**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 Somers CSD is a school district comprised of four school buildings; a K-2 elementary building, a 3-5 elementary building, a 6-8 middle school building and a 9-12 high school building.

Our school district desires to be a school district that:

1. Believes our schools are the center of our community - a safe place to be and grow.

2. Leads by example and encourages students to follow their passions.

3. Holds high expectations for student achievement and character.

4. Values social, emotional, and physical wellness as much as academic achievement.

5. Develops relationships that are characterized by honesty, respect and integrity.

6. Is driven by a sense of continuous improvement.

The mission of the Somers CSD is to ignite a passion in each student by engaging students at a personal level to ensure success in a global society.

The budget for the District is organized to support the mission and values of the District. There is no formula in place to allocate funds to each school building. The budget is based on projected student enrollments, class size, needs of special education students, district educational initiatives, and staffing needed to support the educational programs.

The budget process is an ongoing process throughout the fiscal year. The Board of Education will converse with the Superintendent of Schools regarding guidelines and give their input for the upcoming budget. In the Fall enrollment projections are updated, discussions are held with building principals and directors to discuss their needs for the upcoming budget. In December/January building principals and directors submit their budgets. In this same time period staffing needs are discussed with building principals and directors. Large expense items such as pension system payments, FICA, health insurance and other benefits are budgeted by the business official. Discussions on the revenue side of the budget are held between the Superintendent and the Business Official.

The budget is then presented to the Board of Education, in numerous public meetings, for their review and input. Budget information is updated on the District's website for community members who cannot attend Board meetings. This process culminates with the Board of Education adopting a budget to be presented to the voters of the District.

The above is a simplified explanation of a complex process.

**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?**

Some allocation methods may differ from previous years. We are using Forecast 5 this year to help us with the reporting.

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

Some allocation methods may differ from previous years. We are using Forecast 5 this year to help us with the reporting.