

It is imperative that our legislators hear from all of us how the Governor's budget proposal and future tax cap will hurt the students of Islip. Below are some "talking points" that you may wish to include in your letters:

Talking Points

- Long Island schools should not be asked to absorb a disproportionate share of future school aid reductions. Long Island schools are already shortchanged by state aid formulas that do not recognize regional economic differences.
- Long Island state aid was reduced by 8.9%, which is 22.6% greater than the 7.2% cut to the rest of the state. The total reduction in aid for Islip is \$2.5M.
- Long Island school aid per pupil is reduced to \$4,246, which is 31.7% lower than the rest of the state.
- In a small district that has been fiscally responsible over many years in reducing the tax rate, the new cuts will force expenditure reductions which may include non-mandated programs such as: Music and art, after-school sports, after-school clubs, library, guidance counselors, Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes at the High School, Advanced Placement courses, Gifted and Talented Program, and more.
- Any tax cap should be sensitive to cost increases beyond District control such as TRS and ERS increases and health premiums.
- Any cap should be introduced in conjunction with mandate relief.

See page 2 for government official contact information.

List of Government Contacts

<p>Governor Andrew M. Cuomo NYS State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224 Phone: (518) 474-8390 http://www.governor.ny.gov/contact/GovernorContactForm.php</p>	
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<p>Senator Owen Johnson <i>District Office</i> 23-24 Argyle Square Babylon, NY 11702 Phone: (631) 669-9200</p> <p><i>Albany Office</i> Legislative Office Building Room 812 Albany, NY 12247 Phone: (518) 455-3411 http://www.nysenate.gov/senator/owen-h-johnson/contact</p>	