

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Superintendents

**From:** Acting Commissioner Christopher D. Cerf

**Date:** July 12, 2011

**Re:** Additional State Funding

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Last week, Governor Christie signed into law the State budget for Fiscal Year 2012. Governor Christie's budget includes \$850 million in new aid for all schools, and specifically authorizes new funding for your district. I am pleased to announce that aid information has been provided today to chief school administrators and school business administrators by the Department of Education's Finance Office through the School Aid Payments and Notices website.

The additional State aid included in this year's budget provides your district with a unique opportunity to reduce property tax burdens by lowering your local property tax levies for this fiscal year or the next. Using this aid to lower taxes is an important step towards new and effective management of our schools that focuses on improved student achievement, rather than increased spending. I urge you to join our reform initiative by applying these newly-allocated funds to alleviate your district's taxes this fiscal year.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to my office.