



STERLING HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

501 S. WARWICK ROAD, SOMERDALE, NEW JERSEY 08083-2175

PHONE (856) 784-1333

FAX (856) 784-7661

Mr. Matthew Sheehan, Superintendent

January 10, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to discuss the next step in the process of seeking a feasibility study exploring the options for regionalization, consolidation and sharing services amongst our districts. My hope is to have Sterling board approve the issuance of an RFP at our February 2nd meeting and approve a vendor at our March 2nd meeting. When we met on October 26th, my understanding was that there was a consensus among our districts to move forward with this, with Sterling taking the lead. We are developing an RFP which we will circulate shortly for your review and comment.

The good news is that there is grant funding available to support these types of studies when they are undertaken by more than one government entity. We would like to apply for this grant as the lead agency, but we need the support of our sending districts to not only be eligible, but to hopefully increase the attractiveness of our application. Any funding we receive would offset the cost of the feasibility study.

The idea of regionalization and/or consolidation is intimidating to our communities. I want to be clear that my primary goals in this undertaking are to create a stronger network among our districts and identify all possible areas of articulation among us, including curriculum, CST services, athletics, transportation, etc. If regionalization becomes desirable or even inevitable at some point, then I hope we will have built the relationships and infrastructure to make it successful. In the immediate future, I hope the feasibility study is an opportunity for all of us to learn what that could look like in the future, but more importantly, identify the immediate opportunities for efficiency and enhancing the education we provide through shared services and collaboration.

I have attached for your consideration a sample resolution supporting the Local Efficiency Achievement Program (LEAP) grant application. The application must be submitted by March 15th. To that end, if you could present to your respective boards at your January or February meetings, that would ensure it would meet our deadline.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with all of you to better serve our students.

Sincerely,

Matthew Sheehan

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