

STATE AID CUTS to WTS!



Washington Township Schools Information Forum

~ April 2019 ~

WELCOME!

Jeff Mohre, Superintendent of Schools

**SUPPORT OUR
STUDENTS
SOS
SAVE OUR SCHOOLS
DEMAND FAIR STATE FUNDING
NOW!**



Community Forum Goals

- **Raise awareness of State aid reductions facing WTS and NJ schools!**
- **Learn what's at stake for WTS & NJ Schools!**
- **Call to Action - What's being done statewide and how you can join the effort!**



State Aid Reductions - What Happened Here in NJ?

- **NJ's School Funding Reform Act of 2008 (driven by student enrollment, municipal property wealth and personal wealth of residents)**
- **NJ School Districts Held Harmless**
- **S-2 Signed by Governor Murphy in July 1, 2018 Resulting in State Aid Reductions for 172 NJ School Districts**
- **State Aid Reductions Scheduled Beginning July 2018 through July 2024 (7 school years!)**
- **Loss of State Aid for Our Washington Township Schools = \$5,119,152**



WTS' Projected State Aid Reductions - Annual Impact

\$441,704 for 2018-19

\$587,683 for 2019-20

\$940,646 for 2020-21

\$1,165,174 for 2021-22

\$1,091,170 for 2022-23

\$678,509 for 2023-24

\$214,266 for 2024-25

\$5,119,152

**SUPPORT OUR
STUDENTS**
\$OS
SAVE OUR SCHOOLS
DEMAND FAIR STATE FUNDING
NOW!



What's At Stake for NJ's Children and Their Schools?

**Academic Programming
could be affected!**

Personnel could be affected!

**Social and Emotional Learning,
Development, and Support
could be affected!**

**School Facilities
could be affected!**



Negative Impact on Student Academic Programming - How drastic cuts in State aid can affect school districts!

- **Program Eliminations/Reductions**
- **Schools' Abilities to Prepare Children for Life In the 21st Century (College and Career Readiness) will Be Greatly Compromised**
- **Increases in Class-sizes Due to Reductions in Staff**
- **Potential Impact to Full-Day Kindergarten**
- **Negative Impact to District's Ability to Realize the New Jersey Student Learning Standards**
- **Inability to Fully Realize Technology Replacement Schedules and to Maintain Technology Infrastructure**
- **Elimination or Reduction of Clubs/Sports/Extra-curricular Activities**
- **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Programming Diminished**



Negative Impact on Social & Emotional Support - How drastic cuts in State aid can affect school districts!

- **Character Education Programs may be Limited in Scope**
- **Inability to Execute Future School Security Enhancements**
- **Diminished Mental Health Support Resources**
- **Increases in Student Anxieties Due to Insufficient Service Levels**
- **Social/Emotional Programs/Materials Diminished**



Negative Impact on Personnel - How drastic cuts in State aid can affect school districts!

- Staffing at All Levels may be Diminished (Administration, Faculty, Support Staff, Support Services)
- Professional Development Opportunities will be Negatively Impacted

Negative Impact on Facilities - How drastic cuts in State aid can affect school districts!

- School Closings Resulting in Overcrowding
- Districts' Long-Range Facilities Plans will be Greatly Compromised
- Reduction in Community's Use of Schools After Hours due to Energy and Custodial Costs
- Inability to Pay for Necessary Facilities Projects (Roof, Boiler, HVAC)
- Inability to Fund Capital Improvement Accounts



Other Critical Concerns:

- **Inability to Offer Tax Relief Due to Minimal Budget Fund Balances at Year's End**
- **Inability to Sustain High Quality Bus Maintenance and Repair**
- **Longer Bus Routes for Students and Families**
- **The State's QSAC Monitoring Process will Reveal Districts' Inabilities to Realize State Benchmarks in Finance and Facilities, Curriculum/Instruction, Personnel, and Operations**
- **The Continuation of High Quality Programs and Services Supporting the Cognitive, Emotional, and Social Development of Children will be Greatly Jeopardized**



Call to ACTION – What's being done statewide and how YOU CAN join the effort!



Call or Send Emails to Governor Murphy and Legislators – – Calls work better!



When you call/email, tell them:

- You are a concerned Parent, Citizen, &/or Educator!
- You oppose the severe cuts to school funding being imposed by NJ's government!
- Your WTS is losing \$5,000,000!
- These drastic cuts will negatively impact programming, staff, services, facilities and ... over 200,000 CHILDREN statewide!
- Implore the State to convene a bipartisan committee to examine this critical issue and, while doing do, ensure that school districts receive no less than the amount of State aid received in 2017-2018 school year.

**SUPPORT OUR
STUDENTS**
SOS
**SAVE OUR SCHOOLS
DEMAND FAIR STATE FUNDING
NOW!**

Call to Action!

Contact INFO! - - - Governor and Legislators!

Phone Calls have a Greater Impact . . . But Emails Work, too!

Call Governor Murphy @ 609.292.6000	EMAIL Commissioner of Education Lamont Repollet e: lamont.repollet@doe.nj.gov (difficult to reach by phone)
Senator Teresa Ruiz (Education Committee Chair) e: SenRuiz@nileg.org p: 973.484.1000	Senator Anthony R. Bucco (Our Local Senator) e: SenBucco@nileg.org p: (973) 627-9700
Senator Shirley Turner (Education Committee Vice Chair) e: SenTurner@nileg.org p: 609.323.7239	Assemblyman Anthony M. Bucco (Our Local Assemblyman) e: AsmBucco@nileg.org p: 973.927.2526
Assemblywoman Pamela Lampitt (Education Committee Chair) e: AswLampitt@nileg.org p: 856.435.1247	Assemblyman Michael Carroll (Our Local Assemblyman) e: AsmCarroll@nileg.org p: 973. 539.8113
Assemblywoman Mila Jasey (Education Committee Vice Chair) e: AswJasey@nileg.org p: 973.762.1886	Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor (Assembly Budget Chair) e: AswPintorMarin@nileg.org p: 973.589.0713
Assemblyman Craig Coughlin (Assembly Speaker) e: AsmCoughlin@nileg.org p: 732. 855.7441	Assemblyman John Burzichelli (Assembly Appropriations Chair) e: AsmBurzichelli@nileg.org p: 856.251.9752
Senator Stephen Sweeney (Senate President) e: SenSweeney@nileg.org p: 856. 251.9801	Senator Paul Sarlo (Senate Budget & Appropriations Chair) e: SenSarlo@nileg.org p: 201.804.8118



THANK YOU for your support of our
community's children, their schools, and their futures!

**The time is NOW to contact our
Governor, Legislators, & Commissioner!**

**SUPPORT OUR
STUDENTS**
SOS
**SAVE OUR SCHOOLS
DEMAND FAIR STATE FUNDING
NOW!**

THANK YOU!