

Hamilton Township School District

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Lisa C. Dagit

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April 12, 2017

Dear Parents,

With budget season now settling upon us, the reality of stagnant State Aid and rising fixed costs has placed most schools and municipalities in a tight financial squeeze with no easy solutions in sight. We can all agree that the current state of our local economy has not helped this year's budgetary process. With a 12% premium increase in health benefits, rising energy costs, and significant increases in the cost of related services, we are faced with the daunting task of trying to maintain a balanced program in an effort to meet the needs of all of our students.

This year's budget cycle posed significant challenges but you should be assured that a thorough review of the budget has been conducted in an effort to do what is necessary to enhance the educational experience for all of our kids. Details regarding the 2017-18 School Budget will be outlined at our annual Budget presentation on Monday, April 24th at 7 p.m. in the Davies School Library.

Please note that our school calendar has changed and our last day of school for the 16-17 school year will be Thursday, June 15th. It is a scheduled half day.

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend the third and final Strategic Planning meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 6pm. We will be reviewing the outcomes from our first two sessions and developing our final Strategic Planning Goals. Please RSVP by calling Carol Bowen at 609-476-6302 or you can e-mail her at bowenc@hamiltonschools.org.

If you have any questions, or would like to speak with me in regard to this year's budget or any other school related issues, please do not hesitate to contact me. Wishing you and your family all the best for a restful and peaceful Spring Break.

Sincerely,

Frank Vogel