

SAMPLE PARENT to LEGISLATOR/LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE LETTER

Date_____

Dear Legislator:

In December 2006 the Joint Legislative Committee on Public School Funding Reform issued its final report. The Committee concluded that "the development of a predictable, transparent school funding formula is essential for school districts to plan effectively and deliver the quality education that our citizens expect and our Constitution requires."

Making the new education funding formula a reality is priority number one for parents and property taxpayers alike. Rebates and competing issues will not erase this tantamount need for New Jersey's citizens and students. As my elected representative I ask that you do everything you can to ensure the following:

- **That every New Jersey student receives a basic level of State educational aid**
- **That state aid to fund mandated programs for children with defined special needs must be adequate and that each child with such needs must receive the full amount of that funding – no matter where he or she resides**
- **That an equitable, workable funding formula is in place for the 2007-2008 school year.**
- **That the new formula is funded by a sustainable revenue source**

An estimated three-quarters of a million children do not even receive basic state support aid. Implementation of a new funding formula is the only way to bring about the real, sustainable property tax relief that voters in the majority of the State's under-funded, over-taxed communities have demanded. New Jersey's educators, parents and taxpayers expect you and your colleagues to make good on your promise of education funding reform before the November elections.

We are watching and waiting.

Name_____

Town/School Community_____