

# STATE AID REDUCTION



# LENAPE REGION COMMUNITY FORUM



# Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Carol Birnbohm  
Superintendent of Schools  
Lenape Regional High School District



# Community Forum Facilitators

Mr. Michael Harris - Southampton Superintendent

Mr. John Scavelli - Evesham Superintendent

Dr. Joseph DeRossi - Medford Superintendent

Dr. Christine Vespe - Shamong Superintendent

Mr. Glenn Robbins - Tabernacle Superintendent

Ms. Misty Weiss - Woodland Superintendent



## Community Forum Goals

- Raise awareness of state aid reduction
- Educate school communities about the impact to the Lenape Region Districts
- Call to action





## Program Agenda

- Overview of state aid reduction
- Fiscal impact to the Lenape Region Districts
- Lenape Region past/present cuts and efficiencies
- Lenape Region future cuts and impact on programs
- Overview of advocacy efforts
- Call to action



# Support Our Students Advocacy Group



- State-wide coalition of school districts advocating for equitable funding for all students and school districts
- SOS was founded by the Lenape Region school districts
- Currently comprised of 71 school districts throughout the state representing over 150,000 students



# SOS Mission Statement



*The Support Our Students coalition of school districts throughout the state being negatively impacted by the reduction in state aid shall advocate with our legislators, and convey our message to the public to ensure that all students continue to receive the quality education that they deserve and are entitled to in accordance with the state's mandate for a thorough and efficient education.*

*Our effort shall be sustained and inclusive of all stakeholders focusing on outcomes that result in educational services and programming being maintained for our school communities while seeking fiscally responsible solutions.*





# Fiscal Impact on Lenape Region

## State Aid - What Happened?

- S-2/A-2 signed by the governor in July 2018
- Implements provisions in the School Funding Reform Act (SFRA) from 2008
- SFRA driven by student enrollment, municipal property wealth (ratables), and personal wealth of residents
- School districts held harmless since 2008
- State Aid reduction scheduled from 2018-19 through 2024-25 for “overfunded” school districts
- Final Result - reduced state aid of approximately \$24 million



# Fiscal Impact on Lenape Region



Budget Year	Reduction Percentage	Estimated Reduction
2018-19	5% of overfunding plus "promised" aid	1,139,999 + 1,351,391
2019-20	13%	1,823,998
2020-21	23%	2,279,998
2021-22	37%	3,191,998
2022-23	55%	4,103,997
2023-24	76%	4,787,997
2024-25	100%	5,471,996
Total		24,151,374

# Fiscal Impact on Lenape Region



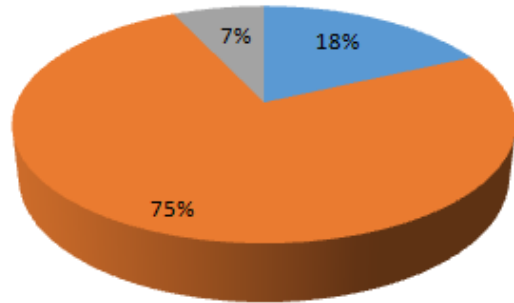
School District	Estimated State Aid Reduction Through 2024-25
Evesham Township	9,003,394
Lenape Regional	8,308,946
Medford Township	1,603,435
Shamong Township	1,155,459
Southampton Township	1,141,089
Tabernacle Township	2,752,887
Woodland Township	186,164
Total Estimated State Aid Reduction	24,151,374

# Fiscal Impact on Lenape Region



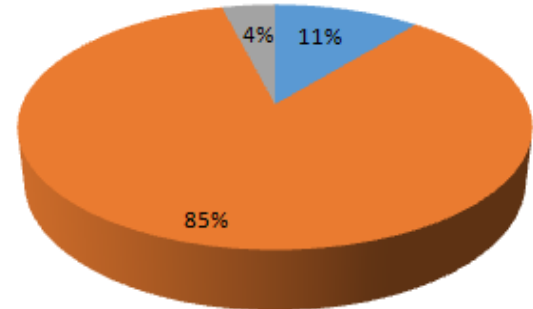
## 2018-19 Lenape Region Funding Sources

■ State Aid ■ Tax Levy ■ Other Misc.



