

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	N/A
Reducing class sizes	Carmel Central School District administration established budget goals with priorities areas which were supported by the board of education for the 2023-24 school year. The two goals were: 1. Teaching and Learning, 2. Safety and security. Under #1 the priorities areas included ENL programming; Intervention and supports for struggling learners; enrichment for all students; Special education programming; Mental health supports; reduced class size. Under #2 the priority areas included operational communication systems; increased personnel. In order to address goal #1 - priority area enrichment for all students, the District has allocated funds to maintain current levels of personnel while experiencing declining enrollments.	The 2023-24 budget was presented to the community on the following dates: 11/22/22, 12/6/22, 12/20/22, 1/10/23, 1/24/23, 2/7/23, 2/23/23, 3/7/23, 3/21/23, 3/28/23, 4/11/23, 4/25/23, 5/2/22. A community on-line budget survey was issued in January 2023 and the results were shared during subsequent Board meetings. Additionally, a Superintendent's Coffee focused on the budget to solicit feedback was held on 2/15/23. Brief budget Information sessions were held with community groups who requested them on 4/12/23, 4/17/23, 4/18/23, 4/19/23, 5/3/23, 5/11/23, 5/11/23. Community feedback was solicited at all above dates and taken into consideration. A budget exit poll was administered on 5/16/23 to gather information from voters.	\$260,000.00
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	N/A
Addressing student social-emotional health	Carmel Central School District administration established budget goals with priorities areas which were supported by the board of education for the 2023-24 school year. The two goals were: 1. Teaching and Learning, 2. Safety and security. Under #1 the priorities areas included ENL programming; Intervention and supports for struggling learners; enrichment for all students; Special education programming; Mental health supports; reduced class size. Under #2 the priority areas included operational communication systems; increased personnel. In order to address goal #1 -	The 2023-24 budget was presented to the community on the following dates: 11/22/22, 12/6/22, 12/20/22, 1/10/23, 1/24/23, 2/7/23, 2/23/23, 3/7/23, 3/21/23, 3/28/23, 4/11/23, 4/25/23, 5/2/22. A community on-line budget survey was issued in January 2023 and the results were shared during subsequent Board meetings. Additionally, a Superintendent's Coffee focused on the budget to solicit feedback was held on 2/15/23. Brief budget Information sessions were held with community groups who requested them on 4/12/23, 4/17/23, 4/18/23, 4/19/23, 5/3/23, 5/11/23, 5/11/23. Community feedback was	\$738,827.00

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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 (\$)
	priority area mental health supports and enrichment for all students, the District has allocated funds to add personnel and programming.	solicited at all above dates and taken into consideration. A budget exit poll was administered on 5/16/23 to gather information from voters.	
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	Carmel Central School District administration established budget goals with priorities areas which were supported by the board of education for the 2023-24 school year. The two goals were: 1. Teaching and Learning, 2. Safety and security. Under #1 the priorities areas included ENL programming; Intervention and supports for struggling learners; enrichment for all students; Special education programming; Mental health supports; reduced class size. Under #2 the priority areas included operational communication systems; increased personnel. In order to address goal #1 - priority area ENL programming, intervention and supports for struggling learners, and Special education programming, the District has allocated funds to add personnel and programming.	The 2023-24 budget was presented to the community on the following dates: 11/22/22, 12/6/22, 12/20/22, 1/10/23, 1/24/23, 2/7/23, 2/23/23, 3/7/23, 3/21/23, 3/28/23, 4/11/23, 4/25/23, 5/2/22. A community on-line budget survey was issued in January 2023 and the results were shared during subsequent Board meetings. Additionally, a Superintendent's Coffee focused on the budget to solicit feedback was held on 2/15/23. Brief budget Information sessions were held with community groups who requested them on 4/12/23, 4/17/23, 4/18/23, 4/19/23, 5/3/23, 5/11/23, 5/11/23. Community feedback was solicited at all above dates and taken into consideration. A budget exit poll was administered on 5/16/23 to gather information from voters.	\$1,840,000.00

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 (\$)
Transportation.	Decrease the age of the District's transportation fleet which averages approximately 20 years old and increase the safety of student transportation. In order to achieve this goal, the District has entered into a 5 year lease agreements.	The 2023-24 budget was presented to the community on the following dates: 11/22/22, 12/6/22, 12/20/22, 1/10/23, 1/24/23, 2/7/23, 2/23/23, 3/7/23, 3/21/23, 3/28/23, 4/11/23, 4/25/23, 5/2/22. A community on-line budget survey was issued in January 2023 and the results were shared during subsequent Board meetings. Additionally, a Superintendent's Coffee	696,000

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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 (\$)
		focused on the budget to solicit feedback was held on 2/15/23. Brief budget Information sessions were held with community groups who requested them on 4/12/23, 4/17/23, 4/18/23, 4/19/23, 5/3/23, 5/11/23, 5/11/23. Community feedback was solicited at all above dates and taken into consideration. A budget exit poll was administered on 5/16/23 to gather information from voters.	
Facilities and Grounds.	Increase equipment purchases and implement asbestos removal program which were significantly impacted during the 2021-2022 school year due to operating under a contingent budget.	The 2023-24 budget was presented to the community on the following dates: 11/22/22, 12/6/22, 12/20/22, 1/10/23, 1/24/23, 2/7/23, 2/23/23, 3/7/23, 3/21/23, 3/28/23, 4/11/23, 4/25/23, 5/2/22. A community on-line budget survey was issued in January 2023 and the results were shared during subsequent Board meetings. Additionally, a Superintendent's Coffee focused on the budget to solicit feedback was held on 2/15/23. Brief budget Information sessions were held with community groups who requested them on 4/12/23, 4/17/23, 4/18/23, 4/19/23, 5/3/23, 5/11/23, 5/11/23. Community feedback was solicited at all above dates and taken into consideration. A budget exit poll was administered on 5/16/23 to gather information from voters.	214,000
Continued support of technology 1:1 device initiative	During the 2022-2023 school year the District allocated funds to replace smartboards, workstations, new computer leases and switch replacements to support increased devices supporting a 1:1 initiative. The District plans to continue support of the technology plan for the 2023-2024 school year with both equipment and personnel.	The 2023-24 budget was presented to the community on the following dates: 11/22/22, 12/6/22, 12/20/22, 1/10/23, 1/24/23, 2/7/23, 2/23/23, 3/7/23, 3/21/23, 3/28/23, 4/11/23, 4/25/23, 5/2/22. A community on-line budget survey was issued in January 2023 and the results were shared during subsequent Board meetings. Additionally, a Superintendent's Coffee focused on the budget to solicit feedback was held on 2/15/23. Brief budget Information sessions were held	900,175

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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 (\$)
		with community groups who requested them on 4/12/23, 4/17/23, 4/18/23, 4/19/23, 5/3/23, 5/11/23, 5/11/23. Community feedback was solicited at all above dates and taken into consideration. A budget exit poll was administered on 5/16/23 to gather information from voters.	

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 addition to public comments at the Board of Education budget meetings from December 2022 through May 2023, the Carmel Central School District administered an online budget survey to gather input from the community on budget priorities in January 2023. The District also hosted a Superintendent Coffee focused on the budget on 2/15/23. The data set from the survey was shared with the BOE and the public at large during Board meetings. District officials also hosted seven budget information sessions for community groups who requested them to gather input on the proposed budget. The end result of all this work resulted in one of the largest voter turnouts in over 50 years. Voters were also able to participate in a budget exit poll on May 16 after casting their vote.