

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

2022-23



SOUTHERN YORK COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

WWW.SYCSD.ORG

SOUTHERN YORK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

In order to empower our students to reach their full potential, we believe in encouraging passion, expressing voice and choice, developing problem-solving skills, allowing risk taking and permission to fail, and promoting teamwork and collaboration. We are committed to providing an environment in which all students will develop a lifelong love of learning and skills to become career, college and life-ready.



BOARD OF EDUCATION (December 2023)

Front row: Marylee Hall, Elizabeth Dauberman, Jen Henkel, and Vice President Samantha Hall

Back row: Bill Hall, President Nathan Henkel, Treasurer Joe Wilson, Jeremy Hash, and James Holley

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members of the Southern York County Community:

It was an honor for me to serve as the Superintendent of Schools for Southern York County District in 2022-23, and I look forward to our future together and continued partnership as we strive to help our students reach their greatest potential. Today, I am pleased to share the 2022-23 Southern York County School District Annual Report. This report highlights many of our student's accomplishments. Southern York County School District publishes this report each year to communicate information about the district's performance and highlight student achievement inside and outside the classroom.

Our theme for the 2022-23 school year was "Southern York County School District...Making Dreams a Reality," and I am proud to say that as a district, we more than lived up to that theme. Once again, our students and schools consistently achieved excellence in education, athletics, and the arts. A few of many indicators of success include:

- Our students earned multiple honors: Two students were named National Merit Semifinalists, more than 90 students earned a score of "3" or higher on an Advanced Placement exam, the marching band won first place in the Cavalcade of Bands, and six Susquehannock sports teams won division championships.
- Our staff received recognition: A Susquehannock High School counselor was named Pennsylvania School Counselor of the Year by the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association, the district's athletic director was named York-Adams Interscholastic Athletic Association's Athletic Director of the Year, and two teachers received Shippensburg University's Outstanding Educator Award.
- Susquehannock High School was named one of the nation's best public high schools in U.S. News and World Report's annual 'Best High Schools in America' report and the 2023 AP School Honor Roll for student academic performance for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Friendship Elementary School became the first school in Pennsylvania to be certified as a High Reliability School - a designation that a school has achieved a safe, supportive, and collaborative culture. Our other schools are progressing toward this certification as well!

The 2022-23 school year also marked a year of physical growth with the construction of the new addition at Susquehannock High School. The addition is the result of four years of intensive planning, and it, along with the entire high school renovation project, will help us to prepare students to become college, career, and life-ready.

As you read through this report, you will see many of the outstanding achievements from the 2022-23 year. I am proud to share the accomplishments of our students and district, and I am excited for the future as we continue to build on our success as a district. Thank you for your unwavering support of our students and schools. The support and dedication that we receive from you - our staff, students, families, school board, and community - are what enable us to provide such exceptional educational and extracurricular opportunities for our students. It is by working together that we are able to help our students to meet the global challenges of the future. Together, we are Warrior Strong.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert Bryson".

Robert Bryson
Superintendent of Schools

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

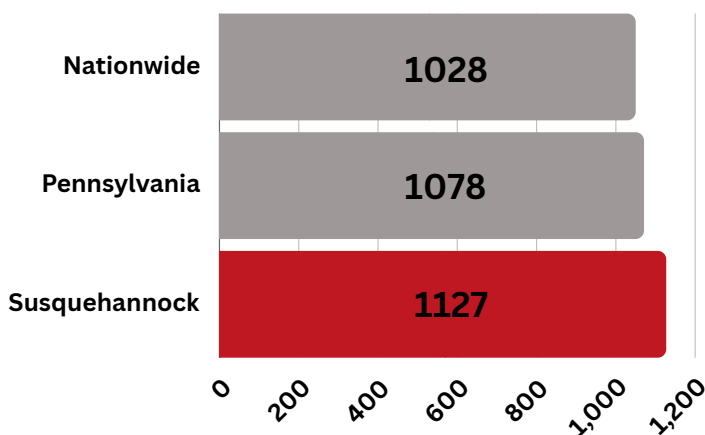
Dr. Robert Bryson, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Len Reppert, Ed.D. Assistant Superintendent of Schools