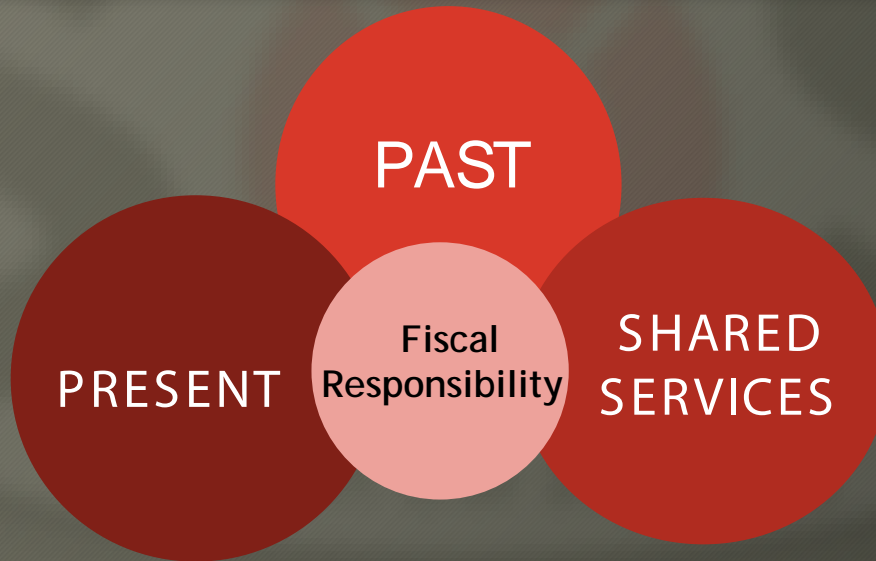
## 2024-25 Lenape Region Funding Sources

■ State Aid ■ Tax Levy ■ Other Misc.





# Lenape Region Efficiencies







## Lenape Region Efficiencies: Past

- Late Bus Runs Cancelled and Limited
- Tuition Free Summer School Eliminated
- Summer Musical Workshop Eliminated
- Professional Development Limited
- District Funded Field Trips Limited

PAST

Fiscal  
Responsibility



# Lenape Region Efficiencies: Past

- Privatization (Cafeteria, Bussing, Paraprofessionals)
- Reduction of Administration
- Reduction of Custodial and Maintenance
- Replacement of Retired Teachers, Counselors Diminished
- School Consolidation and Closure
- Rental of Property and Facilities

PAST

Fiscal  
Responsibility



# Lenape Region Efficiencies: Present

- Healthcare Contributions by all Employees
- Low Cost/High Deductible Healthcare plans
- Energy Efficiency Programs (Solar, LED Lighting, etc.)
- Reverse Auction for all Electricity
- Refinance Bonds
- Tuition-Based Programming
- Grants, Donations and Business Partnerships

PRESENT

Fiscal  
Responsibility



# Lenape Region Efficiencies: Present

- Copier Lease Programs
- Consolidation of Textbook Purchasing
- Want versus Need Attitude to Purchasing
- Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for Solar Arrays
- Leasing of Busses
- Reduction of Non-certificated Staff Hours

PRESENT

Fiscal  
Responsibility





## Shared Services: Lenape Region, Municipalities and Beyond

- Professional Development
- Peer-peer Student Training
- Transportation
- Banking

Fiscal  
Responsibility

SHARED  
SERVICES



## Shared Services: Lenape Region, Municipalities and Beyond

- Purchasing: Ed Data and Educational Services Commissions
- Technical Services: E Rate
- Insurance: JIF-BCIP, SHIF
- Trash & Recycling Services

Fiscal  
Responsibility

SHARED  
SERVICES



# What's at Stake for Our Children and Their Schools?

Academic Programming Will be Adversely Affected

Social & Emotional Learning, and Support Will be Adversely Affected

Personnel Will be Adversely Affected

School Facilities Will be Adversely Affected



# Negative Impact On Academic Programming

Academic Program Eliminations/Reductions

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Tabernacle)*

Schools' Abilities to Prepare Children for Life in the 21st Century

(College and Career Readiness) will be Greatly Compromised

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Woodland)*

Negative Impact to District's Ability to Realize the New Jersey Student Learning Standards

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Woodland)*

Textbook Adoptions/Student Resources will be Compromised

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton)*

Academic Programming





# Negative Impact On Academic Programming

Increases in Class-size due to Reduction of Staff  
*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Tabernacle)*

Inability to Realize Technology Replacement Schedules  
*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Woodland)*

Inability to Maintain Technology/Expand Infrastructure  
*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Woodland)*



# Negative Impact On Academic Programming

Increase in Activity Fees for Clubs/Sports/Extracurricular Activities  
*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Woodland)*

Elimination of Certain Clubs/Sports/Extracurricular Activities  
*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton)*

Multi-Tiered System of Support Programming Diminished  
*(Evesham, Medford, Shamong)*



# Negative Impact On Social & Emotional Support

Character Education Programs will be Limited in Scope

Elimination of Positive Behavioral Award Incentive Programs

Peer Social Development and Support Groups Limited

Reduction in Student Assistance Coordinators

Educational Service Announcement Programs/Materials for Parents Diminished

Substance Abuse, Vaping, Internet Safety, Suicide, etc.

