

# LUMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

33 Municipal Drive  
Lumberton, NJ 08048-4516

Joseph Langowski  
Superintendent

(609)267-1406, Ext. 6614  
E-Mail: [jlangowski@lumberton.k12.nj.us](mailto:jlangowski@lumberton.k12.nj.us)

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Dear parents and staff,

Last night I presented “Lumberton Township School District 2018 and Beyond” to our Board of Education. The slideshow, which is on our website, detailed the challenges and opportunities for our district in the future, which include declining student enrollment and substantial loss of state aid. This letter will include factual information so that you can be informed about our district in the future.

### **Declining enrollment:**

The birth rate in Lumberton has declined from 18.0 births/1000 in 2003 to 8.2 births/1000 in 2016. As a result, LTSD has lost an estimated 500 students from its peak enrollment.

### **Loss of state aid:**

Last night the Board approved a resolution offsetting a loss of over \$269,000 in state aid for the 2018-19 school year. District administration was provided with the revised state aid figures *on July 13, 2018*. It is our understanding that additional reductions will be phased in over the next six years. *While no current employees will lose their positions for the 2018-19 school year*, the district will need to close a school in the future because of these reductions and the declining enrollment.

### **Re-organizing the district and the referendum**

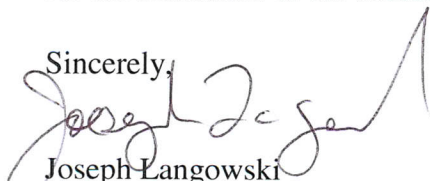
Last night I recommended including the construction of 8 bathrooms at the Ashbrook School as part of our referendum. These bathrooms are required for students in kindergarten. *If the referendum passes* (set for March, 2019), the re-organization of the district would be as follows:

Year	School	Grades
2018-2019	FLW	Pre-K through 1
	AES	2 and 3
	BRS	4 and 5
	LMS	6, 7 and 8
2019-2020	FLW	Pre-K through 2
	AES	Construction
	BRS	3, 4 and 5
	LMS	6, 7 and 8
2020-2021	FLW	Closed
	AES	Pre-K through 2
	BRS	3, 4 and 5
	LMS	6, 7 and 8

The Referendum Task Force will resume in the fall and I encourage you to participate as the maintenance and improvement of our schools is more important now than ever before. We anticipate the state of New Jersey will pay for 40% of the referendum costs if the vote passes.

I hope to attend the Meet Your Teacher nights in September and am also available by email or phone for any questions ([jlangowski@lumberton.k12.nj.us](mailto:jlangowski@lumberton.k12.nj.us), 609 267 1406 x6614). Please accept my best wishes for the remainder of the summer.

Sincerely,



Joseph Langowski  
Superintendent