



FUND THE FORMULA IN FY2011!

The School Funding Reform Act (SFRA), which sets levels of state aid for NJ school districts, was passed by the NJ Legislature in January 2008, and was upheld by the NJ Supreme Court in May 2009. Both the law and the best interests of NJ public school children require that it be fully funded in fiscal year 2011!

Because the increase in state aid required by the SFRA is based on the consumer price index, and because the CPI is a very low 1.6%, it will take only \$60 million in additional aid to fully fund the formula in FY2011. Most NJ districts would receive flat funding or small increases, but it would prevent devastating and unlawful cuts.

School districts need the levels of state aid promised by the formula to meet rising costs, maintain programs, keep class sizes manageable, and provide NJ children and young people with an education that will make them college and career ready.

A strong State economy needs all NJ schoolchildren to graduate from high school and become productive and contributing members of society. Districts need formula aid to do what it takes to keep young people in school and to avoid teacher layoffs that harm students and further swell the State's unemployment rolls.

The previous school aid formula wasn't funded for years. That's a big reason NJ property taxes are so high, and why state finances are a mess. The new formula was enacted in part to reverse that situation. The SFRA must be evaluated, as required by law, and modified, but in the meantime it's all we've got. It has the stamp of approval of the Legislature and the Court. It's the law!

We, the undersigned, demand:

- Full funding of the SFRA in the FY2011 State Budget!
- No decrease in state aid to any school district in NJ in FY2011!
- No decrease in the 4% state-mandated cap on school budget increases!
- A thorough review of the SFRA in its third year, as required by law, and appropriate cost adjustments to the formula!

Support NJ schoolchildren! Fund the Formula in FY2011!