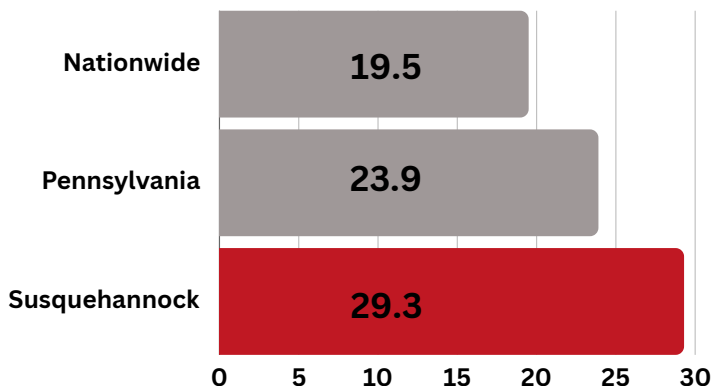
Susan Green, MBA, Chief Financial & Operations Officer, Board Secretary

HIGH STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

2023 SAT SCORES



2023 ACT SCORES

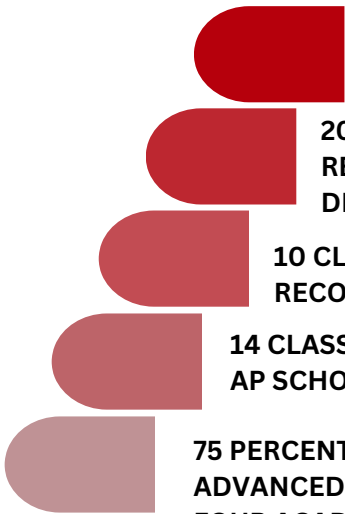


We do not believe test scores in isolation quantify our students' success. Our goal is to ensure that students are passionate about learning, have opportunity to create and develop meaningful student-inspired projects and are immersed in solving authentic and complex problems while collaborating together. We encourage students to take risks, and find their strengths, in order to reach their greatest potential. These lifelong skills prepare our students to be career, college, and life ready.

HIGH STUDENT

ACHIEVEMENT

Susquehannock High School's Advanced Placement (AP) program continues to provide students with excellent opportunities. In 2023, 210 Susquehannock students participated in AP testing, taking 391 total exams. Students may be eligible for college and university credits in one or more subjects for qualifying AP scores.



210 SHS STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN AP TESTING IN 2023.

20 CLASS OF 2023 GRADUATES WERE RECOGNIZED AS AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION.

10 CLASS OF 2023 GRADUATES WERE RECOGNIZED AS AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR.

14 CLASS OF 2023 GRADUATES WERE RECOGNIZED AS AP SCHOLARS.

75 PERCENT OF SHS STUDENTS TAKING AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM IN THE PREVIOUS FOUR ACADEMIC YEARS SCORED 3 OR HIGHER.

FUTURE PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2023

65%

**FOUR-YEAR
COLLEGE**

17.5%

EMPLOYMENT

15%

**POST-
SECONDARY
EDUCATION***

1%

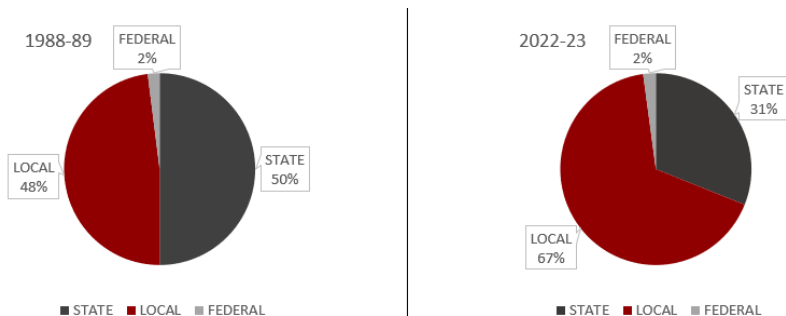
ARMED FORCES

*INCLUDES TWO-YEAR SCHOOLS, VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, AND CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Southern York County School District Board of Education and Administration understand that the resources for the community's schools are funded by our community. Since the Free School Act of 1834, a large share of public education has been paid by local communities, and that continues today. As shown in the graph below, 67 percent of the cost of education for 2022-23 was funded from local dollars, 31 percent from state, and only 2 percent from federal and other revenue.

