

## TRANSPORTATION

Nonpublic schools have attempted a variety of options in order to maintain transportation within the \$884.00 per pupil ceiling. Even though transportation costs should possibly decrease because of the dramatic drop in fuel costs, bus owners contend that rising costs for insurance and salaries (many contractors are using unionized workers) are the problem.

It is important for **parents to tell their own frustrating stories** of what has happened in recent years in their attempts to have their children transported to a nonpublic school. This rate of \$884.00 has been frozen for the past 9 years and for the FY 2016-17 remains frozen.

## NURSING

Nursing is a health and safety consideration which should be available with state funding for all students in both public and nonpublic schools. **The health of nonpublic schools students is no less important than the health of public school students.**

The Legislature placed sufficient money in nursing services in the 2014-15 school year to bring the amount to \$94.85, the governor's budget eliminated those increases last year making the amount \$90.00 and this year and placed the per-pupil amount for nonpublic school nursing services at \$85.00. So, in the past two year we have lost **almost \$10.00 per pupil** for nursing services.

## TECHNOLOGY

Since 1998-1999 school year nonpublic schools have been included in a budget appropriation for technology aid – both equipment in classrooms and the training of teachers in technology at the rate of \$40.00 per pupil; for several years this amount was eliminated from the budget completely before being reinstated in **2014/15 at the rate of \$32.00 per pupil. Last year it dropped to \$26.00 per pupil and in the 2016/17 budget has been reduced again to \$20.00 per pupil.** Using these dollars for technology and training for teachers of technology is a wise investment for all citizens of New Jersey because it represents an opportunity for elementary and secondary students to receive state-of-the-art instruction on the skills necessary for success in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

## SECURITY

In the FY 2016 Appropriations Act, we received \$3.7 million (\$25.00 per student).

While the nonpublic school community did receive \$25.00 per pupil, we believe that much more is necessary. The public school community has a "Security Aid" line item in the annual Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 of over \$199 million (an increase in \$4 million). Even though this account may be used for other purposes, if one were to divide the population of public school students into that amount, the result is \$140.00 per pupil for public school students. That amount is far above the \$25.00 per pupil allotted to the nonpublic school students. The Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 budget completely **eliminated the language authorizing the Nonpublic School Security Aid Program.**

Nonpublic school students face the same risks as the public school students in regard to safety and are entitled to the same protection. The loss of this funding is a blow to our schools. **The safety and security of children in a Catholic school is equally as important as the safety of public school children.**