

Dear <TARGET>:

My name is [Insert Name] and I am a resident of Monroe Township, New Jersey, located in Middlesex County. I respectfully urge you to consider how the New Jersey Department of Education’s (NJDOE) lack of budget appropriations have impacted our school district. Most notably, the Monroe Township School District (MTSD) remains one of five public school districts in New Jersey that has been unable to offer full-day kindergarten. Additionally, unique capital demands generated by rapid municipal growth hinders the district’s ability to meet the evolving needs of our diverse community.

The Unique Construct of Monroe Township:

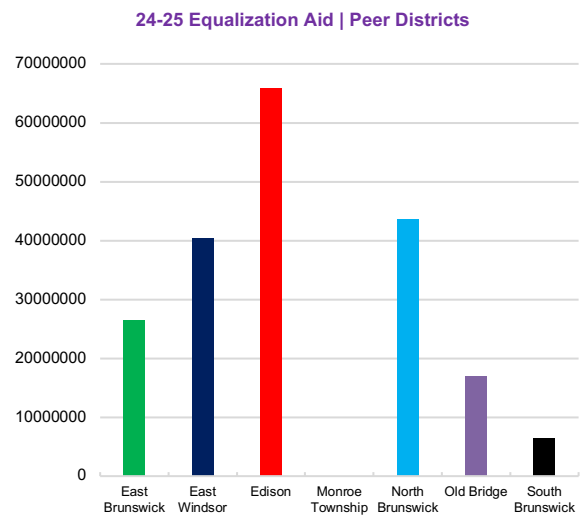
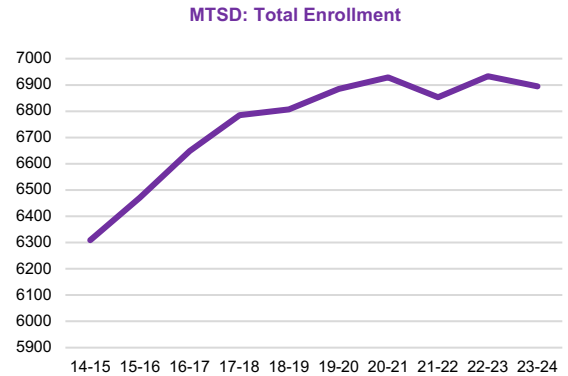
- As a result of affordable housing laws, the population expansion in Monroe Township has led to significant increase in school-aged children.
- Monroe Township’s senior citizen population has grown from 34.8% to 38.9% (2010 - 2020) and approximately 50% of our residents live on fixed incomes, which negatively impacts the outcome produced by the NJDOE state funding formula.
- The MTSD has never received equalization aid from the state. The MTSD currently receives less than \$1,800 per student in state aid.

Over the least several years, several school districts received appropriation aid to assist with critical capital and curricular initiatives. A special budget appropriation will significantly assist the MTSD meet the capital and curricular needs of our community - specifically, the installation of full-day preschool and kindergarten.

Please consider appropriating additional funds to the Monroe Township School District and support our efforts to install full day preschool, kindergarten, and address eminent capital projects. By investing in the MTSD, the state can model how equitable funding policies address disparities in education and support long-term community growth. Please consider meeting with stakeholders from the MTSD and leaders from our local Board of Education to discuss the financial challenges and operational constraints resulting from inadequate state funding.

Thank you in advance for your efforts to support the Monroe Township School District and ensuring that all students have access to the resources they deserve.

Sincerely,



DISTRICT	APPROPRIATION
Middlesex Co. Voc. & Tech. Schools	\$5,000,000
Fairview Public School District	\$10,000,000
Union County Vocational Schools	\$25,000,000
Township of Union Public Schools	\$2,000,000
North Bergen Public School District	\$10,000,000
Wood-Ridge School District	\$12,500,000
Fairview Public School District	\$10,000,000
Wood-Ridge School District	\$12,500,000
Little Ferry Public Schools	\$5,000,000
Jackson School District	\$2,500,000