

## **Township of West Milford**

Passaic County, New Jersey

~ Resolution 2016 – 269 ~

### **RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, STATE OF NEW JERSEY SUPPORTING EQUAL FUNDING FOR THE EDUCATION OF EACH STUDENT**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Chris Christie is proposing a solution to New Jersey's two most pressing crisis that are hurting all New Jerseyans: the failure of urban education and property taxes; and

**WHEREAS**, predominantly caused by billions in tax dollars pouring into continually failing urban school districts, due to New Jersey's unaffordable and broken school funding formula created by NJ's Supreme Court; and

**WHEREAS**, West Milford Township supports an equal per-pupil funding plan what would provide tax fairness for all residents and better public education for every New Jersey student; and

**WHEREAS**, the statewide graduation rate is 90% with 27 of the 31 Abbott districts falling below that average despite significantly higher state funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the current formula crushes the majority of property taxpayers and has in the past several years chased millions of residents and employers to more affordable states with balanced tax structures; and

**WHEREAS**, on average, 52% of property taxes statewide are spent on the school tax and in many districts it is as high as two-thirds; and

**WHEREAS**, West Milford Township believes that all NJ children should be valued equally; and

**WHEREAS**, West Milford Township supports equal funding for all, with each public school district receiving \$6,599.00 per enrolled student, while continuing aid for special needs students; and

**WHEREAS**, a balanced tax structure and mandatory equal funding for all NJ students will bring fairness and overall tax savings without negatively impacting the educational level; and

**WHEREAS**, an equal per-pupil funding plan could generate an average property tax savings in the Township of West Milford of \$720.00 or more; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township of West Milford does hereby support a mandatory, equal, per-pupil funding plan to be provided by the state for a balanced tax structure.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Chris Christie, West Milford Board of Education, Township's Legislative Representatives and surrounding municipalities.

Adopted: September 7, 2016

Adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016  
and certified as a true copy of an original.

---

Antoinette Battaglia, Township Administrator/Clerk