

Superintendent's Warrior Report

Preparing Champions for LIFE!

State Aid Funding Update 2019-20

The state Education Department made public Fiscal Year 2020 state aid formula funding for school districts. In short, it's great news!

State formula funding saw a significant increase totaling about \$166 million that will afford schools the opportunity and flexibility to increase teacher salaries, lower class sizes and meet other local needs.

The state aid factor in-

creased \$146.98 per weighted average daily membership (WADM).

Legislative appropriations to the state aid funding formula grew \$133.6 million.

Local and state-dedicated revenue (chargeables) grew \$32 million, including a \$22 million jump in gross production.

Detailed district-level data is available on the state

Education Department's website.

Oklahoma needs additional investment in public education to reach the regional per-student spending level of our surrounding states. But as you can see in the chart Oklahoma is making important progress toward that goal. There is more information on the education facts page of the state department website.

We continue to Prepare Champions for Life!

GO WARRIORS!

Volume 20 Issue 02

Idabel Public Schools

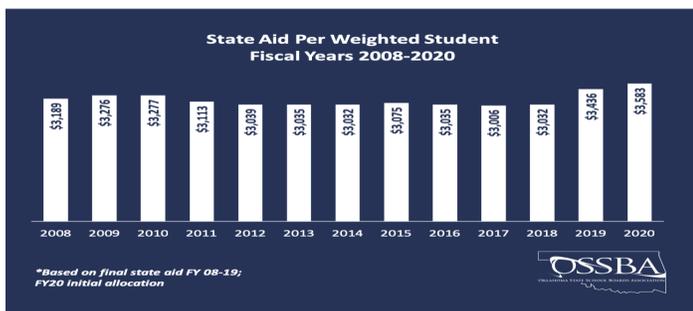
August 12, 2019

Special points of interest:

- 1st Day of School August 12th
- OSSBA Conference Aug 22-25 in OKC
- Football Scrimmage Aug. 23rd
- Football Scrimmage Aug. 30th
- Labor Day—NO SCHOOL Sept 2
- Football vs. Broken Bow Sept 6
- Sept Board Meeting Mon. 9, 5:30

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ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Enrollment for the #ipswarriors ended strong in the previous school year up 14 students. When we compare the beginning of the year enrollment to the end of year enrollment Idabel grew by 14 students.

This is important because our State Aid is calculated using the average daily membership of our district. It is still too early to guess our actual enrollment for this school year will be but our initial budget will be based on these growth

numbers. Early enrollment reports are promising across the district proving the success is paying off and drawing students back to Idabel Public Schools.

GO WARRIORS!

Extra Curricular Students Start Early

Idabel High School #ihswarriors extra-curricular students started early again this year. The Warrior Pride Band has been in "band camp" since July 29th with section leaders and drum majors starting before then to prepare for this year's marching band season. These over 100 musicians have been practicing outside in the mornings and in the auditorium in the afternoon. They are learning their new marching show "Aladdin!" It looks to be very entertaining. Mr. Bell admitted the band is sounding great and feels they are progressing ahead of schedule!

Mrs. Leah Saelim is not to be outdone in the vocal music department. The #ihswarriors Poptime Singers are also participating in a

summer camp. They took the week before school started to learn two new songs and the National Anthem. The Poptime Singers performed for the entire staff on the first day of In-Service and did an amazing job! The

The vocalists practiced four nights for three hours each as a "kick-start" to the school year. The Poptime group has 34 students involved and continues to improve under



Mrs. Saelim's direction.

The Warrior Cheer Leaders, Colorguard and Dance Team have been working hard this summer as well. Hosting fundraisers and getting their routines ready for the 1st football game and Pep Rally. It will be a big one this year with Idabel hosting the Broken Bow Savages on September 6th.

Thanks to all the students and their coaches for their willingness to Prepare Champions for Life!



#imswarriors Choir to perform at OSSBA

Middle School Choir Director, Karla Clay, was informed recently that the 2018-19 middle school show choir, "Champion Voices" was invited to perform at the upcoming OSSBA conference in August.

Mrs. Clay submitted a video audition to the OSSBA and was selected from many other schools across the state. The District will send the Champion Voices choir on Friday after school to spend the night in Oklahoma City to perform Saturday morning for over

2,000 school board members and school administrators. The choir will be singing for about 10-15 minutes prior to the opening of the general session.

The #ihswarriors All-State choir members will also be performing at OSSBA on Friday morning with other All-Staters from across the State. We are proud of all of our vocal music students that will representing the Warrior Nation at this state wide meeting.

Preparing Champions for Life!



#ipswarriors will present at OSSBA

Idabel Public Schools will be representing at the OSSBA/CCOSA conference in August.

Dr. Alan Bryant, Chris Gammon and Superintendent Doug Brown will be collaborating on a presentation called "Technology "Equity in Education" at 10:45 on Friday August 23rd.



The presentation will highlight the many projects, grants and technology that Idabel Public Schools is implementing and identify the strategies that have been successful in creating a more equitable academic environment for our students.

Preparing Champions for Life!

Take It To the Next Level



The #ipswarriors "taking to the next level" committee put an outstanding workshop for our Idabel Warrior teachers. Monday August 5th when teachers are normally frantically preparing their rooms for the new students for the year. Idabel teachers hosted a voluntary workshop to help their co-workers "take it to the next level" in their classrooms.

