



Edison Preparatory School

EQUITY CHARACTER EXCELLENCE TEAM JOY



April 7th, 2017

As you know, our district is managing a serious budget crisis resulting from the state's projected 2017-2018 revenue failure. The district leadership team has carefully and thoroughly reviewed every viable option to achieve the cost savings we need to offset an expected \$12 million reduction in state funding. These funding cuts mean that Tulsa Public Schools must make incredibly difficult decisions to balance our 2017-2018 budget. This week, Superintendent Gist presented preliminary budget reduction recommendations to the Tulsa Board of Education which included consolidating middle school athletics teams and downsizing high school athletics programs. Unfortunately, these recommendations - if implemented in 2017-2018 - will affect Edison Preparatory Middle School and High School community.

The proposed changes that would impact our students and families are as follows:

- Lose our budgeted stipends for swimming. (Swimming was removed 2016-2017 school year.)
- Edison Middle School will operate with Clinton Middle School as a single athletic program.

It's important to know that no final determinations have been made about potential eliminations or consolidations. However, to ensure that our student athletes continue to have access to high-quality programming, our athletics staff are working with district leaders to make plans for the worst case funding scenario.

We know how much our athletics programming matters to all of us in the Edison family. These programs give our kids important extracurricular experiences with teamwork, leadership, and perseverance. Athletics programs create hands-on learning opportunities that build character and create alternate pathways for academic, personal, and professional success. While the range of programs we are able to offer may diminish, we remain committed to doing all that we can to support our student athletes and provide them with great learning experiences both on and off the field.

Now, more than ever, it is critical for our community members to raise their voices and advocate for the public education funding we need to protect programs like these and ensure that our courts, fields, and classroom doors stay open for all Tulsa children. I hope that you will take a few minutes to [contact your legislator](#) and let them know that these continued cuts to education funding are limiting opportunities for Oklahoma children.

Thanks for your support!

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DESTINATION EXCELLENCE

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