



TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS
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To our Toms River Regional Schools community:

On the heels of the Feb. 27 state aid notice, we are finalizing a draft budget presentation for our March 25 [Citizens Budget Advisory meeting](#). In the interest of timely transparency for all, I feel it best to share what we have preliminarily developed.

A budget snapshot, attached to this letter, takes all factors into consideration, including what we have publicly presented and telegraphed for no less than two years. Keep in mind that none of this is what we want, or what we believe to be educationally sound, but unfortunately this is the hand we have been dealt.

As you will see, we are working to make up a \$5,536,872 shortfall while prioritizing the preservation of as many staff as possible and maintaining reasonable class sizes. The cuts will come from the following areas, with the following values that are shown in the attachment.

- 10% from most line items (20% in our last two budgets)
- 37 staff including 1 administrator (approximately 150 staff cuts and counting in the last few years)
- \$1,650,000 in co-curricular and athletic programs. Last budget, 55 assistant coaches were cut.

We continue to work aggressively on a solution to avoid any cuts for this FY 20-21 budget. There are six upcoming assembly and senate budget hearings. Toms River will be sending approximately 50 students, leaders, and chaperones to each hearing and, like last year, we strongly encourage our community to attend and [register to testify](#).

Developing this budget is an emotional and painstaking process because it is, in essence, forcing us to dismantle all that we have built and worked so hard for while underscoring the adverse effect it will have on the lives of our valued staff and children. However, our district remains at the forefront of the fight to combat these cuts, and other districts, community leaders, and organizations are following our lead. We should all be proud of TR's role in what we hope will bring important changes which will benefit not only Toms River's 15,200+ children, but another 500+ thousand throughout NJ.

Sincerely,

David M. Healy
Superintendent of Schools

DRAFT

Toms River Regional Schools
Detail of 2020-21 Budget Cuts (subsequent to state aid notice released February 27, 2020)

	<u>Staff Positions</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
Amount of shortfall		(\$5,536,872)	
Revenue side changes:			
Increase Extraordinary Aid budgeted		\$300,000	Initially using \$1.5 mil in budget
subtotal- revenue side		\$300,000	
Expenditure side changes:			
11-XXX-6XX/8XX-XXX-XXXX		\$672,336	Supply, text, miscellaneous (10% cut)
11-401-100-XXX/11-402-100-XXX		\$1,650,000	Athletic and co-curricular
<i>Staff:</i>			
11-000-230-110	1	\$108,000	Administrative position- director
11-120-100-101	12	\$672,000	Elementary teachers
11-130-100-101	12	\$672,000	Intermediate teachers
11-140-100-101	12	\$672,000	High school teachers
11-000-291-270		\$518,000	Benefit budget reduction- positions above (use single for \$14,000)
subtotal- staff	37	\$2,642,000	
Breakage due to retirements		\$272,536	
subtotal- expenditure side	37	\$5,236,872	
Remaining to be covered		\$0	