

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

**2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE COMMUNITY**



SOUTHERN YORK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SOUTHERN YORK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Front row: Ron Groncki, Vice President James Holley, President Robert Schefter, and Danielle Weaver-Watts.

Back row: John Dorr Jr. , Treasurer Bruce Bauman, Kelly Jarvis, Deborah Kalina, and Judi Fisher.

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 teamwork and collaboration. We are committed to providing an environment in which all students will develop skills to benefit them in their futures and develop their lifelong love of learning.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of the Southern York County Community:

I am pleased to present the 2018-2019 Southern York County School District Annual Report. Year after year our students and teachers continue to amaze us with their many accomplishments and successes. When we collaborate with our families and community, we are able to provide an inclusive learning environment that promotes a culture that is equitable, supportive and welcoming for all students and adults.



Last year, we asked our Southern Family to focus on social emotional learning. We continued to build on our commitment of ensuring all students see the value in understanding and managing emotions, setting and achieving positive goals, feeling and showing empathy, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and making responsible decisions. These are all important skills that empower our Warriors to reach their greatest potential to be career, college, and life ready.

We are excited to continue on our journey to make a difference in each student's life, one Warrior at a Time.

Dr. Sandra L. Lemmon
Superintendent of Schools

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Sandra Lemmon, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Robert Bryson, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Susan Green, CPA, Chief Financial & Operations Officer, Board Secretary

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

We focus on social emotional learning in our schools, and continue to ensure our students are thriving academically, socially, physically, and emotionally. We are creating a district culture which provides an equitable, supportive, and welcoming environment for all individuals to reach their potential and to be prepared when they enter the world beyond Southern York County School District.



BLENDED LEARNING

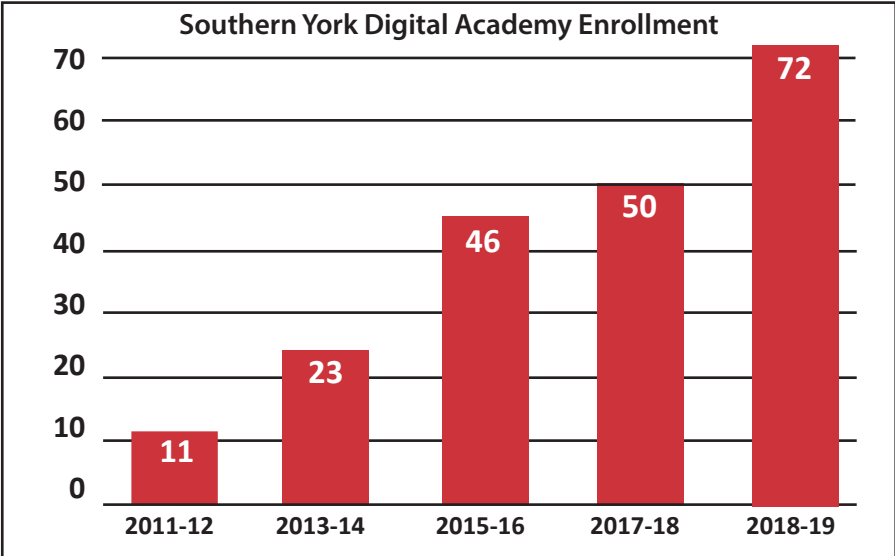
Southern York County School District recognizes that some students learn better in environments outside of the traditional school setting. We support blended learning environments and offer students choices to fit their educational needs including our online Digital Academy and Dual Enrollment programs.

DIGITAL ACADEMY

Our Southern York Digital Academy was created in 2011 to implement a quality, personalized online learning environment that challenges students to achieve their potential. The Academy provides students with an educational choice where they are able to enjoy a flexible schedule with access to learning 24/7, participate in any co-curricular or extracurricular school activities and are taught by Southern's staff of highly qualified teachers.

In addition to taking classes online, Digital Academy students have the option to attend classes on campus. Graduates of the Southern York Digital Academy receive a Susquehannock High School Diploma.

