

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	Funding for this is included in the next two areas (reducing class sizes and providing academic supports) we see all three all three with strong connections.	Community was engaged through at least 5 budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget was detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and answer sessions with our various bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	0
Reducing class sizes	Fully-funding Foundation Aid will allow the District to maintain our current levels class sizes in all academic areas and grade bands. This is a critical component of our budget development and the amount represents approximately 60 FTE positions	Community was engaged through at least 5 budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget was detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and answer sessions with our various bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	5459642
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	Fully-funding Foundation Aid will allow the District to maintain our current levels of support faculty who assist students with their academic. The funds noted here represents approximately 5 full-time equivalent faculty positions who would include academic intervention teachers. Without the addition of these funds, these positions that would have had to be eliminated, thereby limiting our social-emotional health support of students in crisis.	Community was engaged through at least 5 budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget was detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and answer sessions with our various bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	425000
Addressing student social-	Fully-funding Foundation Aid will allow the	Community was engaged through at least 5	288745

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	Key Goals, Metrics, or Ratios (250 words or less)	Community Feedback Reflected (250 words or less)	New Foundation Aid Funds to Support Initiative (\$)
emotional health	District to maintain our current levels of support faculty who assist students with their social-emotional health needs. The funds noted here represents approximately 5 full-time equivalent faculty positions who would include counselors, psychologists and social workers. Without the addition of these funds, some of these positions that could have had to be eliminated, thereby limiting our social-emotional health support of students in crisis. Additionally we are augmenting these supports through SEL	budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget was detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and answer sessions with our various bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Fully-funding Foundation Aid will allow the District to maintain our current levels of support faculty who assist students with their special education learning needs. The funds noted here represents approximately 3 full-time equivalent faculty positions to address any new entrants or changes in program. Without the addition of these funds, some of these positions that could have had to be eliminated, thereby limiting our agility to adapt to student needs as they arise.	Community was engaged through at least 5 budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget was detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and answer sessions with our various bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	255000

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 (\$)
Student Extra-Curricular activities	Will provide e-sports as a means to engage students in extra-curricular activities who have not engaged in school through the traditional offerings.	Community was engaged through at least 5 budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget was detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and answer sessions with our various	100,765

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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 (\$)
		bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	
Future UPK	Beginning to reserve funds in a capital projects reserve to renovate a major portion of a retired elementary building to provide 3 in-house UPK classrooms	Community was engaged through at least 5 budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget were detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and answer sessions with our various bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	700,000
Additional classroom supplies and curricular development materials	Additional funds will be utilized to project additional curriculum development materials, classroom renovation funds and direct classroom supplies to support learning	Community was engaged through at least 5 budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget were detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and answer sessions with our various bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	354,360
IT Support	With the inclusion of 1:1 tech for all students, we realize that maintaining a strong backbone of IT support is needed. These funds include the addition of a Senior Net Tech position	Community was engaged through at least 5 budget presentations as well as the budget workshop and required budget hearing. All aspects of the budget were detailed in open sessions of the board of education meetings. In addition, there were specific presentations as well as question and	90,000

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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 (\$)
		answer sessions with our various bargaining units as well as our local parent-teacher organization. Social media was utilized as well to provide the public an opportunity to comment and provide feedback or just seek clarification.	

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)**

Development of the budget plan includes opportunities for feedback from the various stakeholders which includes parents, teachers, staff and other community members. The outreach included a variety of budget presentations as different aspects of the budget were being developed. All of the aforementioned presentations were conducted open meetings where public comment is welcomed. Common recommendations included: maintaining our current programs without reductions while at the same time remaining within the property tax levy cap. There was general consensus for maintaining existing programs which included an increased attention to social emotional and mental health supports as well as meeting all mandates for special education. Additionally, it was identified through a functional review that additional support to our tech department was needed to meet the increased demands driven by our 1:1 computer/instruction model. We were able to meet these needs with the increase in Foundation Aid.