



NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE

Latham Tiver

Senator

Michael Torrissi Jr.

Assemblyman

Governor Phil Murphy
Office of the Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy,

We are writing to request an explanation on behalf of Lenape Regional High School District's school funding aid numbers for your FY25 proposed budget. Lenape Regional is one of the biggest high school districts in the 8th Legislative District, educating nearly 6,700 high school students across four schools.

Many districts that we represent were expecting aid cuts under the 7-year phase in of S2, and that is no different for Lenape Regional. While most of those districts will receive roughly what they were expecting, with slight variations due to enrollment shifts, Lenape Regional's proposed reduction is 14 times more than what was mandated under S2.

The school district is set to lose a whopping \$4.69 million in school funding - a number that is hard to plan for when expected, but impossible when entirely unexpected. It is difficult to understand why any school district would receive such an unexpected cut when the proposed FY25 budget provides record school funding.

While we've advocated for more funding and a fairer school funding formula since S2 was passed, we knew that there was a reality where schools had to prepare for yearly cuts. We are not trying to turn back time on S2, but when the funding loss is so much greater than even what S2 demanded, it deserves an explanation. We are asking the Department of Education and your administration for accounting under the school funding formula that explains why Lenape Regional High School is set to lose \$4.69 million in funding.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Senator Latham Tiver

Assemblyman Michael Torrissi

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