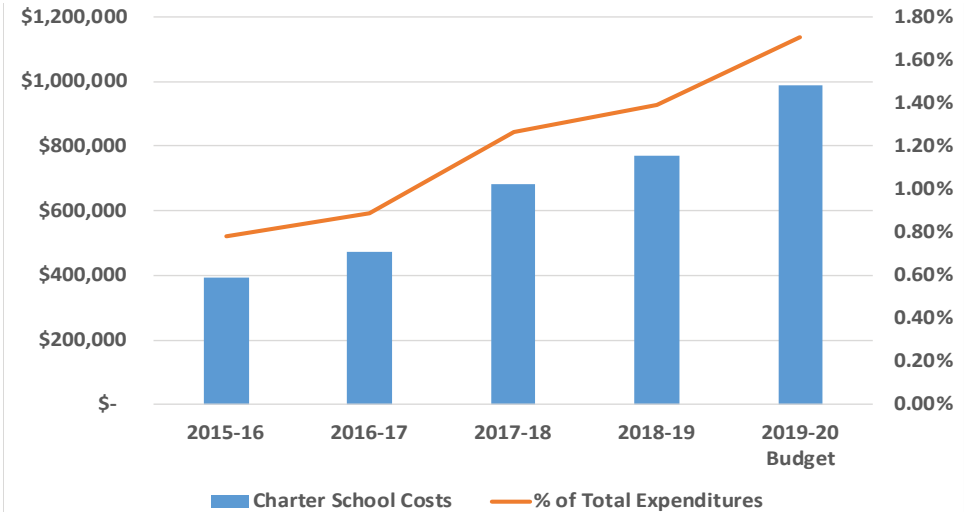
The Academy is an option for students who may learn better in an online environment outside of the school setting. It has been extremely competitive with outside cyber schools and has enabled us to keep resources within our District. When SYCSD students choose to enroll in cyber charter schools outside of the District, we are required to pay the student's tuition to the outside school.



BLENDDED LEARNING

Despite the District's success with the Southern York Digital Academy, cyber charter school costs continue to rise both in the amount and as a percentage of the overall budget. While the District pays approximately 1.7% of the budget to outside cyber charter schools, the Pennsylvania district average is close to 6%. These are funds, mostly local tax dollars, that are leaving the district to fund cyber charter schools. The District will continue its efforts to provide alternatives to cyber charter schools to provide a quality education to all students and keep the money in the district.

CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL COSTS



DUAL ENROLLMENT

The District has partnered with colleges to offer juniors and seniors the opportunity to earn college credit while completing their high school requirements.

Finalized agreements with Penn State York, York College, and Harrisburg Area Community College permit eligible students to enroll in on-campus courses for a fraction of the normal cost. Students receive college credits as well as high school credit for these courses.

College classes may be taken during or after school. During the 2018-19 school year, 25 Susquehannock students were enrolled in this program.

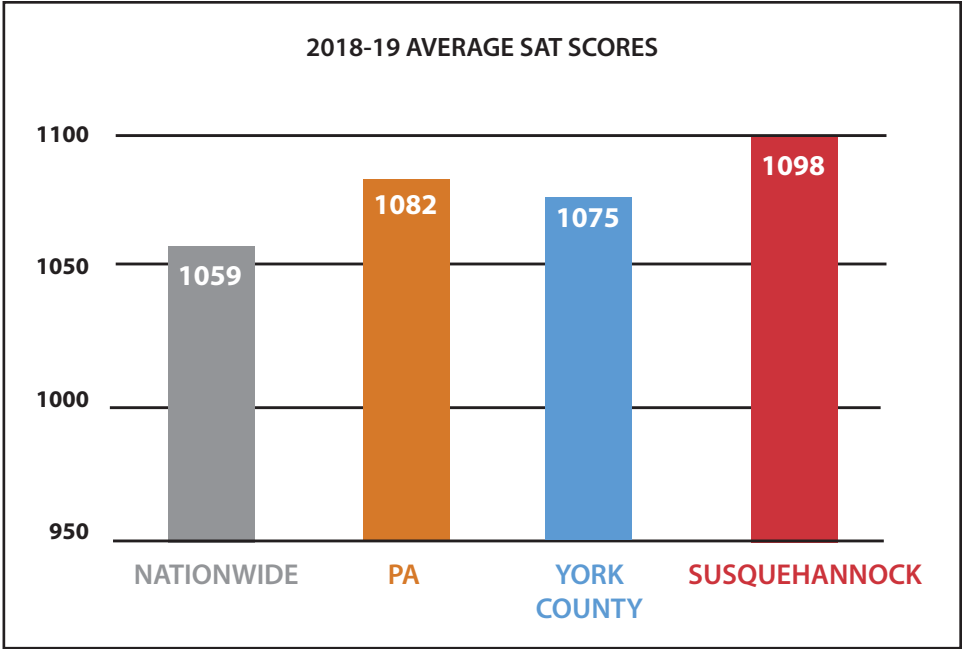
HIGH STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

We do not believe test scores in isolation quantify our students' success. Our goal is to ensure students are passionate about learning, have opportunity to create and develop meaningful student-initiated 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.