Revenue Sources by Percent

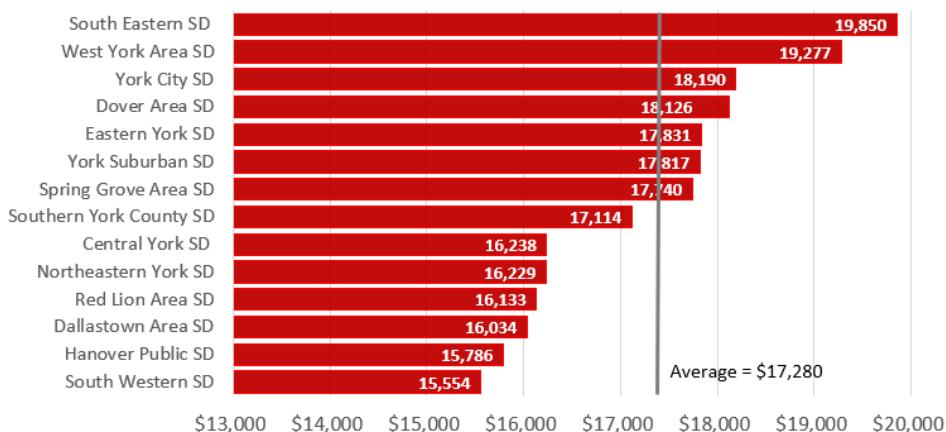


The district is proud of its sustained record of good stewardship of the community's funds as evidenced with the following:

- The 2022-23 Audit included an unmodified opinion (the best opinion an auditor can give), and there were no findings in the audit.
- The General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance exceeds 5 percent of budget target - Necessary for cash flow in uncertain times.
- A fund balance reserved for future building renovations allowing slow phase-in of millage for projects and reduced borrowing.
- The high quality educational program offered at a reasonable cost per student.

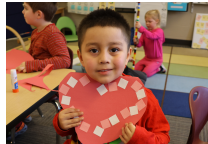
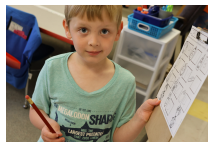
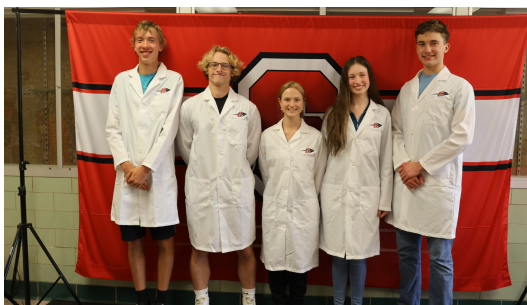
FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Cost to Educate a Student



*Comparative Data for FY22-23 not yet available

The above chart features the most recent information from the Pennsylvania Department of Education and shows Southern is ranked just below average in costs per student for both the county and state. Southern takes pride in putting as many resources as possible into the education of students.



FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

2023-24 Budget

Southern York County School District works hard to provide a rigorous, high-quality education for each and every student while adhering to fiscally responsible ideals. When budgeting, the district looks at the impact of decisions on the current year, but also the impact to the community for the future.

