

The Claymont City School Board is very aware of the financial picture for our residents and our school district. The Board of Education over the past several years has taken an in-depth look into our finances. Over this time, we have made several reductions in expenditures while making a concerted effort to make as little as possible of an impact on our students at Claymont.

At the end of the 2020- 2021 school year, the Preschool Building (Park) will be closed and those students will consolidate with our Primary Building (Trenton Ave.) for the 2021 -2022 school year. Our administration has already developed and planned room assignments at the Primary School which will now be the home of Preschool, Kindergarten and 1st Graders.

Along with the closure of the Preschool Building, we will be instituting staff reductions for the next school year. Our current class size is at an average of 15.36 students per teacher, and in comparison to the local schools' average is 18.54 students per teacher. We recognize that there will be an overall increase in class size due to staff reductions, but we have the utmost confidence in our teachers' abilities to handle this change. As a district, we are trying to align with HB 1, State School Budget Funding Plan for 2021.

We have evaluated positions and will continue to evaluate positions within the district in order to maintain a quality school system. We have made changes to our bussing schedules to make them more cost efficient. We have updated our lighting to LED where we have seen significant decreases in our energy costs. These changes and others have helped our overall school budget.

These decisions are very difficult, but necessary for Claymont City Schools. The Board will continue to monitor the district budget and by 2023 may be forced to look at a future operating levy or further reductions and/or building closures.

The Board has a goal by 2028 that they, along with community input, will explore the options and opportunities for an Elementary Campus on Indian Hill Road.