


# ABC: Advocating **By** **C**ommunication

How You Can Help the  
Lacey Township School District  
Fight to Restore and Preserve  
MILLIONS of DOLLARS  
in State Aid To Support Our Students

# History of Cuts and Appeal



**March 2018** - After many years of struggling with stagnant state aid, our district received a very slight increase in state aid for the 2018-2019 school year. Even with that very slight increase in state aid, the district was forced to eliminate approximately 12 positions. The district also had to scale down facilities improvements and , reject curriculum and technology initiatives in order to build a balanced budget.

**July 2018** - The district received a revised state aid notice revealing that the district actually lost almost \$600,000 in state aid for the 2018-2019 school year. The district was forced to put the burden on the backs of the local taxpayers and applied for waivers and banked cap to increase property taxes by almost 5%.

**August 2018** - The district submits a compelling appeal to the Commissioner of Education to restore the loss of state aid.

**October 2018** - The Commissioner of Education denies the district's appeal.

**October 2018** - The district joins other school districts in a lawsuit to block state aid cuts.

**March 2019** - The district is notified that it will lose another \$623,156 in state aid for the 2019-2020 school year. The district was unable to increase property taxes by more than 2.0%. As a result, the district was forced to eliminate programs and staff.

**August 2019** - The district submits yet another compelling appeal to the Commissioner of Education to restore the loss of state aid.

**December 2019** - The Commissioner of Education denies the district's appeal.

**January 2020** - The district asks the Commissioner of Education to reconsider his position - requesting a face-to-face meeting to discuss the issue.

## State Aid Cuts at a Glance



**2019-2020 = \$623,156**

**2020-2021 = \$956,038**

**2021-2022 = \$1,189,296**

**2022-2023 = \$1,113,760**

**2023-2024 = \$692,556**

**2024-2025 = \$218,702**

## The Future of School Funding (S2)

In addition to this year's cuts, the recently passed school finance reform legislation (S2) will impact the district in the future:

**Total of almost  
\$4.8 million will be  
lost in state aid over  
the next 6 years**



# What are we doing?

- ADVOCATING for our children by contacting our legislators and the Commissioner of Education
- EXPLAINING how these cuts will impact our children
- ASKING that the district **not be penalized for**:
  - Being efficient and responsible with our spending
  - Planning ahead for facilities improvements
  - Ensuring we have a responsible amount of surplus for a district our size

# Lacey is in NJ Legislative District 9

## District 9 includes the following municipalities:

### Legislators for District 8

**District 9 - (Atlantic, Burlington and Ocean)** Barnegat, Barnegat Light, Bass River, Beach Haven, Beachwood, Berkeley, Eagleswood, Galloway, Harvey Cedars, Lacey, Little Egg Harbor, Long Beach, Ocean Gate, Ocean Township (Ocean), Pine Beach, Port Republic, Seaside Park, Ship Bottom, South Toms River, Stafford, Surf City, Tabernacle, Tuckerton, Washington (Burlington)

### Legislators for District 9

## Our State Representatives are:

- Senator Christopher J. Connors
- Assemblywoman Dianne C. Gove
- Assemblyman Brian Rumpf



**IT'S ALL ABOUT OUR STUDENTS!**  
**Just Say "NO" to State Aid Cuts!!!**

State Aid Cuts are a CRITICAL Issue Facing 172 NJ School Districts including our own Lacey Township Schools!

There has been a lot of pressure placed on Trenton to reconsider its decision to cut aid to schools ... Let's keep the momentum going!

**CALL the following Political Leaders NOW!**  
 (phone calls are more powerful ... emails are good too!)

**When you call or email, tell them:**

- You are a concerned Parent or Educator (or both)!
- You oppose the severe cuts to school funding being imposed by NJ Government!
- Your LTSD is losing \$4.7 million
- These drastic cuts will negatively impact programming, staff, services, facilities and ... over 200,000 CHILDREN statewide.
- Implore the State to convene a bipartisan committee to examine this critical issue and, while doing so, ensure that school districts receive no less than the amount of State aid received in the 2017-2018 school year!
- [Or send them this letter](#)

**⇒⇒CALL Governor Phil Murphy @ 609.292.6000**  
**(If you have time for only 1 call, this is the one to make!)**

**EMAIL Education Commissioner Lamont Repollet**  
**@ lamont.repollet@doe.nj.gov** (difficult to reach by phone)

**Senator Teresa Ruiz** (Education Senate Committee Chair)  
 e: [SenRuiz@njleg.org](mailto:SenRuiz@njleg.org)  
 p: 973-484-1000

**Senator Christopher J. Connors** (Our Local Senator)  
 e: [SenConnors@njleg.org](mailto:SenConnors@njleg.org)  
 p: 609-693-6700

**Senator Shirley Turner** (Education Senate Committee Vice Chair)  
 e: [SenTurner@njleg.org](mailto:SenTurner@njleg.org)  
 p: 609-323-7239