Total Revenue: \$65,674,931

Real Estate Taxes: \$32,713,974

State Revenue: \$20,044,765

**Other Local Revenues:
\$8,356,950**

Federal Revenues: \$2,052,052

Fund Balance Use: \$2,507,190

Total Spending: \$65,674,931

Salaries: \$27,289,989

Employee Benefits: \$16,649,288

**Supplies & Equipment:
\$4,555,925**

**Debt Service & Fund Transfers:
\$5,740,161**

**Student Transportation:
\$ 2,701,949**

All Other: \$8,737,619

2023-24 Millage Rates

District	Millage 2023-24	SYCSD Additional Collection - with this Millage Rate
York City	36.7579	28,560,885
Northeastern	26.9100	11,866,535
Dallastown	25.6861	9,791,756
York Suburban	25.6858	9,791,248
Eastern	25.1800	8,933,806
Dover	24.3070	7,453,879
West York	24.2238	7,312,837
Spring Grove	24.0922	7,089,746
Hanover	23.0600	5,339,941
South Western	22.4000	4,221,096
Red Lion	22.2791	4,016,144
South Eastern	22.2503	3,967,322
Central	21.8700	3,322,630
Southern (Current)	19.9100	-

A mill levy is the number of dollars a taxpayer pays for every \$1,000 of assessed value. The current 2023-24 real estate tax rate of 19.91 mills results in a tax bill of \$1,991 for a home assessed at \$100,000. The table below shows the real estate tax mills of the District in comparison to other York County districts in the Lincoln Intermediate Unit.

For more financial information, such as audits, budgets, and real estate taxes, visit our website at www.sycsd.org.

SUSQUEHANNOCK CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

After years of intensive planning, Southern York County School District began the physical construction and renovations at Susquehannock High School in early 2022. During the 2022-23 school year, significant progress was made on the construction of the high school's new addition.

The addition, along with the entire high school renovation project, is designed to help prepare students to become college, career, and life-ready.

Once renovations are complete, the high school will include:

- Flexible and adaptable spaces capable of supporting short- and long-term instructional needs.
- Larger spaces to support music practice rooms, group lab rooms, and open student work areas.
- Classrooms designed as student-centered environments that support both the academic and career readiness needs of all students.
- Classrooms modeling a 21st century work environment and enabling student collaboration on all production phases (i.e. design, prototyping, construction, and finishing).
- Updated mechanical, heating, electrical and air conditioning systems and increased ventilation.

The district has a long-term plan in place for financing the building project, and the millage needed for the project has been phased into the budget over the last several years. The entire project is expected to be completed in the late fall of 2024.



At right, construction progresses on Susquehannock's new addition throughout the 2022-23 school year. At left, an architect's rendering of the completed Susquehannock construction project.



For more information about Susquehannock High School's construction and renovation project, please visit the district's website at www.sycsd.org/construction.

Excellence in **ACHIEVEMENT**



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

150 Susquehannock High School seniors received 85 scholarships from the Southern York County School District Foundation.

NATIONAL CARSON SCHOLARS

Two students from the Class of 2023 were recognized as National Carson Scholars.

INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

More than 55 students from the Class of 2023 earned at least one Industry Recognized Credential prior to graduation.

NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

Two students from the Class of 2023 were named National Merit Semifinalists.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

More than 90 students earned at least one “3” on an Advanced Placement exam.

SAT AND ACT ACHIEVEMENT

With an SAT mean score of 1127 and an ACT mean score of 29.3, Susquehannock High School students exceeded the state and national mean scores on these 2023 standardized tests.

GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

One student was selected for participation in the Pennsylvania Governor's School of Science.

Excellence in **ACHIEVEMENT**

CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAMS

Thirty-seven
Susquehannock
High School
students
participated.

PRE- APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

Ten students were
selected for construction,
three for electrician, and
one for manufacturing.

JOHNS HOPKINS ASPIRE INTERNSHIPS

Two Susquehannock High
School students were
selected.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

One student from the
Class of 2023 graduated
fully-licensed in
cosmetology.

EMT CERTIFICATION

Five Susquehannock
High School students
earned Emergency
Medical Technician
certification.

SHIPPENSBURG OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

Two Southern York
County School
District educators
were recipients of the
Outstanding Teacher
Award, sponsored by
the Shippensburg
University School
Study Council.

PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR

The Pennsylvania School
Counselor Association
named a Susquehannock
High School Counselor
“Pennsylvania Counselor
of the Year.”



Excellence in the **ARTS**

BAND

- Four students qualified for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 7 Band.
- One student participated in the PMEA Region Band Festival.
- Three clinics were held with college directors/famed musicians.
- The Marching Band placed first at the Cavalcade of Bands Championships.