Social & Emotional Support



# Negative Impact On Personnel

Teaching Positions may be Eliminated

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Tabernacle)*

Support Staff Positions may be Eliminated

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Tabernacle)*

Custodial and Maintenance Positions may be Eliminated

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton)*





# Negative Impact On Personnel

Administration Positions may be Eliminated

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton)*

Professional Development Opportunities Diminished

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Tabernacle, Woodland)*



# Negative Impact On Facilities

School Security Enhancements will be Compromised

*(Evesham, Medford, Southampton, Woodland)*

Districts' Long-Range Facilities Plans will be Greatly Compromised

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton)*

Inability to Fund Capital Improvement Accounts

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Tabernacle)*

Facilities



# Negative Impact On Facilities

Reduction in Community's Use of Schools After Hours due to Energy and Custodial Costs or Increased Cost to Community Groups for Usage

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Woodland)*

Inability to Pay for Necessary Facilities Projects (Roof, Boiler, HVAC)

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Tabernacle, Woodland)*



# What's at Stake for Our Children and Their Schools?

Academic Programming

Social & Emotional Learning, and Support

Personnel

School Facilities

Other Critical Concerns. . .





## Other Critical Concerns

Inability to Offer Tax Relief Due to Minimal Budget Fund Balance at Year's End

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton)*

Inability to Sustain High Quality Bus Maintenance and Repair

*(Medford)*

Longer Bus Routes for Students

*(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong)*

Elimination of "Courtesy Busing" (within a 2 ½ mile radius of school)

*(LRHSD)*



## Other Critical Concerns

Elimination of All Late Bus Routes  
(LRHSD)

Failure to Pass the NJDOE QSAC Monitoring Process due to Districts' Inabilities to Realize State Benchmarks in Finance and Facilities, Curriculum/Instruction, Personnel, and Operations  
(LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Woodland)

The Continuation of High Quality Programs and Services Supporting the Cognitive, Emotional, and Social Development of Children will be Greatly Jeopardized  
(Evesham, LRHSD, Medford, Shamong, Southampton, Woodland)



# SOS Advocacy Main Goal



Request a PAUSE on State Aid cuts in order to:

- Inform legislators about the catastrophic effects of the State Aid cuts
- Request the establishment of a Joint Committee to review the existing funding formula, not limited to:
  - Local Fair Share
  - Special Education Funding
  - Adequacy



# SOS Advocacy Main Goal



- Establishment of a social media platform to convey the SOS message



@nj\_sos

- Conduct meetings throughout New Jersey similar to this event
- Conduct SOS Rallies at key political events throughout New Jersey





# SOS Advocacy Main Goal



- Meet with legislative staffers/legislators to convey our concerns and message (SOS Legislative Sub-committee)
- Propose legislation that may assist districts losing state aid to mitigate the impact:
  - Special Education per pupil funding
  - Special Education extraordinary aid funding
  - Flexibility in tax cap levy
  - Child-care operation (Evesham)



## Call to Action - WHAT can YOU do?

- Send letters/emails or call Governor Murphy & legislators
  - Express *your* concern about state aid cuts
  - Request a pause in cuts now
- Mobilize our communities to attend SOS Rally in Trenton on March 5th prior to Governor Murphy's budget address
- Assist with lobbying efforts with proposed legislation

