

August 1, 2018

Good day Hazlet. I write with an update regarding the unexpected reduction of \$359,124 as per the NJDOE funding realignment that I recently shared with the community via this forum. The administrative team, including our principals, has had several frank conversations and we have successfully created a plan that will neither eliminate any teaching positions nor compromise our service to students. When school begins anew, we will be in a good place and the prioritization of learning will continue.

As noted, districts around the State have had to contend with this budget restructuring and doing so has been challenging on a number of levels. Hazlet remains committed to its student population and, to that end, I would like to provide an overview of some of the programs supported by your BOE that are not necessarily embraced in other districts:

- The cost of AP testing (upwards of 50 thousand dollars)
- The summer enrichment program
- Teacher school supplies (parents do not have to pay for class materials)
- Full Day Kindergarten
- After-school busing
- Low Class Sizes
- Significant class offerings in HMS and RHS – including AP classes
- The AVID program
- 1:1 Chromebooks in grades 5-12 plus a significant number of same in the 1-4 schools
- Smartboards in all elementary schools
- Software programs to enhance the curriculum
- Affordable preschool program at Sycamore and a free preschool program at RHS
- Renovations to 6 of our 8 schools to be completed this summer
- Parental workshops during the school year
- Economical foodservice program with breakfast as an option in HMS and RHS next year
- Summer AP classes
- In addition to summer enrichment, each AP teacher receives 10-15 hours of AP test prep tutoring for their students during the course of the school year.
- Over 25 extracurricular clubs and activities
- Beautifully maintained facilities (batting cages, new turf athletic field, resurfaced track)

Our pursuit of excellence, on multiple levels, will continue. Thank you for being a part of this process. Enjoy your final weeks of summer. September is around the corner!