



What They're Saying:

Governor Christie's Fairness Formula "is a win-win for students and for taxpayers"

Mike Proto, Communications Director for Americans For Prosperity: "The governor's new approach is a win-win for students and for taxpayers. Instead of a system which today sends 60% of school aid dollars - more than \$9 billion - to just 31 of New Jersey's 577 school districts, the governor's plan values every student the same by giving each the same amount in aid." (Statement, 6/28/16)

- "At the same time, hundreds of New Jersey school districts which today receive very little - and in some cases, next to nothing in school aid - would also receive their fair share, enabling them to deliver significant, substantial property tax relief to taxpayers! Gov. Christie's Fairness Formula plan deserves our support."

George Kneisser, Executive Director of NJ Citizens for Property Tax Reform: "Our organization is in full support of your plan to distribute school aid equally across all of New Jersey, on a per student basis. The existing system of relying on property taxes is inherently unfair and is causing homeowners to lose their homes through tax liens or in the case of many adult communities, leave New Jersey because of high property taxes. How can someone ask struggling homeowners to keep paying, through their property taxes, for other kids' education, when they can't even afford to pay their own property taxes? Instead of focusing on the needs of the ones who are constantly receiving enormous amounts of aid, the critics of your plan should instead focus on the struggle and suffering of the homeowners. Their claim of depriving poor kids is just pure bogus." (Statement, 6/28/16)

Somerset County Freeholder Brian Levine: "The bottom line is that, with Governor Christie's Fairness Formula, more money comes to the deserving school children in Franklin from the State of New Jersey and my overburdened taxpayers get to put over \$1,200 back into their pockets. As a CPA, I appreciate the analysis- Franklin students will receive an additional \$35 million from the State and my residents pocket the savings. Better education for kids and financial relief for all." (Statement, 7/6/16)

Wenonah Mayor John Dominy: "Governor Christie's proposed school funding plan would result in reduced property taxes for the residents of the Borough of Wenonah. This is an idea that I support, as I welcome and appreciate any tax relief for our residents." (Statement, 7/6/16)

Clark Mayor Sal Bonaccorso: "This is finally a fair funding formula for municipalities like Clark. The taxpayers of Clark have shouldered most of the levy, while a small amount of municipalities get most of the state aid. Funding has to be fair across the board. This is true, true, property tax relief. Finally." (Statement, 7/6/16)

Ventnor City Mayor Beth Holtzman: "Governor Christie's proposed change in school funding is truly fair and equitable to all the children in the State of New Jersey. This plan would reduce property taxes in Ventnor City, a small city still struggling from the effects of Superstorm Sandy." (Statement, 7/6/16)

Totowa Mayor John Coirio: "Residents of Totowa have been looking for any assistance to help relieve their ever increasing property taxes. The Governor's plan offers a straightforward, common-sense answer that will bring immediate help to the hardworking families in my town who need it. I fully support his efforts." (Statement, 7/6/16)

West Wildwood Mayor Christopher Fox: "Governor Christie's proposal is a common sense approach to school funding and is long overdue. It re-allocates State Aid so that each student is treated fairly and equally. For the Borough of West Wildwood, this means property tax relief. Many of our constituents are seniors on a fixed income, and this plan will come as a blessing to them." (Statement, 6/29/16)

West Milford Councilman Lou Signorino: "I know some people resent it. They try to spin it as if the people that support it don't care about poor kids, because cities tend to get two or three times the amount per child than say West Milford, which to me is not fair. My child is not worth less than anyone else's child." (David Zimmer, "Governor Christie's education aid proposal gets high marks in West Milford," [Star-Ledger](#), 7/4/16)

Paul Boudreau, President of the Morris County Chamber of Commerce: "We support Governor Christie's efforts to reduce property taxes in New Jersey. The school funding formula is broken and unfair. Many property taxpayers across the state are essentially picking up the tab for communities that have the retables and assets to pay a larger share of their own educational costs." (Statement, 7/5/16)

Don Ditzel, President of the Marine Trades Association of New Jersey: "The cost of operating a small business, especially those in our already heavily regulated industry, is significant with property taxes in some cases being one of the largest tax burdens for a business owner. We support efforts such as these for tax fairness and responsible governing and believe that the Fairness Formula is the right thing to do to help ease the property tax burden not only for residents but struggling small business owners." (Statement, 7/5/16)

Westfield School Superintendent Margaret Dolan: "I would welcome additional state funding under a balanced plan that would provide quality education to all students throughout New Jersey — one in which tax relief is attainable for suburban taxpayers and urban school children receive the support needed to succeed." (Katie Park, "'Devil is in the details' of Christie school aid plan," [Star-Ledger](#), 7/3/16)