

Report on the use of Maintenance and Operations override monies during the 2021-22 school year

Joseph City Unified School District | Public Meeting | October 11, 2022

What is an override?

The Joseph City Unified School District has a Maintenance and Operations budget override in place at this time. The override authorizes an increase to Maintenance and Operations funding of 15 percent. These additional funds are generated by local property taxes and may only be used for maintenance and operations purposes. They may not be used to purchase capital equipment or fund major building improvements.

How much is it?

The override provided additional funds of approximately \$628,488 in 2021-22. It can cost the average homeowner between \$19 and \$78 per year, depending on the assessed value of their property. Since override funds are a percentage of the Maintenance and Operations budget, which is determined each year by Arizona and legislative funding formulas, the annual override amount can vary over its life cycle. Override amounts in past years have been:

- \$403,285 in 2009-10
- \$401,884 in 2010-11
- \$405,837 in 2011-12
- \$387,726 in 2012-13
- \$362,006 in 2013-14
- \$344,401 in 2014-15
- \$348,952 in 2015-16
- \$354,343 in 2016-17
- \$369,434 in 2017-18
- \$387,259 in 2018-19
- \$272,562 in 2019-20
- \$643,963 in 2020-21

The number of enrolled students drives funding for schools. The decreasing override amounts in past years reflect corresponding decreases in student enrollment.

What is the timeline?

The current override was approved by voters in November 2019 and became effective with the 2020-21 school year. The 2021-22 school year is the second year of a 7-year override cycle. The override is authorized to be funded at the full amount for five years. In the sixth year (2025-26) funding will be reduced by one-third. In the seventh year (2026-27), funding will be reduced by

two-thirds and eliminated completely in 2027-28, unless voters approve a renewal of the override in the November 2024 election.

How is the money used?

| Purpose of the override | What the District has done |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Keep abreast of educational trends | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made sure technology is updated and current • Provided training for teachers and staff in the areas of effective educational practices and other skills and knowledge essential to success |
| Keep salaries competitive | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used override monies to help fund salaries and benefits for staff • While salaries are sometimes lower than other schools in the region, the District has been able to maintain compensation levels sufficient to attract and retain qualified staff, thus far |
| Furnish classroom supplies | Used override funds to ensure students have the instructional supplies they need to achieve educational goals |
| Maintain educational programs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used override monies to continue offering effective educational programs as state and federal funding has been cut • Purchased and updated curriculum materials, including software applications, essential to meeting new state academic standards • Override monies help fund tools and software to measure and improve student achievement • Student test scores and school rankings are among the highest in the region |
| Maintain class sizes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although class sizes in some grades have increased, class sizes are at a reasonable number of students for effective instruction • Used override monies to add Instructional Aides to assist in larger classes |

Questions? Comments?

The Joseph City School district values your feedback. We are committed to providing the best possible educational opportunities for your children. We thank you for your willingness to support effective schools and appreciate the sacrifices you make for kids. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

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