



LUCIA D JANSEN*

Party: Republican

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Q: Please provide a brief biography of yourself for the voters.

A: Current member of the BET serving on the Audit and HR Committees, liaison to Public Works and Parks & Recreation departments, and on the Riverside Elementary School Feasibility Committee. Previously, served 18 years on the RTM, including 8 years as Chair of the Budget Overview Committee and 7 years on the Labor Contracts Committee. Formerly, a 15-year senior executive in high technology; MBA, University of Connecticut; BA, University of Texas. Greenwich 32-year resident, married with one daughter, GHS graduate.

Q: What are two of your favorite things about Greenwich?

A: Greenwich is a wonderful community that supports young families and seniors alike. One of my favorite aspects is our abundance of parks, open space, and marinas that provide so many options for both active and passive recreation. As an avid pickleball player, I especially appreciate that Greenwich was one of the first towns in CT with many dedicated courts and more are on the way. Another Greenwich highlight is our vibrant arts and cultural life—from the Greenwich Library and Bruce Museum to the Symphony Orchestra, parades, and outdoor concerts that bring the community together.

Q: What professional, volunteer, or public service accomplishment in the last 12 months are you most proud of and why?

A: Serving my first term on the BET has been both an honor and a significant responsibility. One of the accomplishments I am most proud of is my work on the Riverside Elementary School Feasibility Committee, where I applied a data-driven approach to decision-making. Recognizing that adding new Pre-K classrooms and associated facility modifications could increase costs and overextend the site's limited footprint, I conducted original research benchmarking Pre-K implementation in 22 CT towns. These findings guided bipartisan BOE members, avoiding \$2.5 million in unnecessary expenses and ensured resources were focused on best supporting K–5 students.

Q: What are one or two pressing challenges of the upcoming term and how would you approach them?

A: A key challenge will be maintaining Greenwich's financial strength while addressing necessary capital investments, such as schools and infrastructure. I will approach this by prioritizing needs, improving planning, and ensuring projects are managed efficiently. Another challenge is preserving our quality of life while keeping taxes predictable. I believe in disciplined budgeting, long-term planning, and working across the aisle to find practical solutions.

Q: How do you plan to serve your constituents who didn't support you in decisions that affect our town and their lives?

A: I value and welcome diverse viewpoints, especially on complex issues. Sound decision-making requires careful analysis of options, facts, and data. While unanimous agreement is not always possible, I believe in listening with an open mind, considering different perspectives, and working toward practical solutions that serve the best interests of the town. Even when opinions differ, my goal is for every resident to feel heard, respected, and represented in the process.

Q: In April, the Board of Estimate and Taxation (BET) voted to reduce the Greenwich Public Schools budget by approximately \$4 million. This reduction allowed GPS to increase its budget year over year by 3% (vs 5%). [Minutes of the FY 2025-2026 Budget Decision Day Three (3) Meeting of the BET held April 4, 2025]. What is your position on this decision?

A: Greenwich taxpayers have long invested heavily in our schools. Today, per-pupil spending is among the highest in Connecticut—about \$28,000—yet peer districts with fewer resources achieve higher results in English Language Arts and Math. For FY26, the BET approved a \$240M school budget, an \$8M increase. The BOE also ended with a \$2.5M surplus that remains available for its use. While the BET sets the overall target, all spending decisions rest with the BOE. I supported a 3% increase to balance student needs with taxpayer affordability. With families facing higher costs, this provided a meaningful boost while ensuring sustainability.