

Education Law §3614 School Funding Allocation Report
Part F - Narrative Description

1. Describe the local methodology/approach used to allocate funds to each school in the district. If schools are allocated funds—either in part or in full—through a formula, outline the nature/mechanics of the formula and the elements impacting each school’s allocation.

Funds are allocated to schools in a number of ways. Regular education allocations to each school is based on student population and class size ratios as mandated through the teacher’s contract. Special education allocations to each school is based on students with disabilities enrollment and IEP services. ELL allocations are based on required services per SED. Title I funding is allocated to each school based on per-pupil amount. Special Education Dept. allocates 611 and 619 funding based on student with disabilities programming and services in each buildings Contract for Excellence funding is used to lower student class size in K-2, AIS services K-12, and provide 1 FTE collaborative coach at each building K-8 and 2 FTEs at HS to improve instruction. Community Schools funding is allocated to each elementary school to support a collaboration with Broome County DSS. Other grant funding (e.g. School Improvement Grants) is specific to the funding allocation provided by SED. Each winter, central office administrators meet with building and district leaders to review data to develop a list of academic and program priorities, ranked highest to lowest. Central office works with the Board of Education to make decisions to draft a budget. As allocations are finalized from NYS, the Board reviews the final budget before finalizing and going out to vote.

2. If applicable, is there anything unique about certain schools which explain why per pupil spending at these locations may be significantly higher/lower than the district average?

At Horace Mann Elementary, there is significant mobility of students, which makes it difficult to collapse class sections. This has recently resulted in lower teacher to student ratio, causing higher per pupil spending. At Franklin Elementary, the staff costs are significantly less due to the number of teachers who have less than 3 years of service.

3. If applicable, describe any items which the district feels are anomalous in nature and require additional description beyond the Excel entry.

Our district provides English Language Learner (ELL) services to all eligible ELL students in our district in 3 elementary schools (Benjamin Franklin, Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson) and one middle school (East Middle) which impacts staffing and related costs. In addition, the district houses different types of self-contained special education classes (8:1:1, 12:1:1, 15:1) at some sites, while others sites house our district Pre-Kindergarten classes.