

Education Law §3614 School Funding Allocation Report

Part F - Narrative Description

1. **(A) Describe the local methodology/approach used to allocate funds to each school in the district during the process of budget development and implementation. (B) Please also describe the role(s) of all relevant stakeholders in such budgetary processes and decision-making. (C) Finally, if schools are allocated a significant portion of their funds—either in part or in full—through a formula, outline the nature/mechanics of the formula and the elements impacting each school's allocation.**

Specifically, the Division of Budget and the State Education Department would consider a complete response to this question to include explicit answers to the questions included in the rubric below, including a substantive discussion on the translation of students needs into the district's budget (at least 1 sentence per question, when applicable).

The Chief Financial Officer and Superintendent lead the budget development. We begin in January with town hall meetings to get the communities involvement. We also have each school work with their building leadership team to determine what is needed moving forward. They will also meet with students to get building input. Buildings and Departments submit their budget proposals and it is reviewed by the Administration (includes all admins-building and district level) as a group.

The administration works together to determine what items should be added to the budget and gives suggestions on solutions that will help more than one group. The final items get added to the budget for the year.

Individual schools also receive a per pupil allocation in which the Principal has discretion as to how to be spend. Items can include classroom materials, student activities, field trips, technology. Instructional materials aid is allocated to the buildings based upon enrollment; however, we do allow transfer of monies should the needs the schools require. In addition, the District relies on a building needs index (1 to 4) to identify schools within the district to assist in reallocation of resources. In the 2022-23 budget, we weighted the monies received by the schools depending upon their rating.

2. **If applicable, is there anything unique about certain schools which explain why per pupil spending at these locations may be significantly higher/lower than the district average?**

Seniority of staff and the corresponding higher wages according to the collective bargaining agreement. We have have some schools which have more intensive special education classrooms so the costs are higher.

3. **If applicable, describe any items which the district feels are anomalous in nature and require additional description.**

