



Califon Public School

"Making Their Lives Extraordinary"



Mr. Jason Kornegay
Superintendent

Mr. Daniel Patton
Principal

May 1, 2018

Dear Califon Parents and Community Members,

I am writing with important information about future planning for Califon School. As many of you are aware, we have experienced steadily declining enrollment over the past 10 years. In 2015 we commissioned a formal demographic study that indicated a continued downward trend in enrollment for the next several years. As of the writing of this letter, we have six of our nine grade levels (K-8) with less than 10 students per grade. In addition, we have two grades that are currently single gender classes.

In response to these concerns, the Board of Education commissioned a study of the feasibility of entering into a send/receive relationship with the Lebanon Township School District. Specifically, we asked an outside agency to evaluate whether or not it is feasible and advisable to send some or all of our students to Lebanon Township Schools as tuition students. Over the past two years, the Board has continued to be concerned about the ability of the district to provide a sustainable, quality program for our children. When we initiated the study, we charged the study creators with looking at programs and services for children. Our primary goal was to determine if we can continue to provide an excellent education for our students under the current conditions.

The study examined instructional program concerns, co-curricular offerings, special education programs, support services for students, and a wide variety of other programmatic issues. Additionally, the study examined a wide range of logistical and fiscal factors that will impact the district in the short and long term.

The members of the Board of Education understand that these issues are not easy to solve and that there is an enormous range of factors to consider as we move forward with our decision-making. We will be discussing the preliminary results of the study at the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, May 10, 2018. This study is designed to inform the decision-making of the board and does not obligate the Board to take any specific action. The Board will; however, need to consider the data presented in the report and the accompanying recommendations.

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We encourage all parents and community members to come to the meeting to hear the results of the study. We hope that you can join us to hear about this important issue. Specific information about the meeting is listed below.

Sincerely,



Jason R. Kornegay

Meeting Date: Thursday, May 10, 2018

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Califon School Gym