

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	The addition of FTE and instructional resources were aimed to increase graduation rate and eliminate achievement gaps. As defined below, the addition of instructional resources aligned to the science of reading provides a research based program to eliminate gaps created when a segment of the student population is unable to attain a foundation in reading. The addition of faculty in ENL, Special Education, Reading and School Counseling will provide foundational knowledge and support for students that are struggling to attain grade level standards for academic, social emotional, behavioral or attendance reasons.	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget. These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	Included Below
Reducing class sizes	The District has allocated funds for additional staffing K-12 to reduce class sizes. An additional section has been added at the K-5 level to keep our class sizes in the range of 18-22 in K-2 and 21-25 in 3-5. The addition of 2.4 FTE at the middle school will allow for an additional 2 sections across all core subject areas in grade 7 and 8 and the addition of 1.0 FTE at grade 6 will maintain appropriate class sizes. The addition of a .4 science teacher at the HS will also help with class sizes in that area.	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget. These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	384,000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	The addition of 1.0 FTE in ENL will be utilized across the District to support an increase of English Language Learners. We have also allocated funding for the addition of a 1.0 FTE Reading Specialist to support students demonstrating reading	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget. These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business	600,000

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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 (\$)
	deficiencies at the elementary level. The addition of 4.0 Special Education teachers will also support students at risk of not meeting state standards. In addition a new reading series aligned to the science of reading is being purchased and implemented with these funds.	Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	
Addressing student social-emotional health	Funding has been allocated to the addition of 1.5 FTE School Counselor positions at the elementary level to support social emotional health and academic planning. School Counselors are creating a comprehensive SEL curriculum to be delivered in the K-8 classrooms across the district. Small group counseling is also made available through the addition.	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget. These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	120,000
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	The addition of a 1.0 FTE ENL teacher and 4.0 Special Education teachers districtwide will support ELL and Special Education students. The additional staff will support academic and social emotional growth for students. In addition we have allocated funding to a new reading series and training in the science of reading to support all students in language acquisition.	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget. These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	336,000

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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 (\$)
Instructional Equipment/Furniture	The current furniture on our five schools are aging making it ineffective for students to participate fully and comfortably in the learning process. The addition of modern furniture allows for student safety and innovative arrangements to maximize learning outcomes.	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget. These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	120,000
Additional Athletic Equipment	In order to promote physical and emotional wellness, the district provides opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic opportunities. For students to fully participate we must ensure they have modern equipment to allow them to compete in a safe manner. Upgrades to the athletic equipment will provide access and opportunity in the most safe and appropriate manner.	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget. These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	50,000
Girls Wrestling Program	The district continues to expand interscholastic offerings to athletes and has added a Girls Wrestling program	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the	10,000

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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 (\$)
	due to the growing interest in the sport. This program will allow for equity between male and females in the sport and provide an opportunity for more girls to experience the sport of wrestling. Being active in a sport supports overall wellness and self image. Having this additional activity will increase participation and overall confidence.	annual budget These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	
Additional Maintenance and Custodial Equipment	Student attendance and safety are paramount to academic success. Placing an emphasis on the physical plant allows students to safely attend and be educated. New equipment at the custodial and maintenance level facilitate the upkeep of the physical plant and promote physical safety and academic possibility for all students.	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	200,000
Additional Health Insurance Costs	The district experienced a significant increase in their required contribution to health insurance this year. Without the additional foundation aid this would have significantly impacted academic programming. As a result of the increase in aid the district was able to cover these costs while still supporting academic and social emotional initiatives.	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which	1,000,000

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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 (\$)
		was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	
Investments in current year initiatives	Enhancements of facilities	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations, each group provided their general support of the plan.	700,000
Investments in current year initiatives	Addressing staff shortages	The District held a series of public events to present the allocation of the foundation aid increase along with the annual budget These presentations were given to the 5 building PTA's along with several community groups including the Business Professional's Association, Charlton Seniors, and local Rotary Club. Additionally, a formal budget forum was held which was live streamed to the entire community via the YouTube. At the each of these presentations, attendees were invited to comment and make suggestions on the plan in person or in writing. While very few comments were received on the funding allocations,	292,013

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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 (\$)
		each group provided their general support of the plan.	

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)**

The process for identifying and allocating the funding from the foundation aid increase was shared decision making process including the opportunity for comment from parents, teachers, administrators and other community members. The process runs in parallel with annual budget development process which includes the submission of budget alternates (suggestions from internal stakeholders) as to areas that need additional support within the budget. Each of these suggestions are then included public forums and presentations where the public can comment and make suggestions. The district solicited feedback during from presentations at the 5 building PTA's, as well as from community groups including the Business and Professional Association, Charlton Seniors Association and the Rotary. Additionally the district live streamed a public forum where the additions in foundation aid were outlined and feedback was taken. Within the school, the site based planning teams (Building Councils) met to review the plan which include school employees and parent representatives. Feedback from each of these meetings were considered in developing the final plan.