



KINGSWAY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Committed to Excellence

Dr. James J. Lavender, ext. 4205
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Jason Schimpf, ext. 4203
School Business Administrator

July 26, 2017

Dear School Community:

We have received official notice from the Department of Education that \$732,243 in additional state aid for the 2017-18 school year has been awarded. This is a welcomed increase in school aid but falls short of the millions we have been underfunded. However, we have been informed by Senate President Stephen Sweeney during our recent school community meeting that Kingsway can expect an additional \$5.57 million in school aid for the 2018-19 school year. While it is too early to count on future funding we can be cautiously optimistic that our school funding fight has been worth the effort and the many voices who joined us in this fight are to be commended for a job well done!

So, how do we plan to use the \$732,243 for current year?

- ✓ Reinstatement of ten (10) of the twenty-two (22) positions that were originally reduced:
 - 4 secretaries, 1 School Psychologist (HS), 1 School Counselor (HS), 1 Special Education Teacher (MS), 1 Social Studies Teacher (HS), 1 Custodian (HS), and 1 Paraprofessional (HS).
- ✓ Reinstatement of Academic Department Chair positions.
- ✓ Reduce Athletic Registration Fees from \$195 to \$95 annually and reinstate \$500 family cap on athletic registration fees.
- ✓ Eliminate the proposed \$95 Co-Curricular Activity Fee.
- ✓ Expand Middle School Intramural Sport (Wellness) Programs. This program will allow for more middle school students to compete in active athletic recreation through a number of traditional and non-traditional programs on our campus.
- ✓ Reinstatement of After-School Late bus to Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

This has been a long and trying budget process but we remain hopeful that the school funding conundrum has the potential to be resolved for good. We will continue to keep our school community informed. Should you have questions regarding the 2017-18 school budget or our fight for fair school funding, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Dr. James J. Lavender
Superintendent of Schools

Home of the Dragons