

February 22, 2012

Dear KPS Community:

Governor Snyder recently reported his budget recommendations for next year, and said that K-12 schools would see a 2.5% increase. We wish that was actually the case, but it is not. What the Governor is presenting as an increase is the continuation of what he has termed “one time monies” for schools. He is also adding some incentive dollars. Below is a comparison of this year to next year:

	2011-12 (current)	2012-13 (next year)
Base foundation per student	\$6,846	\$6,846
“One time” retirement help	\$100	\$115
“One time” Best Practice Mandates	\$100	\$75
Student Achievement Incentive	\$0	<u>Varies by district</u>
Total	\$7,046	\$7,036

One can quickly see that our likely funding level will actually be **\$10 less** per student.

In addition to that slight drop, we will have to deal with the following increases in expenditures:

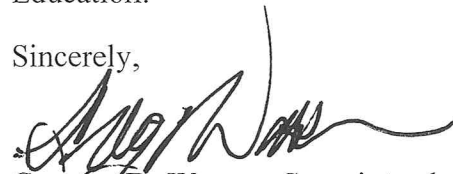
Increased Retirement Rate (from 24.37 to 27.37%): \$340,000 or \$150 per student

Kindergarten Legislation: \$450,000 or \$200 per student

(In order to get full funding for K students, we needed to transition to full day programs. While this is good for our K students, it comes with increased costs for more teaching staff and an additional bus for transportation at the beginning and end of the day.)

Taken from the above foundation, that leaves us with \$6,686 per student or **5% fewer dollars** (\$800,000) available to educate our students. For this current school year (2011-12), the district is using approximately \$950,000 of fund equity to maintain programs for students. We obviously cannot continue this every year. We will work very hard to find solutions to this ongoing problem, and wanted to make you aware of it. As always, the education of each and every student is the highest priority of the staff and Board of Education.

Sincerely,



Gregory D. Warsen, Superintendent
 Kelloggsville Public Schools