**Education Law §3614 School Funding Allocation Report**

**Part F - Narrative Description**

**(A) Describe the local methodology/approach used to allocate funds to each school in the district during the process of budget development and implementation. (B) Please also describe the role(s) of all relevant stakeholders in such budgetary processes and decision-making. (C) Finally, if schools are allocated a significant portion of their 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.**

**Specifically, the Division of Budget and the State Education Department would consider a complete response to this question to include explicit answers to the questions included in the rubric below, including a substantive discussion on the translation of students needs into the district's budget (at least 1 sentence per question, when applicable).**

The Superintendent and Board of Education, in conjunction with and guidance of the Director of Finance, begin the budget development process in December. This is at least a four month long process, with many versions and fluctuations until completion. The needs of each school building as it relates to student demographics is the primary driver for allocation of funds between grade levels. The educational challenges and needs of certain cohorts are the focus when targeting funds to best address the needs of our students, and that has the tendency to change from year to year. Therefore, there is no distinct methodology for allocation of funds. Rather, collaborative meetings with all stakeholder groups, including administration, counseling, and curriculum development committees, along with child study teams, lead the recommendations for building the budget to best serve our students.

**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?**

As stated above, our Students with Disabilities population has a tendency to drive many budgetary decisions, and this fluctuates each year between school buildings. The fluid nature of this demographic is challenging and, in many cases costly, to ensure we best meet the needs of this population. Complicating matters are the mental health issues which appear as well, and are a contributing factor when finding and keeping appropriate placements. Supplementing family resources is a much needed addition as well.

**If applicable, describe any items which the district feels are anomalous in nature and require additional description.**

No anomalies noted.

  