



LAUREL PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
48 Swan Lane
Brentwood, NY 11717
Telephone 631-434-2464
FAX 631-972-1528

Dr. Eric Snell
Principal

Hannah McCarthy
Assistant Principal

Rockerfeller Institute
Foundation Aid Study

Dear Members of the Foundation Aid Study Team,

I am writing to you as a veteran principal with 21 years of experience at Laurel Park School, located in the Brentwood School District. Our district has recently experienced a significant milestone with full funding of foundation aid for the 2023-2024 academic year, a rare occurrence in recent years.

I am deeply concerned about the potential implications of any changes to the foundational aid formula, particularly as it affects schools like ours where many of our students are English Language Learners (ELLs), Students with Disabilities (SWD), and risk students. The foundation aid we receive forms the backbone of our funding, crucially supporting the academic services that our ELLs, SWD and at-risk students rely on to succeed.

Throughout my tenure, I have seen firsthand the transformative impact of adequately funded foundation aid on our ability to provide essential academic support and resources to all students. Any reduction or alteration to this funding would undoubtedly have severe and detrimental consequences for our school community, impacting our ability to meet the diverse needs of our students effectively.

I urge you to consider the unique challenges faced by districts with high populations of ELLs, SWD, and at-risk students when evaluating the foundation aid formula. These students require specialized support to thrive academically and socially, and stable funding is essential to ensure they receive the services they need and deserve.

I am keenly interested in the outcomes of your study and would appreciate being kept informed of its progress and findings. Please feel free to reach out to me if there are opportunities for further discussion or input from educators and administrators on the front lines.

Thank you for your dedication to improving educational equity and outcomes through your research. I hope that together, we can ensure that all students, especially those most in need, continue to receive the support they require to succeed.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Snell, Ph.D.', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Eric Snell, Principal