

Cave Creek Unified School District

Budget Resource Guide

2013-2014

Welcome to our Cave Creek Unified School District's 2013-2014 Budget Resource Guide. The purpose of this guide is to provide an opportunity for you, our CCUSD® community, to better understand our district budget including:

- What are the types of revenue for school districts?
- Where does our revenue come from?
- What are our tax rates and how do they compare to surrounding districts?
- What is the calendar/timeline for the budget?
- How is the money spent?
- Who are the legislators?



We hope using this guide will provide explanations and illustrations to assist in understanding how the educational budget process works in the State of Arizona and in the Cave Creek Unified School District. Our Governing Board has adopted fiscal stewardship and tax philosophies that demonstrate the Board's commitment to accountability for our staff, families and community in order to provide students the best education possible.

In CCUSD®, we pride ourselves in “doing more with less” by keeping tax rates low yet providing the highest quality education possible for our approximately 5,400 Preschool through Grade 12 students. CCUSD® is an “A” District, as designated by the AZ Department of Education. All seven of our schools received an “A” under the A-F Accountability System. In addition, our district is ranked No. 5 out of 227 school districts state-wide for achievement. We are the No. 1 school district in the northeast valley.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff and we continue to focus on our future through our *Strategic Plan for the 21st Century* and our goals for 2013-2014. These goals will demonstrate continuous improvement in the areas of Writing, Reading and Math in grades K-12. By working together, we can embrace our district mission to *Inspire Excellence*.

Dr. Debbi Burdick
Superintendent

Governing Board

2013 Members

Janet Busbee
Susan Clancy
Stephanie Reese
David Schaefer
Karen Tuffs

PHILOSOPHIES

Fiscal stewardship: Cave Creek Unified School District commits to inspiring excellence in all aspects of education, while acting in a financially responsible manner by maximizing all resources possible to enhance student education (i.e., grants, education, community, business partners, and foundations).

Tax: Cave Creek Unified School District commits to providing its students with the most comprehensive, high quality education available, while maintaining the lowest voter-approved secondary tax rate possible.

Cave Creek Unified School District

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Scottsdale, AZ
P.O. Box 426
Cave Creek, AZ 85327
(480) 575-2000
www.ccusd93.org

CCUSD[®] Revenue Sources

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION

This fund is used to budget expenditures for the daily operation of the school district, e.g. salaries, benefits, utilities, paper, pencils, etc. It is funded through the state by the primary tax rate. Funds generated by the primary tax rate are allocated to each school district using a state-defined formula. M&O funds cannot be used for capital items such as construction or new computers.

CAPITAL

There is one Capital Fund available for the daily operation of the district:

- *Fund 610 - Capital:* This fund accounts for budgeted expenses to obtain items by purchase, lease-purchase, lease or long-term lease of capital items.

OVERRIDES

An override is a way for a school district to generate additional revenue with voter approval. There are three types of overrides: Special Program, Capital, and Maintenance and Operation (M&O). The Special Program override is a 5 percent increase in additional M&O revenue for seven years. An M&O override is a 10 percent increase in additional M&O revenue for seven years. Full funding of an override occurs for the first five years, then decreases by one-third each year, unless renewed. Currently, up to 75 percent of school districts in Maricopa County operate with some type of override. CCUSD[®] is in the final year of an M&O override.

BONDS

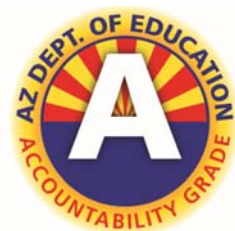
A bond is a debt instrument that is secured by a political subdivision of Arizona. It allows school districts to fund projects immediately and pay back the debt over time from the taxation of homes and businesses in the district. CCUSD's latest bond proceeds (from 2000) were used to build new schools, purchase some buses, and improve grounds.

FEDERAL GRANTS

These funds are provided by the federal government to pay for federally mandated programs such as Title IV (safe and drug-free schools) and Title 1 (remedial education).

STATE GRANTS

The district receives these funds from the State of Arizona after completing an application and review process. They must be used for specific programs.



CCUSD[®] 2013-2014 BUDGET

Maintenance and Operation	\$31,752,379
Capital	\$ 5,024,956

Comparison of 2013-2014 School District Tax Rates

PRIMARY	
Cave Creek	\$2.1830
Fountain Hills	\$2.5543
Scottsdale	\$3.3548
Deer Valley	\$4.2140
Paradise Valley	\$4.2799
Peoria	\$4.1765
SECONDARY	
Cave Creek	\$0.1765
Fountain Hills	\$0.8512
Scottsdale	\$1.2239
Deer Valley	\$2.3733
Paradise Valley	\$2.8731
Peoria	\$3.3523

TERMS TO KNOW

budget: a financial plan that advances the mission of the organization utilizing available financial resources.

budgeting: a priority-setting process for expenditures.

