

## MOUNT SINAI UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## Dr. Christine Criscione

Maureen Poerio
District Clerk/Executive Assistant

Superintendent of Schools

**Linda F. Jensen**Asst. Superintendent For Business

January 19, 2024

Dear Mount Sinai Community,

On January 16, 2024, following her Executive Budget presentation, New York State Governor Kathy Hochul disclosed the School Aid figures for the 2024-25 academic year.

The announcement included details about Foundation Aid allocations. This funding is crucial as it forms a substantial part of the income for all school districts. In the case of Mount Sinai, Foundation Aid constituted 18.91% of our total revenue (with State Aid accounting for 28.22% of our revenue). The proposed budget has earmarked \$12,637,094 in Foundation Aid for the Mount Sinai School District. This represents a **decrease** of \$1,332,085 compared to last year.

While several districts experienced substantial growth in Foundation Aid last year, our district only saw a minimal rise of 3.15% in Foundation Aid, as we are categorized as a "Hold Harmless" District concerning State funding. This reduction in Foundation Aid compared to last year will directly affect our ability to meet student needs.

Our district is deeply committed to our responsibility as guardians of community finances, and for this reason, we ask the State to reconsider the planned budget. We are actively engaging with our representatives to seek adjustments. We also urge residents to contact their elected officials. Contact details for representatives serving our district's constituents in New York State can be found below.

Sincerely,

## MOUNT SINAI BOARD OF EDUCATION

Governor: Kathy Hochul

(518) 474-8390, email: Governor.Hochul@exec.ny.gov

**Lieutenant Governor:** Antonio Delgado (518) 402-2292, email: LGNY@exec.ny.gov

Assembly: Jodi Giglio

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