

LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

124 Willow Drive, Little Silver, NJ 07739

Dr. Carolyn M. Kossack Superintendent of Schools Tel: 732-741-2188 Fax: 732-741-3644

August 25, 2017

Dear Parents,

On a monthly basis I publish a Spotlight newsletter regarding pertinent district issues. During the 2016-17 school year, there were several articles regarding school funding (i.e. November 2016 - *NJ School Aid: 200 Districts Who Got the Least Help,* February 2017 - *Operating Within the 2% Cap,* May 2017 - *Did You Know,* August 2017 - *Little Silver Realizes Minimal State Aid Increases*). The theme of each article reflected the fact that Little Silver receives minimal funding and that taxpayers assume 94.3% of the total cost to run the district.

I've communicated the fact that with rising operational costs, there is little room for anything other than the necessities. I've also conveyed that we have reached a point where we may need to ask parents for additional contributions. Therefore...during this upcoming school year our students in grades 1-8 will be one-to-one with Chromebooks assigned specifically to them. While we work hard to teach students to be responsible, we continue to deal with broken computer components. It has become cost prohibitive for the district to purchase insurance for every computer. It is also time prohibitive for a two-person Technology Department to deal with on-going repairs. Therefore, we are strongly encouraging parents to purchase an annual insurance policy for your child's assigned device at a cost of \$20 for this 2017-18 school year. Should you choose *not* to purchase an insurance policy and your child damages his/her device, the following will reflect the repair costs that will be imposed:

- LCD Screen w/Case Fully Assembled \$120
- Motherboard **\$140**
- Keyboard/Touchpad \$55
- Case Top **\$50**
- Case Bottom \$30
- LCD Screen Bezel (Trim) **\$35**
- Power plug **\$15**

We are working with a company, Worth Ave. Group, which offers comprehensive, full-service service plans for Chromebooks, laptops, etc. The company provides competitive prices for group policies and a viable solution for our district to provide technology and maintain reasonable maintenance costs.

Student's Name:

Parent's Name:

Parent's Signature:

I am purchasing the insurance and have enclosed Cash or a Check made payable to the Little Silver Board of Education

I <u>am not</u> purchasing the Chromebook Insurance and I will incur the cost of repair should an incident occur involving my child and his/her device.