



JACKSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOLARSHIP. CHARACTER. INITIATIVE.

Important Budget Update April 10, 2024: NJ Department of Education Has Informed ALL School Districts They May Not Seek Loans for 2024-2025 Budgets

For the Jackson School District, **this means we are unable to borrow the \$30 million we needed** to balance the 2024-2025 budget, as described in our Tentative Budget introduced March 20th.

This announcement could have unimaginable consequences for the Jackson School District.

- We have already lost \$22.4 million in state aid over 7 years.
- We have already cut 214 positions including administration, made cuts to sports, coaches and extra-curriculars, reduced AP offerings and HS electives, and are unable to properly maintain our buildings.

We are educators.
We WILL NOT approve a budget that cuts \$30 million more.
This may mean the state has to come in to make cuts.

WE NEED decision-makers to understand what this would mean for our district.

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for More Info

PLEASE PARTNER WITH US TO ASK FOR A SOLUTION TO SAVE OUR DISTRICT

What do we NEED them to UNDERSTAND?

- If we aren't going to have our aid restored, we at least need the ability to borrow this \$30 million to save our district.
- We are fiscally sound.
- We do not have a spending problem - we have a REVENUE problem.
- Why should our students have fewer programs and services, athletics or co-curriculars and fewer opportunities?

See Online for a Full List of Legislators and Leaders to Contact

Scan QR Code or visit website



Governor Murphy

TEXT: 732-605-5455

CALL: 609-292-6000

or EMAIL:

constituent.relations@nj.gov

or www.nj.gov/governor/contact/

Commissioner of Education

CALL: 609-376-3500

Videos and Full Budget Info at www.JacksonSD.org

In light of the Department of Education's announcement that NJ school districts may NOT seek a loan to balance their 2024-2025 budget, it is important to understand our position and what it would look like to lose \$30 million from our 2024-2025 Budget.

**TO BE CLEAR:
The Jackson School District
WILL NOT APPROVE A BUDGET THAT CUTS THESE ITEMS.**

We are hoping that continued advocacy will result in a solution.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

1 We continue our budget work, knowing we **WILL NOT** approve a budget with \$30 million in cuts.

- To adjust and strategize in light of the state's new "no loans" decree - we are moving the date of the Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget
- **Budget Hearing will be held Tuesday, May 7 at 6 p.m.** at the Jackson Memorial HS Fine Arts Center
- We will continue our diligent budget review, however, we already know through years of cuts that there is **NOTHING ELSE THAT WE CAN AFFORD TO LOSE** and still provide a safe, thorough and efficient education for our students.

2 If nothing changes, the state could step in to make cuts.

- If a district cannot submit a Final Budget by the annual deadline (May 7 this year), **the NJ Department of Education could step in to make cuts.**
- Of course, we don't want this - but we also **CANNOT** endorse a budget that hurts students!

**WHAT DOES
\$30 MILLION IN CUTS
LOOK LIKE?**

If our aid is not restored and if we are not permitted to take a loan, the state could come in to make cuts.

The state would focus on areas that are not defined as being part of a "Thorough and Efficient" education (known as "T&E").

The items listed below are defined by NJ as NOT being "T&E" items. These items COMBINED do not even reach \$30 million.

- Elem Class Sizes = 30
- MS & HS Class Sizes = 35-40
- Closing Schools
- NO Athletics
- NO Clubs, Band, Theater
- NO SROs and a significant reduction of security officers
- NO Courtesy Busing
- NO Academic Supports (beyond the classroom)
- Limited or NO AP Courses
- NO late buses
- NO facility improvements
- Reduced Electives

**WE NEED DECISION-MAKERS
TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS WOULD
MEAN TO JACKSON STUDENTS!
See Page 1 for HOW TO HELP!**

**Videos and
Full Budget Details
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