â'n holl gydweithwyr, ysgrifennwn atoch i sicrhau y caiff pob rhiant a gofalwr y darlun llawn am y canlyniadau sylweddol y mae bob ysgol yn eu hwynebu ar hyn o bryd. Mae hyn mewn perthynas â'n cyllidebau yn ogystal â'r effaith ddilynol ar y gwasanaethau gallwn eu darparu.

Mae'n siŵr y byddwch yn ymwybodol bod y toriadau sydd i ddod ar draws gwasanaethau Cyngor Bwrdeistref Siriol Wrecsam yn cynnwys y gwasanaethau addysg, ac yn benodol, i'r swm o arian sydd ar gael i ysgolion. Yn y flwyddyn ariannol nesaf sy'n dechrau ar y 1af o Ebrill, bydd cyfyngiadau ariannol sylweddol ar ein hysgolion. Bydd hyn yn cyflwyno heriau sylweddol ac yn rhoi pob ysgol, gan gynnwys ysgolion cynradd, uwchradd ac arbennig mewn sefyllfa gyllidebol anodd iawn.

Mae chwyddiant, costau egni a'r cynnydd mewn costau staffio wedi arwain at effaith sylweddol ar wariant llywodraeth leol. Bu cynnydd bychan i gyllideb addysg Cymru, ond mae cyfradd chwyddiant hynod uchel wedi golygu toriadau sylweddol i gyllidebau mewn termau real. Yr hyn sy'n peri'r pryder mwyaf i Benaethiaid a Chyrff Llywodraethu yw'r effaith a gaiff hyn ar ddysgwyr ar draws Wrecsam. Mae'r cynnydd a gafwyd mewn costau egni eisoes wedi rhoi baich enfawr ar gyllidebau ysgolion, ac ar ysgolion cynradd sydd bellach yn gorfod talu am gostau cynyddol y fenter "Prydau Ysgol am Ddim".

Byddwn yn wynebu cyfnod cythryblus a digynsail o safbwynt cyllid a chyllidebau, ac nid yw Penaethiaid erioed wedi dod ar draws sefyllfa mor ofnadwy. Rydym yn poeni am yr effaith debygol a gaiff fel yr amlinellir isod:

- Diswyddiadau a fydd yn golygu gostyngiad mewn lefelau staffio
- Bydd maint dosbarthiadau yn cynyddu

- Llai o deithiau a gweithgareddau allgyrsiol sydd naill ai'n derbyn cymhorthdal gan ysgolion neu angen lefel uwch o staffio
- Bydd y gefnogaeth i ddisgyblion ag anghenion ychwanegol yn cael ei effeithio'n ddifrifol
- Bydd llai o gefnogaeth i blant sydd angen ymyrraeth llythrennedd a rhifedd
- Bydd llai o gefnogaeth i blant sydd angen ymyrraeth lles
- Bydd llai o gefnogaeth i blant ag anawsterau ymddygiad, gan arwain at fwy o ymddygiad sy’n tarfu ar eraill a gwaharddiadau mewn ysgolion
- Bydd llai o gefnogaeth i blant ag anghenion cymhleth mewn ysgolion prif ffrwd
- Bydd llai o adnoddau i'r plant eu defnyddio
- Bydd cyfleoedd am arloesedd yn cael eu rhwystro ar adeg pan fo newid a chyfleoedd mawr i gynnwys y Cwricwlwm Newydd i Gymru, cymwysterau arholiadau newydd a mentrau cenedlaethol pwysig
- Bydd y gwaith atgyweirio a chynnal a chadw ar gyfer adeiladau ysgolion yn dioddef
- Effaith cyffredinol ar iechyd a diogelwch ysgolion
- Barnau negyddol gan Estyn o ganlyniad i lai o wasanaethau.