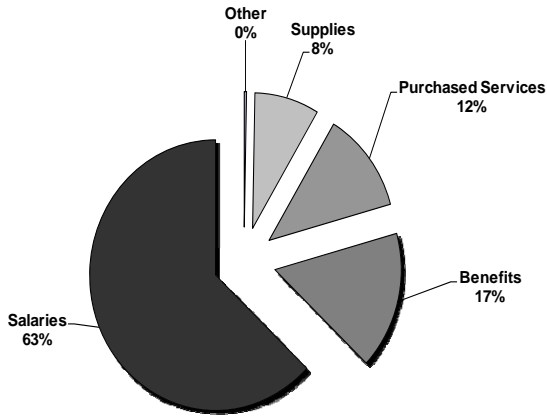
bond: a debt instrument that is secured by a political subdivision of Arizona. It allows school districts to fund projects immediately and pay back the debt over time against the taxation of homes and businesses in the district.

override: a mechanism for a school district to generate additional revenue with voter approval; there are three types of overrides: Special Program, Capital, and Maintenance and Operation (M&O).

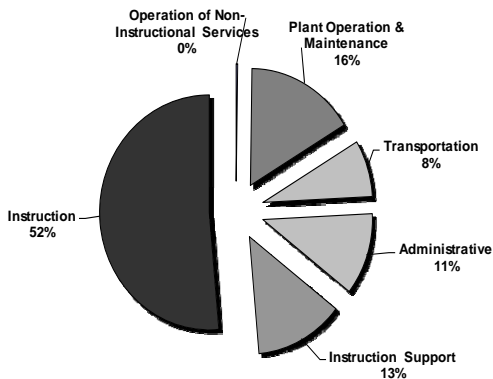
primary tax rate: this tax rate is applied to homes and businesses in a school district to help support the M&O and capital budgets.

secondary tax rate: this tax rate is applied to homes and businesses to pay for overrides and bonds.

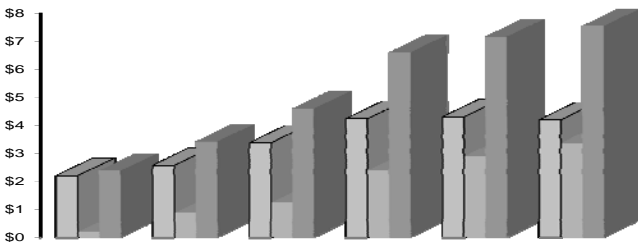
**Cave Creek Unified School District No. 93
2012-2013 Final
M&O Expenditures Budget by Object**



**Cave Creek Unified School District No. 93
2012-2013 Final
M&O Expenditures by Function**



2013-2014 Tax Rate Comparison Unified School Districts



2013/14	Cave Creek	Fountain Hills	Scottsdale	Deer Valley	Paradise Valley	Peoria
Primary	\$2.1830	\$2.5543	\$3.3548	\$4.2140	\$4.2799	\$4.1765
Secondary	\$0.1765	\$0.8512	\$1.2239	\$2.3733	\$2.8731	\$3.3523
Combined	\$2.3595	\$3.4055	\$4.5787	\$6.5873	\$7.1530	\$7.5288

Where does the funding come from?

The legislature determines funding levels for school districts.

The majority of funding for public education comes from the taxpayers. The state collects and allocates money to school districts using a state-defined formula. It is the Legislature that decides how much money schools will receive and which educational programs will be funded.

If you have questions regarding public education funding, contact your state representative. Below is a list of the representatives in the Cave Creek Unified School District.

DISTRICT 1

Sen. Steve Pierce (R)
spierce@azleg.gov

Rep. Karen Fann (R)
kfann@azleg.gov

Rep. Andy Tobin (R)
atobin@azleg.gov

DISTRICT 15

Sen. Nancy Barto (R)
nbarto@azleg.gov

Rep. John Allen (R)
jallen@azleg.gov

Rep. Heather Carter (R)
hcarter@azleg.gov

DISTRICT 23

Sen. Michele Reagan (R)
mreagan@azleg.gov

Rep. John Kavanagh (R)
jkavanagh@azleg.gov

Rep. Michelle Ugenti (R)
mugenti@azleg.gov

For up-to-date information about bills being considered in the Legislature, go online to www.azleg.state.az.us. Or call: (602) 926-3559 (Senate) (602) 926-4221 (House)

FISCAL YEAR BUDGET CALENDAR

AUGUST	Finance and Human Resources conduct budget training sessions for new administrators. Finance Department distributes new budget information.
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER - MAY	Interest-Based Negotiations Teams meet to discuss compensation package for 2014-15.
MARCH	Governing Board reviews budget proposals and provides additional input.
MARCH-APRIL	Interest-Based Negotiations Team prioritizes needs and defines possible adjustments.
APRIL	Interest-Based Negotiations Team submits proposed 2014-15 compensation package proposal to District Administration.
APRIL-MAY	Finance Department prepares total district-wide preliminary budget request which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interest-Based Negotiations Team proposal• District-wide proposals• Insurance and other fixed cost increases
MAY	Finance Department defines revenue sources and prepares budget summary comparing requested expenditures to available revenue.
MAY-JUNE	Finance Department prepares final budget proposal for presentation to Governing Board.
JUNE-JULY	Final budget proposal presented to Governing Board for approval and authorization to advertise. Proposed 2014-15 budget to Arizona Department of Education for advertising. Publication of 2014-15 Proposed Budget and Notice of Public Hearing. Public Hearing and Adoption of 2014-15 Budget. Statutory deadline for Public Hearing and Adoption. Statutory deadline to file 2014-15 Budget with County School Superintendent.