

URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

We just received word that funding for Michigan school districts is being cut \$218 per student for this current school year, 2009-2010. This will mean about \$2.6 million less in revenue for Farmington Public Schools. We have already cut more than \$33 million from our operating budget over the last several years through shared sacrifice.

The line-by-line recommendations by the K-12 Conference Committee also eliminate bus inspections by the Michigan State Police, and cut funds to Oakland Schools, our intermediate district which provides shared services and important special education and professional development support, by a resounding 44 percent. Much of the federal stimulus money for schools is being held, which could ease this burden.

Education is repeatedly cited by Michigan residents as a priority. This agreement by the legislative conference committee does not reflect this priority. This action threatens the instructional excellence of our district, and all Michigan public schools.

There is still time to influence this decision. State Senator Gilda Jacobs and Representative Vicki Barnett have been great supporters of our District and public education. Please contact them via phone or e-mail and urge them to NOT support this cut to public education. It would also help to let the Speaker of the House Andy Dillon and Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop know your thoughts as well.

Your voice matters....

Sincerely,
Superintendent Susan H. Zurvalec

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