

Public Comment Analysis

Date: April 30, 2023

Topic: Formulas Used to Allocate Revenue Among Community School Districts and Schools

Date of PEP Vote: May 1, 2023

Summary of Proposed Item

Pursuant to Education Law section 2590-r and Chancellor's Regulation B-801, the Chancellor shall develop objective formulas for use in allocating projected revenues among community school districts and their schools. The formula developed by the New York City Department of Education ("NYCDOE"), known as the Fair Student Funding formula, utilizes baseline and special categorical weighted multipliers to allocate revenue to schools. The NYCDOE uses this formula, together with an estimate of the total sum of money available, to provide community school districts and schools with budget allocations for use in the school-based budgeting process set forth in Chancellor's Regulation B-801.

Each year, the Chancellor shall submit the proposed allocation formulas to the Panel for Education Policy (the "Panel") for approval. In response to the Fair Student Funding Working Group recommendations, we are proposing to create two new weights. A Students in Temporary Housing ("STH") weight – to support students who are homeless or in temporary housing, and a Concentration Need weight – to support schools with a large proportion of students with high needs.

Summary of Written Comments

The NYCDOE received the following comment through the dedicated email address for this proposal:

- Comment 1 expresses opposition to a Fair Student Funding proposal which would cut funding to specialized high schools including Brooklyn Tech, Bronx Science, and Stuyvesant.

The NYCDOE received the following comment through the dedicated phone line for this proposal:

- Comment 2 requests spending and forecasting data for NYC schools as part of a research project.

Analysis of Issues Raised and Significant Alternatives Proposed

Comment 1 expresses opposition to a Fair Student Funding proposal which would cut funding to specialized high schools including Brooklyn Tech, Bronx Science, and Stuyvesant.

At this time, NYCDOE is only proposing to add a new weight for Students in Temporary Housing and a separate, new weight for Concentration Need. These newly proposed weights will not impact the other weights in the Fair Student Funding formula.

Comment 2 requests spending and forecasting data for NYC schools as part of a research project.

Comment 2 is unrelated to the item under consideration and therefore does not require a response.

Changes Made to the Proposal

No changes have been made to this proposal.

Information Regarding Where the Full Text of the Proposed Item May Be Obtained

The proposed Formula is available at:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/panel-for-education-policy>

The proposed Formula, as posted on the NYCDOE website on March 17, 2023, will be presented to the Panel for Educational Policy for a vote at its May 1, 2023 meeting.