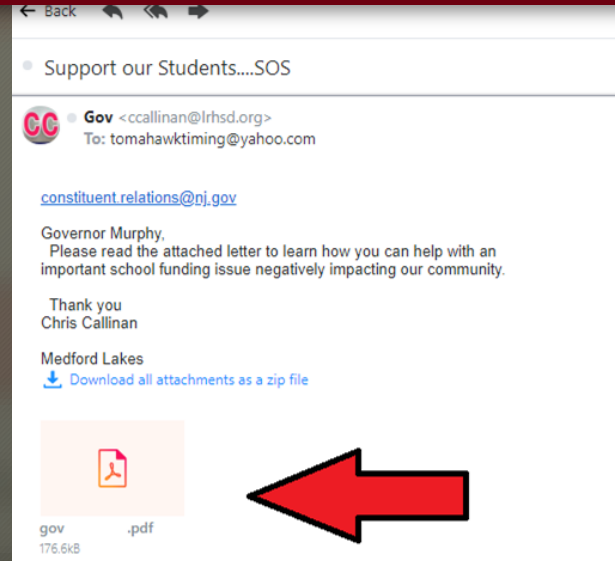
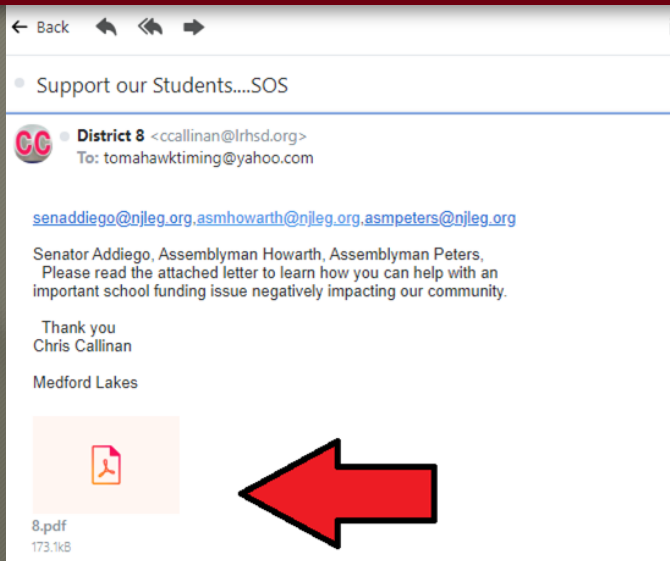


## Forwarding E-mail to the Government Officials

- Log into the e-mail you used to register for this evening's event.
- Locate two (2) messages we sent to your inbox:
  - One for Governor Murphy,
  - One for your Legislative District.
- Each message has a PDF attached and a narrative in the body of the message.



# District 8 and Governor E-mail Examples







# Forwarding the E-mails to the Legislators

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: District 8 <ccallinan@lrhsd.org>

To: "tomahawktiming@yahoo.com" <tomahawktiming@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, February 15, 2019, 1:32:47 PM EST

Subject: Support our Students....SOS

[senaddiego@nleg.org](mailto:senaddiego@nleg.org), [asmhowarth@nleg.org](mailto:asmhowarth@nleg.org), [asmpeters@nleg.org](mailto:asmpeters@nleg.org)

Senator Addiego, Assemblyman Howarth, Assemblyman Peters,  
Please read the attached letter to learn how you can help with an important school funding issue negatively impacting our community.

Thank you  
Chris Callinan

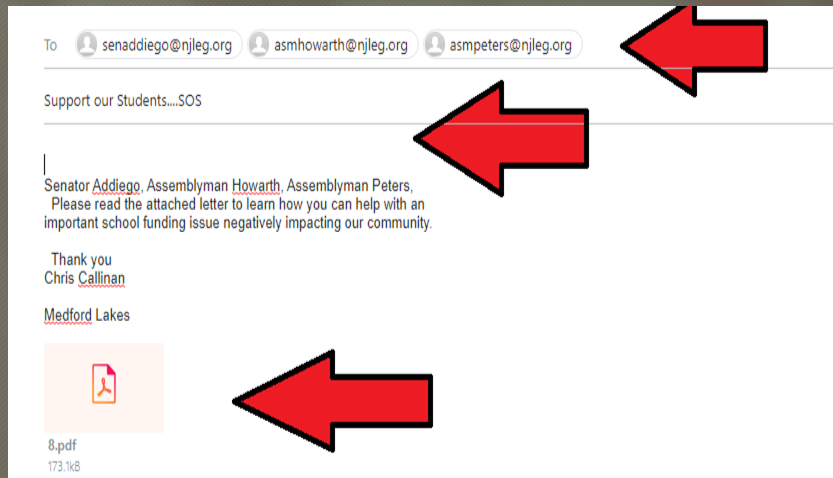
Medford Lakes



- Select Forward to forward the e-mail to the legislators
- Cut and paste the addresses into the To: part of your e-mail
- Delete all forwarding information
- Send this e-mail to the addresses that you pasted into the To: part of your e-mail



# Forwarding the E-mails to the Legislators



- E-mail has the legislators in the To: section
- FW: has been removed from the subject area
- FW: info has been removed from the body of the e-mail
- The attachment appears with the e-mail



# Lenape Region NEEDS YOU!



- Over \$24 Million in State Aid Leaving our Region
- Catastrophic Impacts on all Districts' Operations
- We need parents, staff and students to tell our story!

*Grateful for you and all you do for our students!*

*- Lenape Region Administrations and Boards of Education*