**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 district has no formula in place to allocate to the four schools in the district. The district allocates funds based on the district initiatives, educational programs, student enrollment and needs of students estimated on previous years spending and projected changes staff and new initiatives. Each Year around early January, the Superintendent and Business Administrator sits down with the Administrative team on an individual basis to access what changes have happened over the past 12 months. Programs and staff are reviewed. Class sizes are reviewed and tracked from year to year to adjust for an exceptionally small or large class. Recommendations are made to what budget lines could be reduced and what funding the building level administration would like to see added to make their programs stronger. All budget lines are looked at by comparing actual expenditures to budget for the last 3 to 5 years. Each salary line is increased to account for contractual increases. Benefits lines are increased to accommodate for salary increases and projected TRS and ERS increases along with insurance premium increase. These projected increases are changed as more information comes available. The Board has a finance committee that meets monthly year-round to help direct the decisions being made. As the final State Runs are made available the over all needed additions and reductions will be reassessed and the budget is adjusted to balance the expenditures and revenues according to the direction given by the Board. Staffing levels will be adjusted, and retirements and resignations will be constantly reviewed for adjustments to any need to reduce staffing level or potentially add. If a history teacher were to retire it may make funding available for a reading teacher to be hired. This may change the staffing level across buildings. The district has a very transient population with high needs. It is necessary to allow for a high number of students to move into the district and receive services. It is hard to predict at a building level what the increases will be so this is budgeted on a district wide level. Most special needs services are purchased through the BOCES. A high percentage of the hardware such as computers and xerox machines are leased through BOCES to generate a consistent aid stream. This helps to maximize the use of the districts funding and is budgeted on a building wide basis. For the 2021-2022 school year the district is continuing the UPK program that was new in 2020-2021 and expanded in 2022-2023. The ESSER grant has funded many new initiatives to facilitate the students catching up due to the lost time of learning because of the pandemic. More ESSER3 moneys were budgeted to be used in 2022-2023 than in 2021-2022 that will increase the level of spending.

**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?**

nothing unique

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

nothing notable

  