**Assemblywoman Dianne C. Gove** (Our Local Assemblywoman)  
 e: [AswGove@njleg.org](mailto:AswGove@njleg.org)  
 p: 609-693-6700

**Assemblywoman Pamela Lampitt** (Education Assembly Committee Chair)  
 e: [AswLampitt@njleg.org](mailto:AswLampitt@njleg.org)  
 p: 856-435-1247

**Assemblyman Brian E. Rumpf** (Our Local Assemblyman)  
 e: [AsmRumpf@njleg.org](mailto:AsmRumpf@njleg.org)  
 p: 609-693-6700

**Assemblywoman Mila Jasey** (Education Assembly Committee Vice Chair)  
 e: [AswJasey@njleg.org](mailto:AswJasey@njleg.org)  
 p: 973-762-1886

**Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor Marin** (Assembly Budget Chair)  
 e: [AswPintorMarin@njleg.org](mailto:AswPintorMarin@njleg.org)  
 p: 973-589-0713

**Assemblyman Craig Coughlin** (Assembly Speaker)  
 e: [AsmCoughlin@njleg.org](mailto:AsmCoughlin@njleg.org)  
 p: 732-855-7441

**Assemblyman John Burzichelli** (Assembly Appropriations Chair)  
 e: [AsmBurzichelli@njleg.org](mailto:AsmBurzichelli@njleg.org)  
 p: 856-251-9752

**Senator Stephen Sweeney** (Senate President)  
 e: [SenSweeney@njleg.org](mailto:SenSweeney@njleg.org)  
 p: 856.-251-9801

**Senator Paul Sarlo** (Senate Budget & Appropriations Chair)  
 e: [SenSarlo@njleg.org](mailto:SenSarlo@njleg.org)  
 p: 201-804-8118

# Contacting Legislators By Email

## Visit:

<https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/districts/municipalities.asp#L>

- **Select District 9 Legislators (or search by municipality)**
- **Select individual names to find specific contact information.**
- **For Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, click here:**  
<https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/members/BIO.asp?Leg=216>



The screenshot shows a web interface for selecting district representatives. It features a yellow header bar and a central yellow box containing the title "District Representatives" and a list of three representatives with checkboxes:

- Senator Connors, Christopher J.
- Assemblywoman Gove, DiAnne C.
- Assemblyman Rumpf, Brian E.

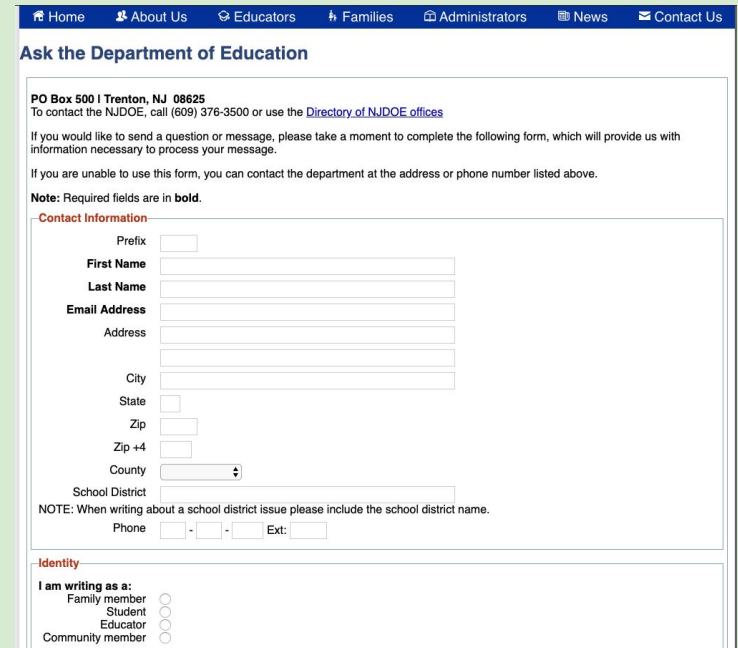
Below the list is a button labeled "Select your Representative(s)".

# Contacting Commissioner Repollet by Email

## Visit:

<https://www.state.nj.us/education/parents/contact.htm>

- Fill Out Fields
- Type or paste your message in box provided.
- Include that you would like your message sent to Commissioner Repollet.
- Use pull-down menu to select subject (School Funding/ State Aid)



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### Ask the Department of Education

PO Box 500 | Trenton, NJ 08625  
To contact the NJDOE, call (609) 376-3500 or use the [Directory of NJDOE offices](#)

If you would like to send a question or message, please take a moment to complete the following form, which will provide us with information necessary to process your message.

If you are unable to use this form, you can contact the department at the address or phone number listed above.

**Note:** Required fields are in bold.

**Contact Information**

Prefix

**First Name**

**Last Name**

**Email Address**

Address

City

State

Zip

Zip +4

County

School District

NOTE: When writing about a school district issue please include the school district name.

Phone  -  -  Ext:

**Identity**

**I am writing as a:**

Family member

Student

Educator

Community member



**Message**

**Choose Topic**

**Other Topic**

**Message**