

Hello. I am Carla Esquivel, a resident of Stamford for more than 18 years. I am a mother of students who attend schools in Stamford, and I am the founder of NOSOTRAS CT, an organization that supports parents with resources and equity for families.

At this time our children do not have the necessary resources, such as the support of teachers after classes. So much damage has been done in relations with teachers that the Educational Board forgets that our children are the ones who suffer the consequences of not having a good relationship with the teachers in such a way that the teacher made a request, attesting that most of them do not trust the direction of Superintendent Lucero.

Now, with this budget our parents are put against the sword and the wall, intimidating the community that is most in need, with the fear that our children will be left without essential resources when cutting the positions of the facilitators. The facilitators are the link between the community of immigrants of different languages and nationalities. The service of these facilitators helps to close the gaps between families and the school system. Why suggest that these positions that are so necessary (with a minimum wage and without benefits) which take a minimum amount of the budget be cut?

There have even been trainings for the community to put pressure on the Board of Representatives and the Finance Board. But that's not the solution. Do I suggest that the Educational Board propose other alternatives and let fear be used as a motivator? This is not fair for the parents, the Board of Representatives, and the Finance Board.

It is not right to play with our children's education. With this I would like to suggest an audit and transparency be done to see how the funds are allocated in the system. We want transparency.

Everyday life is more expensive in Stamford and half of the city's budget is for the education system.

You as a member of different Boards: Education, Representatives and Finance. You were elected by the voters of the city so comply with bringing the transparency that we asked for.

Thank you.
Carla Esquivel