S SILVRAY

SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

82 Monrovia Avenue, Smyrna, Delaware 19977 Telephone (302) 653-8585 Fax (302) 659-6290

Board of Education
Jonathan E. Snow, President
Dr. Charlie Wilson, Vice President
Christopher T. Scuse
Bobbi Jo Webber
Aaron Weisenberger

October 8, 2025

The Smyrna School Board has always been, and remains, one of the strongest advocates for increasing pay for our staff to recruit and retain the very best educators for our students. That commitment was the driving force behind our decision to move forward with a referendum that would have provided our staff with a 9% raise over a two-year period. Unfortunately, that referendum did not pass.

Our budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year projects over a \$750,000 increase just to maintain the level of services provided last year. These costs come even after significant reductions in administrative expenses, including the elimination of several high-paying positions such as the Director of Operations, Director of Special Services, Supervisor of Finance, and Supervisor of Curriculum as well as a decrease in the administrative multiplier.

The projected increase includes step raises, longevity bonus increases, EPER increases for staff, higher utility rates, increased insurance costs, and inflationary costs. These increases project us to be in deficit spending by the end of this year or next year. While we want very much to offer additional raises to our staff, it would be fiscally irresponsible to do so with non-sustainable funding.

The Smyrna School Board remains committed to supporting our educators and staff, and we will continue to seek sustainable ways to improve compensation while ensuring the financial stability of our district for the future. We welcome any and all ideas towards achieving this goal.

Signed Smyrna School District Board of Education,

Jonathan Snow, President

Dr. Charlie Wilson, Vice President

Christopher Scuse

Bobbi Jo Webb

Aaron Weisenberger

The Smyrna School District does not discriminate in employment, educational programs, services, or activities based on race, color, marital status, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or any other protected category or status in accordance with state and federal laws. Inquiries should be directed to the District Superintendent.