CHORUS

- Two students participated in the PMEA District 7 Chorus Festival.
- Two students participated in the PMEA Region V Chorus Festival.
- One student participated in the PMEA District 7 Vocal Jazz Festival.
- Two students participated in the Millersville University Honor Choir.
- Two high school students and seven middle school students attended the York County Jr. High Choral Festival.
- Two Susquehannock High School and six Southern Elementary students participated in the OAKE National Choir.
- One student participated in the National Association for Music Education (NAFME) Eastern Division Conference Mixed Honor Choir.
- Two high school and eight middle school students participated in the Pennsylvania Sweet Soundations.
- One high school and 12 middle school students participated in the Pennsylvania Boyz Noise.
- Four elementary school students participated in the PMEA District 7 Songfest.

Excellence in the ARTS

ORCHESTRA

- Four string players and two wind players were selected for the York Youth Symphony Orchestra.
- Three string players were selected for the York Junior Symphony Orchestra.
- Three string players participated in the PMEA All-State Orchestra Festival.
- Three Susquehannock students placed in the top 12 of their sections at the PMEA District 7 Orchestra Festival.
- Three string players participated in the PMEA Central Region Orchestra Festival.
- One string player participated in the PMEA All-State Orchestra Festival.



ART

- One Susquehannock High School student earned both a gold and silver key for digital art in the Scholastic art and writing competition.
- One student earned third place in the PA Media and Design Logo competition at Dickinson College.
- Four groups of Susquehannock students participated in the Regional PA Media and Design Competition. In this competition: a group of three SHS students won 2nd place and another group of three students won third place in the 3D design category. One student earned first place in the logo category.
- Eight students exhibited artwork in the York Community Art Scholars Exhibition (YCASE) and seven of those students had artwork (8 pieces total) selected for the Finalist Exhibition.



THEATRE

- Three students received "Hall of Fame" awards for their involvement with the International Thespian Society.
- Two students won \$1,000 performance scholarships from the York County High School Musical Theatre Awards (The Encores).
- One student received a scholarship at the 2022-23 Pennsylvania Thespian Festival.
- One student was awarded a partial scholarship to attend summer intensives at the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts at the Pennsylvania Thespian Festival.
- Students performed the fall play "The Play That Goes Wrong" in November 2022.
- Students performed the spring Musical "James and the Giant Peach" in March 2023.

Excellence in ATHLETICS

BASEBALL

- YAIAA Division II Champions
- YAIAA County Tournament Champions
- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships
- Coach named YAIAA Division II Baseball Coach of the Year
- One student named YAIAA Division II Player of the Year
- One student named YAIAA Division II Pitcher of the Year

BASKETBALL, BOYS

- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships

BASKETBALL, GIRLS

- Placed seventh in the PIAA District III Championships
- Qualified for the PIAA State Championships

CHEERLEADING

- Competed in the PIAA District III Championships

CROSS COUNTRY

- Boys Cross Country Team YAIAA Division II Champions
- One student won the Gold at the YAIAA Championships and set a new course record
- Two students brought home gold at the PIAA District III Championships
- One student finished seventh and one student finished 19th at the PIAA State Championships
- Two students were selected as All-State

GOLF

- Two golfers qualified for the PIAA District III Championships

FIELD HOCKEY

- YAIAA Division II Champions with a record of 19-0
- YAIAA County Tournament Champions
- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships
- One student named YAIAA Division II Player of the Year
- One student selected as part of the 2023 U18 United States Junior National Field Hockey Team

LACROSSE, BOYS

- Placed third at the PIAA District III Championships
- Reached the PIAA State Quarterfinals

Fifty-seven students named Academic All- League.

Thirty-one students received the District III Jerry Brooks Academic Excellence Award.

Susquehannock Athletic Director Named PIAA Athletic Director of the Year.

