

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

Page Last Modified: 05/16/2023

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.

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/30/2023

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	n/a	n/a	0
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	n/a	n/a	0
Addressing student social-emotional health	We added 4 additional clubs at the secondary level because we realize how important opportunities and experiences outside the classroom are to students overall success.	The community was very receptive to the additional clubs being added.	110000
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 (\$)
2 FLES teachers	Bethpage decided to introduce foreign language at the K-5 level. Each elementary school will have push-in FLES lessons 1x a week. Our goal is to increase our students' awareness of foreign languages, as well as their associated cultures. In addition, we will look to promote students' fluency in another language as well as the benefits of learning another language. Learning another language at the elementary level also builds students'	The community was very receptive to the inclusion of 2 FLES teachers in the 23-24 school budget. We held two budget committee meetings where this additional budget item was spoken about.	130,000

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/30/2023

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 (\$)
	brain capacity.		
1 Music Teacher	We have had tremendous growth in students taking music classes in the district. To provide students with the best education possible, we added an additional music teacher to the 23-24 school budget.	The community at our presentations on the budget were very pleased with the additional music teacher as they were shown the enormous growth in the numbers of students involved in music in our schools.	70,000
2 Elementary Teachers	We had a growth in the number of sections at CCS elementary school as well as a growth of 1 section at Kramer Lane	Feedback was very supportive of the increase in the number of teachers to accommodate the numbers of students per grade level.	120,000
2.6 Teachers at the Secondary with benefits Level	Once again, we had a growth in the number of students in both our middle and high school which required additional staffing to schedule the buildings.	Feedback was very supportive of the increase in the number of teachers needed to schedule the buildings at the secondary level.	230,000
Renewal of our math program (GO Math) at the k-5 level.	Our subscription to our math program was up this year and we used the increased foundation aid to fund the cost.	Feedback was very supportive of our renewal of this subscription.	200,000
Renewal of our literacy program (Journeys)	Our subscription to our literacy program is up for renewal.	Feedback was very supportive of our renewal of this subscription.	400,000
4 Additional Grade Levels of chromebooks	We had a number of grade levels where students had chromebooks that were end of service. This money allowed for us to provide students with new chromebooks that can support updated software.	The community was very supportive of this priority area.	316,000
Increasing cost of Health Insurance	A large cost increase in health insurance for staff was supported through this money.	The community was supportive of this support.	1,480,000
Supplement Increasing cost of teacher salaries district-wide	Contractual raises were supported by this increase in foundational aid.	The community was supportive of this in the plan.	530,000
Transfer to Capital - large ticket items that we in need of updating were included in the budget	Our goal was to assist in maintaining our buildings to be in excellent condition. We also needed to continue refreshing/supporting our IT needs. In addition, we needed to update our playground equipment, bleachers, PA system, our track, district signage, and parking lots.	Feedback was very supportive of this plan.	900,000

Foundation Aid Increase Survey - Foundation Aid Increase

Use of Foundation Aid Increase Survey

Page Last Modified: 06/30/2023

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 (\$)
1 New bus added	With transportation being very difficult in the past two years, we included in our plan another district bus to support our students getting to and from school as well as after school activities.	Feedback was very supportive of this plan.	150,000
2 New maintenance support employees	To continue to maintain our facilities in excellent condition, we included two new maintainers in the plan.	Feedback was very supportive of this plan.	164,000
6 high-capacity copy machines	As copy machines break down, we thought it wise to include replacement machines to support teacher needs for instruction.	Feedback was very supportive of this plan.	60,000
Increasing cost of electric/heating	The cost of electric and heating have been increasing significantly in the past few years. We plan on using this money to offset some of those costs.	Feedback was very supportive of this plan.	240,000

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

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)**

In Bethpage, we held two budget committee meetings which were made up of the Board of Education, community members, and central administrators. We also hosted a budget hearing for the community in early May to discuss the budget. Each year, community members are asked to be part of the budget process which allows them to offer suggestions. We post an advertisement in the local paper requesting community involvement. This year we received wonderful feedback from the community on the programs being implemented, the additional staff being hired, and the updates to district facilities. There were no recommendations to our planned usage of the additional funds.