Warrior staffers presented on technology, classroom management, climate, culture and strategies. Volunteer presenters were Dave White, Carrie Fletcher, Laura Bullock, Chris Gammon, Trudy

Procell, Michelle Hash, Betty Warren, Melissa Jones, Randi McAtee, Tasha Robbins, Karla Capps, Sara Tomlinson. Shannon Pond, Rachel Surratt, and Lindsey Brooks. They all did an outstanding job! Lunch was provide by Taco Alley.

The workshop hosted 44 Idabel teachers from across the district. Every building was represented. It was exciting to see the number of teachers that volunteered their time to improve their skill and profession. Idabel Warrior teachers are "Preparing Champions for Life!"

GO WARRIORS!

Summer Mobile Library Comes to a Close

Idabel Schools has joined a trend to provide a free mobile library to our community. This mobile library is funded through the federal Innovative Approaches to Literacy Grant.

IPSWarriors staff has traveled once a week to specific locations in the city of Idabel to distribute free books to the kids of Idabel. The grant funds a

free book distribution to each school age child to encourage families to increase the number of books in their personal libraries.

IPS staff has given away close to 100 books a week all summer and will continue this program until school starts.

Preparing Champions for Life!



Bond Project Update

#ipswarriors are currently developing our Bond Election Strategy and promotion plans. Our Bonding agent is creating flyers to be distributed and optional strategies that can be implemented to have a positive outcome for our September 10th election.

The overwhelming support that has been expressed for these projects has been supportive. Literally, everyone that I have talked to has expressed that these projects are overdue and have committed to support the bond. This is exciting to continue to hear. Bond supporters are forming a committee to promote

the election and share information with the public.

District employees must remember we cannot use district time or property to promote a certain vote. We can encourage voters to get out and vote but we cannot campaign for a yes vote using District computers or while at work.

Projects include safety upgrades to the existing Ag building, a new band hall to be constructed as a saferoom, and a new all-weather track and football stadium to include concessions, restrooms and press-box. GO WARRIORS!



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Summer Mobile Library

Idabel Summer Mobile Library was a HUGE success on it's inaugural summer. It is estimated that close to 1,000 books were distributed to the children of Idabel. This was made possible from the USDE's Innovative Approaches to Literacy grant.

Chris Gammon, Connie Lynch and Debbie Brown collaborated on this grant and continue to administer the different requirements of the grant including our summer mobile library.

The mobile library distribution was created to help "at-risk" students increase the home libraries encouraging them to read more with their families. Family reading is a researched strategy that improves a child's reading ability for school and future success. We are Preparing Champions for Life!

GO WARRIORS!



Board and Legislative Update



The FY 2020 Initial State Aid Allocation (07/16/19) has been posted.

Again this year, districts will see an increase in per pupil funding due to additional funds appropriated by the legislature to the Financial Support of Schools for certified personnel salary increase and school operational expenditures.

FY 2020 Initial State Aid Formula Allocation	\$3,582.74
Foundation Aid Factor of	\$1,832.54
Salary Incentive Factor of	\$87.51
FY 2019 Initial State Aid Formula Allocation	\$3,419.80
(Increase of \$162.94)	
FY 2019 Midyear/Final State Aid Formula Allocation	\$3,435.76
(Increase of \$146.98)	

This will mean Idabel Schools will receive over \$279,000 above last year's appropriations. This will help cover the expense of the mandated \$1,220 salary increase for certified staff.

BOND Projects

Current bathroom projects at Central Elementary are completed. They look phenomenal (as bathrooms go) they are something to be proud

of. Promotion of the September 10th bond election including the track and football field, the new band hall and upgrades to the agriculture/athletic/Alternative Education wing will begin this week. We received the promotional boards to display at the high school and present to area civic clubs. We continue to hear extremely positive comments with promises of support for this bond election. Mr. Brown will provide projections and expectations to the Board during the board September 9th Board meeting.

Policies

There are several new State mandated Board Policies that will be coming to your attention in the next few months. The state legislature will be requiring all schools to update or create new several new policies effective this year. We recently signed up for the OSSBA Policy Service and this will allow the OSSBA attorneys to review our current policy manual and update our current manual and verify all old policies are still relevant and legal.

Enrollment

All buildings are reporting active enrollments with new enrollments each day. Currently, Idabel Public Schools' enrollment is 1258 students. We ended the 2019 school year with 1258 students growing 8 students from the beginning count of 1250. All the building principals are reporting new enrollments daily. This is not unusual and our enrollment numbers will fluctuate for a couple more weeks before it settles in for our October 1st "official" count. We all know this is how our state funding is calculate.

Back to School!

Teachers officially returned on August 7th. They were welcomed by the Idabel Warrior Pride Band and Spirit Squads, including Cheer, Color Guard and Dance team. The PopTime Singers opened the meeting with the Star Spangled Banner and got everyone tapping their toes to "The Love Shack" by the B52s. All of these students gave an outstanding performance! We are so blessed to have such talented students and teachers to welcome our staff back to campus. We are *Preparing Champions for Life!*

GO WARRIORS!