



East Greenwich School Committee
111 Pierce Street ■ East Greenwich, RI 02818

January 28, 2025

Dear Representatives Caldwell and Shanley, and Senator Valverde,

The East Greenwich School Committee is writing to express our deep concern regarding the proposed cuts in state aid to our school district. We are aware of the economic challenges our state is facing, but we are also acutely aware of the challenges facing our schools, and these reductions will have significant negative impacts on our students, educators, and community as a whole.

State aid is as critical to the operations and programs of the East Greenwich Public Schools as it is to any other school district in Rhode Island. These funds ensure that students have access to quality education, adequate facilities, and essential resources. Reducing this aid would force our local district to make difficult decisions, which could include cutting programs, reducing staff, and delaying necessary infrastructure improvements. Such measures risk compromising the quality of education that our children deserve and rely on.

Our schools are already facing significant challenges, including recovering from the learning losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, addressing mental health needs, and meeting rising costs of materials and resources. These proposed cuts would exacerbate these issues, undermining the progress we have worked so hard to achieve.

Our district consistently receives a lower percentage of aid funding than almost any other district in the state, yet we often endure the largest cuts to aid when state funds are reallocated or reduced, and local dollars are not sufficient to close the gaps that state funding cuts create. We urge you to advocate for the reconsideration of the decision to drastically cut state education aid for East Greenwich. We ask that you explore alternative solutions that would preserve critical funding for our schools. Investing in education is investing in the future of our state. Strong schools are not only vital for the success of our students in East Greenwich, but also for the overall well-being and economic health of our communities.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to serving our community. We look forward to your response and to working together to ensure that every child in our state receives the education they deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. D. on behalf of'.

The East Greenwich School Committee