



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

It is with deep regret that I must provide you with the following information.

Yesterday we learned that we will lose \$5.3 million as a result of state aid cuts from Bill S2 for 2020-2021, one million more than originally anticipated. You can read our full public statement on this situation [here](#).

What's of utmost importance to us during this extremely difficult time is that we continue to communicate openly and honestly with our parents, families, and school community in a timely fashion. The difficulty of sharing unfortunate news does not make it any less necessary.

And that news is this: The fears we have been sharing with our community for the past year and more have become a reality. We will be forced to make drastic, significant cuts to services and programs in 2020-2021. All extracurriculars, clubs, and athletics will be impacted.

Budgeting for next year with an expected \$4+ million in cuts was already a monumental task; adding another million to the deficit will require us to make some truly painful decisions.

It is true that the state has announced \$50 million in "stabilization aid" to districts such as ours, but as our full statement notes, there are crucial questions concerning the process to access that aid and, most importantly, the timeliness of its availability. Our budget is due to the NJDOE for approval in less than one month, and there are no indications that any stabilization aid will be available anytime soon.

The details of these impending cuts to programs and services will be examined and then shared no later than our March 25 budget advisory meeting.

Again, I am deeply sorry to have to share this news-- I am disgusted, quite frankly, that's it come to this-- but I also felt it important to prepare our families for the grim realities of what we're facing.

Six years ago I made a promise to this community that I would provide the leadership necessary to foster a sound educational system. No period of adversity will ever compromise that promise. We will continue to lead this fight in the spirit of hope and with expectations for success.

Sincerely,

David M. Healy
Superintendent of Schools