

Jackson School District Reaches FISCAL CLIFF

"This is not OK. We cannot do this to our district. We need help."
~ Supt. Pormilli

Education Resource Grant	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Other State/Local/Grants	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Comptroller's A-101 Formula Aid	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
EDUCATION AID	\$	27,481,493.00	\$	21,193,847.00	-23.96%
PAIDC/PAIDC-2	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Per Paid Growth Aid	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
EDUCATION AID	\$	1,876,584.00	\$	1,876,584.00	0.00%
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY AID	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
SECURITY AID	\$	664,877.00	\$	664,877.00	0.00%
EDUCATION AID	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Tutor Buss Aid	\$	37,688,866.00	\$	36,738,263.00	-25.98%
TOTAL GENERAL FUNDS:	\$	142,688,639.00	\$	126,773,423.00	-11.91%
TOTAL FEDERAL/STATE PROGRAMS:	\$	320,695,474.00	\$	313,699,873.00	-21.76%
DEBT SERVICE:					
Five Years	\$	201,081.00	\$	68,671.00	-66.00%
Mid-Term	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Ten Years	\$	7,785,440.00	\$	7,693,261.00	-1.13%
Total Debt	\$	488,221.00	\$	471,432.00	-3.43%
TOTAL DEBT:	\$	6,839,814.00	\$	6,833,889.00	-0.09%
TOTAL BUDGET:	\$	171,664,887.00	\$	159,563,884.00	-7.05%

**\$21 MILLION IN STATE AID CUTS
OVER 6 YEARS + RISING COSTS
HAVE DEVASTATED OUR DISTRICT**
We have made significant cuts and done our best to maintain our programs and services for students. However, we have now reached a **FISCAL CLIFF** and are facing **MASSIVE CUTS** that will **IMPACT EVERY AREA** in our district.

We introduced a Tentative Budget on March 15 which calls for the areas below to be impacted. We **STILL** have more to cut to reach a balanced budget to be approved at the April 26 Board Meeting.

- Reduction in Administrative Staff
- Reduction in Certified Staff
- Reduction in Non-Certified Staff
- Reduction of Extra-Curricular
- Reduction of District Sports
- Reductions in Technology

- Elimination of Courtesy Busing
- Elimination of Busing to Caregiver Centers
- HS Math Curriculum Update Will be Paused
- Reduction in School-Based Budgets
- Increase Participation Fees Athletics & Activities
- Loss of Capital Projects (Except Safety-Related)

HOW YOU CAN HELP

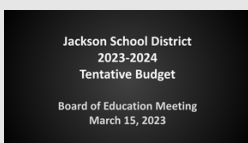
Learn the **FACTS** and What is at Risk

Call, Write & Educate Those Who Can Help Us

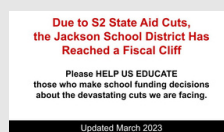


See the **VIDEO** from the March 15 Board of Education Meeting

It's the NJ Senate and Assembly Education Committees that need to hear from us (although contacting ANY legislator can help).



View the **TEXT** version of that presentation



www.jacksonsd.org/S2

- Contact Info
- Sample Letter
- Info You Can Use



Check out our **FAQ** (Frequently Asked Questions) online

Many thanks to Assemblyman Alex Saucie and to Mayor Reina and The Jackson Township Council for your vocal support for our students during this budget crisis!

Frequently Asked Questions About the 2023-2024 Budget We Have Reached a Fiscal Cliff

The Jackson School District has reached a fiscal cliff that will have a devastating effect on the learning process and the available interventions, enrichment and co-curricular opportunities for students. The information provided below is to educate the community, so that members of our community can assist in educating those who are making the decisions as to how schools are funded.

Please let your voices be heard through phone calls & emails to legislators and leaders in Trenton.

What is the amount of State Aid that has been lost to the Jackson School District?

JSD State Aid has been reduced by **41.4%**. Totaling \$21 million dollars over the last 6 years.

2017-2018 State Aid = \$50,735,886

2023-2024 State Aid = \$29,783,363

What are the challenges to a school district's budget?

Increased expenses and declining revenue, specifically the inflation of all items in the past two years.

CPI Inflation Rate: **2022 = 8.2%** and **2023 = 6.3%**

Special education costs, transportation costs, increased needs for intervention, mental health, English Language Learner (ELL) services and security costs have increased **significantly**.

What has been the decline in student enrollment?

- The district has declined in enrollment since 2017-2018 by **11.9%** (vs. a 41.4% decrease to our aid)
- **Our state aid cuts FAR EXCEED our enrollment decreases**

How has the district been efficient in its spending?

- Have kept health care costs relatively flat over the last 6 years, at a time when health care costs are rising elsewhere
- Reduced staff by 151.5 positions (across all departments) over the last 5 years
- Sought and were awarded many grants to lower costs for energy and facilities

How can the district make up the lost aid?

There are only two ways to make up for loss in state aid.

1. *Increase revenue through taxes.* However, currently schools can only raise taxes by 2%, which for this year amounts to \$1.8 million. Given the loss of \$6.2 million in state aid, the 2% increase does not cover the amount of aid that will be lost. This has occurred year after year for 6 years.
2. *Reduce expenditures.* The district has made significant cuts and continues to cut. We have reached the point where **these cuts will have a devastating impact on the education of students.**

What will be lost if there is no change to the revenue the district receives?

Items that will need to be cut or reduced include:

- Reduction in Staffing (Administration, Certified and Non-Certified Staff)
- Reduction in District Sports and Large Increases to Participation Fees
- Reduction of Extra-Curricular and Large Increase to Participation Fees
- Elimination of Courtesy Busing and Busing to Caregiver Locations
- Technology Reductions
- Loss of all Facility Projects (except Safety-Related Projects)
- Reduction in all School-Based and Department Budgets
- And MORE CUTS will be needed to reach a balanced budget

What can you as a community member do to help make change in how the schools are funded?

See our "www.jacksonsd.org/S2" page online - which has facts, a sample letter and CONTACT INFORMATION for our legislators and leaders in Trenton. We want to EDUCATE them about our situation.

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD through your own contacts and social media.