Fel Penaethiaid, hoffem eich sicrhau y byddwn bob amser yn gwneud ein gorau glas i gynnal y ddarpariaeth graidd o fewn ein hysgolion. Bydd hyn yn cynnwys diogelu’r agwedd o ddysgu ac addysgu trwy roi ein dysgwyr a’n staff wrth wraidd popeth a wnawn. Fodd bynnag, credwn y bydd yn rhaid i Brifathrawon a Llywodraethwyr ddewis rhwng darparu'r lefel bresennol o wasanaeth neu gadw’r ddysgl yn wastad o ran y gyllideb. O ystyried hyn, mae’n anochel na fyddwn yn gallu darparu a chynnal yr un lefel o gymorth a gwasanaethau oherwydd y diffyg sylweddol mewn cyllidebau ysgolion.

Os bydd hyn yn digwydd yn eich ysgol chi dros y flwyddyn nesaf, gofynnwn i chi gofio bod hyn allan o reolaeth y Pennaeth yn gyfan gwbl, ac yn rhan o fater ariannol llawer ehangach.

Fel Penaethiaid, rydym yn ddiolchgar am y gefnogaeth barhaus gan Swyddogion Addysg Wrecsam i’n helpu i ddod o hyd i’r ffordd orau drwy’r sefyllfa hon. Fodd bynnag, mae eich cefnogaeth a'ch dealltwriaeth yn ystod y cyfnod heriol hwn yn amhrisiadwy. Rydym wedi cyflwyno sylwadau ar lefel lleol a chenedlaethol i gynghorwyr ac aelodau’r Senedd a byddwn yn parhau i wneud hyn.

Ysgrifennwyd y llythyr hwn mewn ymgynghoriad â holl Benaethiaid cynradd Wrecsam a bydd Pennaeth eich ysgol leol yn hapus i drafod unrhyw bryderon sydd gennych. Fodd bynnag, dylech fod yn ymwybodol ei bod hi dal yn gynnar o ran lle’r ydym arni gyda chynllunio’r gyllideb, ac efallai na fyddwn yn gallu ateb rhai o’ch cwestiynau ar hyn o bryd.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,

Ffederasiwn Penaethiaid Cynradd Wrecsam.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Budget Cuts – The Impact on our Schools

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

Having consulted with all our colleagues, we are writing to ensure that all parents and carers are fully informed of the significant consequences currently facing all our schools in relation to our budgets and the subsequent impact on the services we will be able to provide.

You will no doubt be aware that the impending cuts across services in Wrexham County Borough Council will include education and specifically the amount of money that is available for schools. In this coming financial year beginning on April 1st, there will be considerable financial constraints imposed on our schools. This will present significant challenges and place every school, primary, secondary and special in a very difficult budgetary position.

Inflation, energy costs and increased staffing costs, have resulted in a considerable impact on local government spending. There has been a slight increase in the Welsh educational budget, but the extremely high rate of inflation has meant a considerable cut in real terms. Of greatest concern to headteachers and governing bodies is the impact this will have on learners across Wrexham. Increased energy costs have already placed an enormous burden on school budgets and primary schools are having to pick up the increased costs in relation to the "free school meals" initiative.

These are unprecedented times as regards school finances and budgets, and headteachers have never known the situation to be so dreadful. We are worried about the likely impact:

- redundancies causing a reduction in staffing
- larger classes
- fewer trips and extra-curricular activities that are either subsidised by schools or require high levels of staffing
- support for pupils with additional needs will be seriously affected
- less support for children needing extra help with literacy and maths interventions
- less support for children who need wellbeing interventions
- less support for children with behavioural difficulties, leading to more disruption and exclusions
- less support for children with complex needs in mainstream schools
- fewer resources for the children to use

- the stifling of innovation at a time of great change and opportunity including the New Curriculum for Wales, new examination qualifications and important national initiatives
- 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 much of this will be completely out of the control of your headteacher and governors, but part of a much wider financial issue.

As headteachers we are grateful for the ongoing support from Wrexham's education officers in helping us to navigate our way through this situation. However, your support and understanding during these challenging times are 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 primary headteachers in Wrexham and your local headteacher will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have. However, please be aware that we are all at an early stage of the budget planning process and we may not yet be able to answer some individual questions.

Yours faithfully,

Wrexham Primary Headteachers' Federation