



Plumsted Township School District

131 Evergreen Road
New Egypt, NJ 08533
Telephone (609) 758-6800 Ext. 4206
Fax (609) 758-6808
www.newegypt.us

David Ytreboe
Superintendent of Schools

Sean Gately
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dear Plumsted Township School District Community:

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

I write to you with a heavy heart about the unknown path that our district is on regarding our budget adoption and approval. Our district faces a \$2.4 million shortfall for the 24-25 school year. The Department of Education advised that the district could get an advance payment on its state aid to allow it to continue operating within this budget deficit. The district would pay the State Aid advance payment over the next ten years and have a state monitor to review purchasing and operations. Our Board of Education and administration did not take this option lightly, but our choices are limited.

The district has lost over \$6.8 million in State Aid since 2019. The district cut 82 staff members, programs, extracurricular activities, and Advanced Placement courses to sustain these losses over the last six years. The cuts in staff, programs, extracurricular activities, and classes have taken away valuable opportunities from our students. Even though the district made these difficult choices, we still have a 2.4 million dollar deficit. We do not have a spending problem; we have a revenue problem through no fault of our own. The S-2 cuts have been and continue to be catastrophic for the district.

Additional spending reductions will be harmful and result in additional staff cuts, eliminating some academic programs and offerings, athletics, co-curricular activities, and field trips. The situation is dire.

Please contact our legislators and let them know you are very concerned for our children's educational future! Your voice is crucial in our advocacy efforts to avoid the Plumsted Township School District budget crisis. You can find more information below and on our website at www.newegypt.us

Sincerely,

David Ytreboe
Superintendent of Schools



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Contact the Legislature:

Follow these 5 easy steps:

1. Contact members of the Senate Education Committee using the links below:

Senate Education Committee

Gopal, Vin <i>Chair</i>	Senator Owen Henry
Turner, Shirley K. <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Senator Angela V. McKnight
Corrado, Kristin M.	

2. Clicking the link will take you to their contact page to find a form.
3. Use the following information to enter it into the required fields:
 - a. **Subject:** Education - Finance
 - b. **Group:** Plumsted Twp School District
 - c. **Relationship:** Concerned Voter and Taxpayer
 - d. **Email Subject:** S2 Funding/Impact On Our Kids
4. Copy and paste the letter on the back of this page into the **message** field.
5. Click **Submit Email**



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******Copy and paste this letter into the form in the message field***
Be sure to fill in the blanks with the correct information.***

Dear [Insert Name Governor, Senator, Assemblyman/women]

As a proud New Jersey voter and resident of Plumsted Township for [INSERT NUMBER] years, I am very concerned for our children's educational future. As a result of the pandemic, we have endured physical, emotional, and financial difficulties. While the pandemic is seemingly behind us, the impact can still be felt. But unfortunately, we cannot plan for future needs because you have now burdened us with crippling state aid cuts for our school district.

While we thank you for providing temporary relief with supplemental aid for the '23-'24 school year, these types of one-time efforts do little when, since 2019, more than \$6.8 million of state school funding has been eliminated from Plumsted Township schools, causing long-term consequences for our 1,200 students. Due to continued increases in expenses for salaries, insurance premiums, building maintenance, transportation costs, goods and services, contractor fees, out-of-district tuition, inflation, and unfunded state mandates, the district eliminated valuable school resources.

Unless the State of NJ steps in, Plumsted Township Schools will be forced to significantly reduce or eliminate educational programs that will increase class sizes and **directly** impact children.

It is time for the Governor and the NJ legislators to do the right thing and implement solutions that address funding disparities. How often do you hear that the NJ School Funding Formula needs to be corrected and updated? You don't consider increased student learning needs and economic conditions in the 21st century. What is most baffling is that it does not even look at adequacy spending when that is a primary function of the formula!

I support Plumsted Township's amazing schools and demand the same support from you. Our children's future cannot and should not wait. We expect and look forward to your immediate action.

Respectfully,
[Full Name(s)]
[Full Address]