Excellence in **ATHLETICS**



LACROSSE, GIRLS

- YAIAA Division I Co-Champions
- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships

SOCCER, BOYS

- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships

SOFTBALL

- YAIAA Division II Runner Up
- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships
- Coach named YAIAA Division II Softball Coach of the Year

SWIMMING, BOYS

- YAIAA Division II Champions with a record of 7-0
- Boys Team finished ninth in the state
- Brought home nine individual state medals at the PIAA State Championships
- Seven students named All-State by the Pennsylvania Swimming and Diving Coaches Association

SWIMMING, GIRLS

- Girls finished fourth overall at the PIAA District III Championships
- Six Students competed at the PIAA State Championships

TENNIS, GIRLS

- Finished with a record of 12-2
- One athlete qualified for the PIAA District III Championships

TRACK AND FIELD, BOYS

- YAIAA Division II Champions
- One student placed fourth in the state in the 3200 meter run
- One Student named All-State by the Pennsylvania Track and Field Coaches Association

TRACK AND FIELD, GIRLS

- YAIAA Division II Runner Up
- One student set a new school record in the 1600 meter run
- One student was state runner up in 100 hurdles and placed 8th in the long jump
- One student named All-State by the Pennsylvania Track and Field Coaches Association

VOLLEYBALL, GIRLS

- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships



Excellence in **ALTRUISM**



Southern York County School District students actively serve and support our local community. From the district's fourth-grade partnership with the New Freedom Lions Club - which provides donations to community organizations - to hosting an annual breakfast in honor of area veterans, our students demonstrate the spirit of giving.

SYCSD FOUNDATION

The Southern York County School District Foundation, an organization led by a group of dedicated community volunteers, has a unique partnership with the district that has been very beneficial for students. The foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides giving opportunities for scholarships, projects, equipment, supplies, and other purposes for the benefit of our students.

The foundation also partners with the district to provide students with school supplies, clothes, lunches, and eyeglasses through the welfare program. In 2022-23, the foundation once again sponsored its annual Thank-You Card Contest which provides students with an authentic learning experience and the opportunity to thank foundation donors.

The foundation's goal is to continue to add programs to help meet the needs of the community's students. The Innovation Grant Program provides teachers with funds to sponsor projects that extend learning beyond written academic standards and develop additional opportunities for students in the district.



\$2,949
FOR THREE
INNOVATION
GRANTS

150 SCHOLARSHIPS
TO
85 STUDENTS




\$4,061.73
RAISED DURING
GIVE LOCAL YORK

54
ENDOWED
SCHOLARSHIPS



NET ASSETS
OVER
\$1.2 MILLION








APPROXIMATELY
\$1 MILLION IN
CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE
PAST FIVE YEARS

Please contact the foundation's executive director, Susan Green, at 717-235-4811, ext 7278 or susan.green@sycsd.org if you have any questions or concerns, or would like additional information about the foundation.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

In Southern York County School District, we understand the importance of providing a variety of learning opportunities and experiences. We support blended learning environments and offer students choices, such as our online Digital Academy and Dual Enrollment Programs, to help meet students' individual educational needs. We also recognize that many students learn best by experiencing real-world lessons that emphasize 21st-century skills such as communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking. Our schools offer a diverse and challenging curriculum designed to prepare students for post-secondary education and the changing workforce.

-  **19 Advanced Placement Courses at SHS**
-  **8 Honors Courses at SHS**
-  **Industry-Recognized Credentialing Available**
-  **EMT Certification**
-  **Independent Study Opportunities**

Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment is available to Susquehannock High School students through partnerships with Penn State York, York College of Pennsylvania, Towson University, Millersville University, and Harrisburg Area Community College. Fifty-five students participated in dual enrollment in 2022-23, and the Class of 2023 included 41 students who earned at least three college credits through Dual Enrollment courses.

Digital Academy

We recognize that some students learn better in environments outside of the traditional school setting. Our Southern York Digital Academy implements a quality, personalized online learning environment that challenges students to achieve their potential. Students have an educational choice where they are able to enjoy a flexible schedule with access to learning 24/7 and opportunities for classes taught by Southern York County School District's teaching staff. Our Digital Academy students may also participate in co-curricular or extracurricular school activities in the district.

