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Dear Mansfield School Community,

The Mansfield Township School District is facing a significant budget gap for the 2026-2027 school year. This gap is the result of reductions in state aid funding, a 23.5% increase in health benefits premiums, and rising inflationary costs that are impacting every area of our operations.

Without action, the consequences for our students and programs would be substantial:

- Class sizes would increase to the highest levels in the Warren Hills cluster of schools.
- Early literacy initiatives would be eliminated.
- Academic intervention and behavioral support would be reduced significantly.
- Programs, such as our esteemed band, and other student enrichment opportunities would face cuts.

We share this information in the spirit of transparency and with a recognition that our community and taxpayers are already stretched thin.

Please know that the district has already implemented program, staff, and resource reductions in preparing the proposed 2026-2027 budget. We are also actively exploring shared services with neighboring districts and other strategies to manage costs wherever possible. However, the reality is that we cannot cut our way out of this gap without affecting the quality of education our students receive.

This is why we are reaching out to ask for your input and guidance. Your feedback will help the Board of Education understand:

- Which programs and services are most important to you.
- What level of tax increase the community feels is reasonable and tolerable.

We understand the importance of being thoughtful and responsible when asking for taxpayer support. We will continue to take steps to control costs, pursue shared services, and explore grants and alternative revenue sources.



Mansfield Township School District
50 Port Murray Road
Port Murray, NJ 07865

At this time, however, we need your help to inform these critical decisions.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey [linked here](#) and also available on our website under [Our District](#) → Budget 2026–2027. You will also find presentations explaining the funding situation in detail and clearly outlining the potential tax impact of different levy increases.

Your participation is vital. Working together, we can make informed decisions to provide the best possible educational experience for our students, who are the future of our community.

Thank you for your time, support, and commitment to Mansfield Township School District.

Sincerely,

Diana Mai

Ms. Diana Weston Mai
Superintendent