

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase**Background/Instructions**

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Background and InstructionsBackground

Section 10-d of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2021, as amended by §5-b of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2022, requires school districts receiving a foundation aid increase of more than 10% or \$10,000,000 to create plans on how these funds will be used to address student performance and need. These plans are required in advance of the 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24 school years. This is the final year that this requirement is in effect. Plans for the 2023-24 school year must be completed, submitted to the department, and posted to district websites by July 1, 2023.

Each district subject to this requirement is required to:

- Seek public comment from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders;
- Take public comments into account in the development of the plan;
- Include an analysis of public comments within the plan;
- Describe in the plan how the foundation aid increase will be used, including portions of the increase used to address the priority areas identified by law;
- Post the plan on the district website; and
- Submit the plan to the State Education Department in a form prescribed by the Department to be posted publicly.

This requirement does not replace any requirements under Contracts for Excellence. If your district is required to submit a contract for excellence, more information is available at this page.

The list of school districts that are required to submit a plan aligned with the increase in foundation aid may be found in the "*Foundation Aid Increase Notification Guidance*" memo located in the *Documents* library at the lower left of the application. It should be noted that this requirement does not obligate districts to spend additional foundation aid funds in specific ways, but does require district seek public comment and share plans on how they intend to spend these additional funds. Plans are required to cover only the foundation aid *increase*. The plan should *not* cover how the district intends to use its *entire* foundation aid amount. Describe in the plan how the foundation aid increase will be used, along with key goals, metrics, or ratios, and the community feedback reflected for portions of the increase used to address any of the following priority areas, as well as any additional areas identified by the district:

1. Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap;
2. Reducing class sizes;
3. Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas;
4. Addressing student social-emotional health;
5. Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities; and students experiencing homelessness;

Instructions

- The *Foundation Aid Increase Survey* is due by July 1, 2023.
- Districts must complete all sections and are required to answer questions marked with a red asterisk. If a required question has not been completed, the business portal will highlight it in red and the section of the application will be flagged. The district will be unable to submit the application to NYSED for final review if a required question remains unresolved.
- The online application may only be submitted/certified by the chief school officer of the district. The designated superintendent or the chief executive officer, or board of trustees president are the only administrators with the submit/certify rights necessary to successfully submit and certify a completed application for NYSED review.
- Districts are NOT REQUIRED to send hard copies of survey materials to the Department.

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Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

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Use of Foundation Aid Increase

1. Please describe how the district plans to utilize funds provided by the foundation aid increase in the following priority areas.
If these funds will not be used for one of the priority areas listed below, please respond with "N/A."

	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap	N/A	N/A	0
Reducing class sizes	.9 teachers had been brought on during the pandemic to help reduce class size. We are now moving these positions to probationary teaching positions to reduce class size on 3 grade teams across the district. A goal is to reduce gaps in grade level standards, most specifically in reading in math. This will be assessed through achievement growth on NWEA for reading and math and monitoring of movement of students across the Tiers for support services.	This was feedback received on our community budget survey in February 2023.	373, 000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Provide virtual, high impact tutoring for students who are not meeting grade level proficiency. The metrics in measuring this goal will be assessing growth on reading running records from the beginning of the year to the end of the year, as well as NWEA growth. The intent is that students' will meet their projected growth.	Feedback was provided through our community budget survey, which indicated that the community was looking for more after school support.	352,000
Addressing student social-emotional health	N/A	N/A	0
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	N/A	n/A	0

2. Please use the chart below to describe 'Other' priority areas not otherwise addressed in Item #1. Click on "Add Row" as applicable for additional priority areas.

Priority Area	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
Increased After School Enrichment Opportunities	Provide more after school opportunities for students, where	This was feedback received on our community budget survey in February	502,000

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Priority Area	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
	families are responsible for a minimal cost of the program. The goal is to increase both the variety of after school opportunities for our students, as well as having more students participate in after school programs. This will be measured by attendance rates for the program and a survey at the end of the year to families.	2023.	
Update to Network Infrastructure	Ensure that all devices have the appropriate connectivity within the district to reduce downtime for instructional and operational purposes. This will be measured by connectivity interruptions and help tickets submitted to the tech department.	An annual strategic plan presentation was shared with the community in February in the area of technology and 21st century learning. The Director of Technology and 21st Century Learning shared that the district is currently in its cycle to update the infrastructure of our network. Community had an opportunity to ask questions, none were received.	572,000
Update playground equipment	Provide updated playground equipment that is accessible for all students in the community.	This was feedback received on our community budget survey in February 2023. There was also a review of the current status of our playground equipment and multiple pieces are beginning to reach the end of their life cycle.	731,000
Additional Support Staff to enhance instructional programming.	The goal is to hire additional teaching assistants, and another STEAM aide to support teachers and students. Teaching assistants will support our special education programming and the STEAM aide will support in class enrichment, math and science opportunities.	This was feedback received on our community budget survey in February 2023 as well as staff feedback.	661,000

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

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3. **Please describe your analysis of public comment from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders on the plan. This analysis should include the approach to outreach that was implemented and common recommendations or suggestions. For recommendations not reflected in the plan above, what limitations or rationale led to the decision to not include? (250 words or less)**

The district used results and feedback from the 2023 budget community survey that was shared and our budget forum to identify the areas for funding. At our June 12, 2023 Board of Education business meeting a public hearing was held to share the plan for the use of funds for the increase in foundation aid. We also provided an opportunity for community members to submit questions and thoughts via public comment and an email address, questions@vs30.org. No questions or comments were submitted.