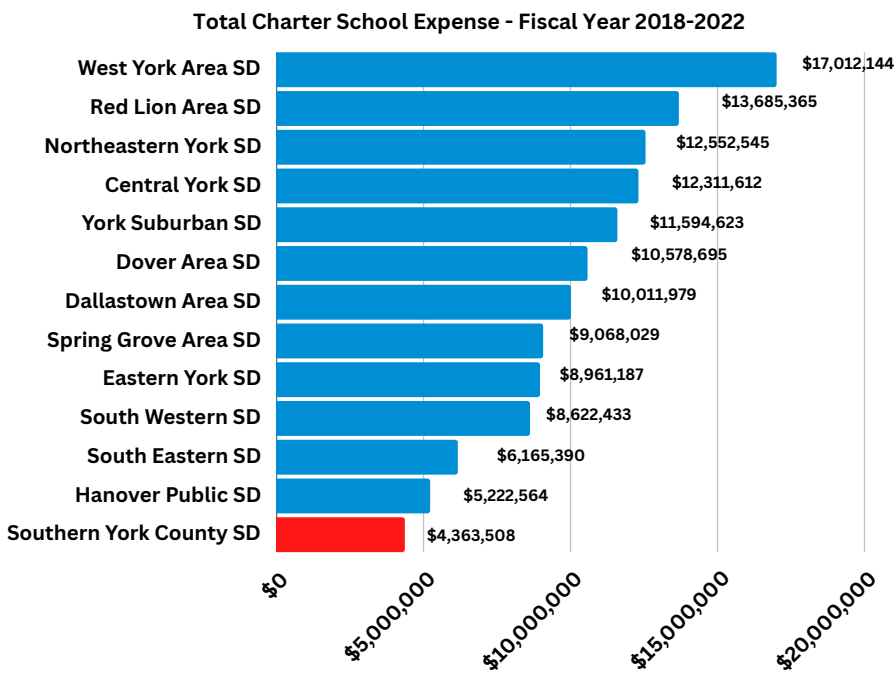
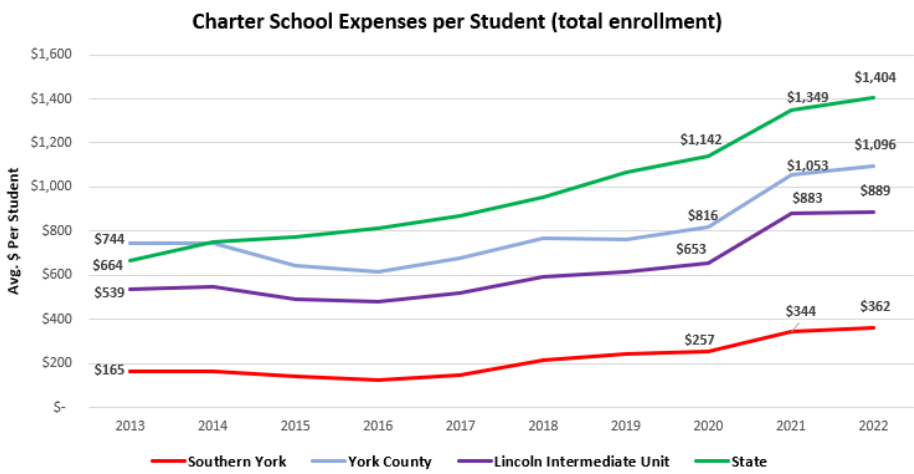
**Created in
2011**

**Option to
attend classes
on campus**

**Personalized
online learning
environment**

COST FOR CYBER CHARTER SCHOOLS

In 2022-23, cyber charter school costs continued to escalate both in the amount and as a percentage of the district's overall budget. These are funds, mostly tax dollars, that are leaving the district to fund cyber charter schools. Southern York County School District will continue efforts to provide alternatives to cyber charter schools in order to provide a quality education to all students and keep the money at the district.



Contact us for further inquiries

Please contact the district at 717-235-4811, ext 7278 or susan.green@syicsd.org if you have any questions or concerns, or would like additional information related to our school district.

