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Background and Instructions

Background

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

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	District Goal: Longwood is committed to developing strong curriculum and instructional practices that supports our students in developing the necessary tools to be successful. A portion of the increased Foundation Aid Funding will focus on supporting teachers' professional development in these key areas and hiring qualified substitute coverage.	Community and staff input was solicited during two public meetings held on March 23rd and May 4th, 2023.The meetings were also broadcast via Livestream through our District Website.	$750,000
Reducing class sizes	District Goal: Longwood is committed to developing strong curriculum and instructional practices that supports our students in developing the necessary tools to be successful. Additional funding will be directed towards maintaining the district's smaller class sizes and low teacher-to-student ratios in each of its elementary schools. 1:23 Grade K-2 and 1:26 Grades 3-6. Funding will be put toward retaining staff by affording contractual and insurance benefit increased costs.	The school community has voiced concerns at the building level about access to higher achievement and social emotional support through lowered class size. Participation at BOE meetings, analysis of parent concerns, School District Report card and the District's School Perception Survey was utilized to secure this information.	$10,000,000
Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas	District Goal: Longwood is committed to cultivating a culture of dignity, respect, and support that empowers everyone to continuously push their limits to learn and grow. Increased funding will be directed toward continued staffing of our Middle, Junior & Senior High School Instruction During Suspension Program. This program will provide students serving suspensions an opportunity to remain in school and continue their academic work under the supervision of certified staff. This program will provide additional academic support to all students who have been removed from their regular school schedule due to disciplinary action. Funding an additional secondary level High Dose Tutoring Program for students with	The school community has voiced concerns at the building level about access to academic support. Participation at BOE meetings, analysis of parent concerns, School District Report card and the District's School Perception Survey was utilized to secure this information.	$1,900,000
Addressing student social-	N/A	N/A	$0

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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 ($)
emotional health			
Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness	N/A	N/A	$0

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 ($)
Transportation & Utilities	Longwood is committed to ensuring efficient, organized, streamlined, and well-managed operations to support our commitments and promote successful outcomes for all. The additional funding will be applied toward the increased cost for K-12 Transportation and increased gas and electric cost for each school building.	Community and staff input was solicited during two public meetings held on March 23rd and May 4th, 2023.The meetings were also broadcast via Livestream through our District Website.	2,465,716

Use of Foundation Aid Increase (Cont.)

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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)**

Community feedback was obtained throughout the budgetary development process for the 2022-2023 budget, as it is every year during Budget Development. The District Budget Committee, which is open to anyone in the community who wants to join to provide feedback directly to their Board of Education also provides valuable feedback throughout the budget process. These meetings started in November and continued through the entire process ending May, with resident, employees and stakeholders engaged to provide the most opportunities for the students in the coming years that aligned to our District Goals. Community and staff input was solicited during two public meetings held on March 23rd and May 4th, 2023. The meetings were also broadcast via Livestream through our District Website. There were no public comments made during these two public meetings. The Foundation Aid Plan was posted to the District website from March 24, 2023 through June 1, 2023 for public comment. The District clerks contact information including email and mailing address were given to stakeholders to submit comments. Liillian.Pizzolo@longwoodcsd.org . Comments were accepted until June 1st, 2023. The plans are still available for public review on the website. No comments were recieved by the District Clerk for the Foundation Aid Plan from any community stakeholder during this window. The school community has voiced concerns at the building level about access to academic support. Participation at prior BOE meetings, analysis of parent concerns, School District Report card and the District's School Perception Survey was utilized to secure this information.