

GRIFFITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE

AMOUNT RECEIVED PER STUDENT

- We receive \$6,628.45 per student
- Current enrollment in grades K-12 is 1984
- We currently have 11 students enrolled in our Special Needs Early Childhood Program.
- We currently have 9 students enrolled in the Panther Adult Program for students 18-22 year's old.

REPURPOSING READY SAVINGS



GPS receives \$3,000 per month in rent that is deposited into the Operations fund which assists us with our own utility increases.



We cut a principal, dean, secretary, health aide
(Approximately a savings of \$160,000)



Operational Savings (Utilities)
Yearly savings: \$67,148.33
This savings helps offset utility increases across the district and helps support a depleting operations fund.

ESSER GRANTS: HOW IS THE MONEY BEING SPENT?

- We are currently amending the ESSERS grants. At this time, we currently have 33 teacher salaries being paid from this grant and growing.
- Cares Act: \$356,591.19 (\$352,173.19 GPS & \$4,418.00 Non-Pubs).
- ESSER II: \$1,555,604.45, ESSER III: \$ 3,493,666.62
- Cares Act: GPS - \$24,045.38 in teacher stipends. \$151,849.00 two school buses to assist with adhering to social distancing guidelines. \$165,169.55 Cleaning products and supplies, thermometers, safety precautions and measurers.
- ESSERS II: We are currently paying 34 teacher salaries and benefits.
- ESSERS III: We are not currently paying out of the grant. This money is being slated for remediation and tutoring. Amendments are still being made to both grants at this time.

OPEN ENROLLMENT NUMBERS

We currently have 13 students attending GPS whose parent is a GPS employee, (2: Portage), (5: Merrillville), (1: Crown Point), (3: Calumet Township), (2: Whiting)

We have 67 students still attending GPS as they were grandfathered in under previous open enrollment policy:

14 from Hammond

6 from Highland

27 from Gary

3 from East Chicago

9 from Calumet Township

6 from Merrillville

2 moved to Griffith this year

WHAT HAVE WE DONE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR??

Employed strong leaders in the district	Reduced classroom sizes significantly district-wide	Added an additional FT Speech Pathologist	Added an additional Behavior Analyst	Hired 20 plus teachers	Added a part time secretary back at the elementary schools	Hired two additional PE teachers: All 6 th -8 th have PE, All 6 th and 7 th have Health, Weight -lifting, Team Sports	Added a Business Teacher
Added a FACS teacher	Added an Intense and Therapeutic Teacher at the Jr-Sr High	Added an Intense and Therapeutic Teacher at the elementary level	Added a Director of Guidance	Built a strong, experienced guidance department at the Jr/Sr High	Hired an experienced Fleet Manager to oversee transportation	Increased bus drivers	Increased teacher salaries
Increased bus driver salaries	-Moved away from the "teach to the test" mentality	Improved climate and morale significantly district-wide	Job title change to reflect two Deans of Special Education	Improved admin relationship with the union	Increased student engagement	decreased amount of homework and focused on the whole child	Wadsworth playground
	communication with students, staff, parents, and community has improved and increased	Created a more welcoming district	Minimized PD costs by creating professional development in house opportunities and compliance	Hired a Director of Curriculum	Hired an Art Teacher	Hired an additional Foreign Language teacher so that students had a live teacher	

CHALLENGES PRESENTED THIS YEAR AND THE COMING YEARS

- Transportation and drivers; problem is resolved
- Competitive job market, comparable wages
- Licensure (hard to fill positions)
- Passing a successful referendum
- Morale if additional cuts need to be made
- Quality of education and experience for students if cuts are made
- The district reputation for future families moving into our community
- Preventing teacher and all staff turnover (it is at a significant cost to train new teachers and staff)

COST SAVING MEASURES THAT WILL NEED TO BE CONSIDERED IF A REFERENDUM IS NOT SUCCESSFUL

- Moving from Block scheduling back to traditional scheduling for grades 6-12 (likely will need at least 10-12 less teachers)
- Bussing only K-2, Bussing only elementary, 3- year notice-no transportation at all
- Elementary specials: 1 special per quarter and no library person (likely will need 6 less teachers)
- Outsourcing of custodial, maintenance
- Cutting deans at the elementary schools
- Open enrollment
- Cutting counselor positions
- Cutting Administrator positions
- Minimizing course offerings
- Minimizing extra curriculars, sports, and clubs
- Utilizing computer programs (Edgenuity) for elective and/or pathway courses for grades 6-12
- Increasing classroom sizes
- Cutting at least 34 plus teaching positions district wide
- Minimize textbook adoptions that are needed (spread them out)
- Looking towards a 4 day school week



REDUCTIONS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE SINCE 2019:

- MS/Hs Dean (2020)
- Elementary Principal (2020)
- Elementary Dean (2020)
- Decreased 5 teachers from the 2020 budget overall
- Closed Ready and grade configured elementary buildings/moved 6th grade to Jr/Sr High
- Several positions were cut in 2019 (teachers, secretaries, supportive staff)

DO YOUR RESEARCH....

- For more information on school finances, visit the Gateway website: <https://gateway.ifionline.org>
- “Indiana’s War on Teachers is Winning: WHAT SUPERINTENDENTS SAY IS CAUSING TEACHER SHORTAGES”-CHALKBEAT.ORG
- “WHAT’S REALLY GOING ON IN INDIANA’S PUBLIC SCHOOLS”-THE WASHINGTON POST
- “THE INDIANA TOLL ROAD: HOW DID A GOOD DEAL GO BAD?”-FORBES
- “WHAT ‘RIGHT-TO-WORK’ MEANS FOR INDIANA’S WORKERS: A PAY CUT”-ECONOMIC POLICY INSTITUTE
- “THE VALUE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES”-PRINCESTON.EDU/CEPS/WORKINGPAPERS/180ROTHSTEIN.PDF
- “5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SCHOOL REFERENDUMS IN INDIANA”-CHALKBEAT.ORG
- The Learning Policy Institute, “What’s the cost of teacher turnover?”-<https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/the-cost-of-teacher-turnover>

REDUCTIONS HAVE
BEEN MADE DUE TO
LOWER REVENUES



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graph TD; A[REDUCTIONS HAVE BEEN MADE DUE TO LOWER REVENUES] --> B[STUDENT CENTERED LEARNING]; B --> C[SUSTAINING AND EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AT GPS];
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STUDENT CENTERED
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STUDENTS AT GPS

PAST, PRESENT,
FUTURE

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS!!

QUESTIONS SHOULD BE EMAILED TO REFERENDUM@GRIFFITH.K12.IN.US