SAT SCORES

The SAT assessment is utilized by many colleges and universities in the admissions process. SHS students performed well beyond the state and national averages on the SAT, and these assessment results reflect the efforts

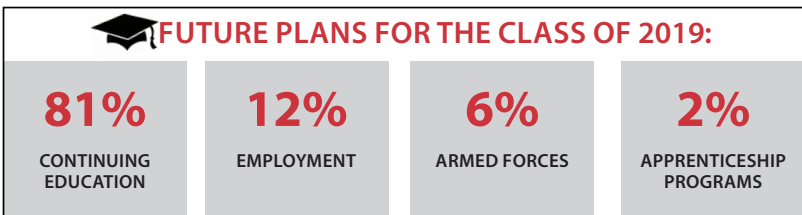
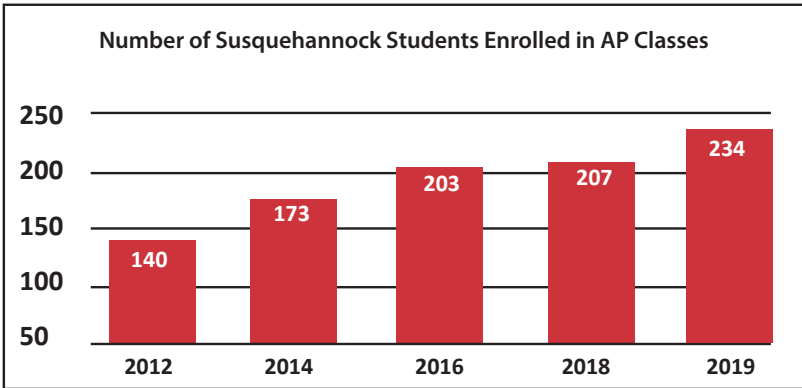
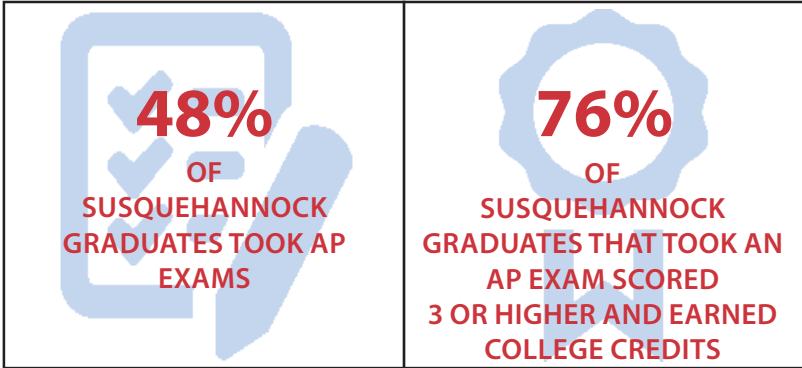
"We believe the meaningful learning opportunities our students experience from kindergarten through 12th grade prepare our warriors to be career, college, and life ready," said Dr. Lemmon.



HIGH STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCORES

Susquehannock's Advanced Placement (AP) program had another successful year with students participating in 409 AP exams in 2019. Students can earn college and university credits in one or more subjects for qualifying AP scores.



SYCSD FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS



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.

Other projects that the Foundation has partnered with the District on include providing students with school supplies, clothes, lunches, and eyeglasses through the welfare program. The Foundation also sponsored both the Thank You Card contest and Flower Project which provided students with authentic learning.

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



161

**SCHOLARSHIPS TO
106 STUDENTS**

\$252,517

IN CONTRIBUTIONS

40

**ENDOWED
SCHOLARSHIPS**

NEARLY

\$1 MILLION

**IN CONTRIBUTIONS
IN PAST 5 YEARS**

OVER

\$850,000

IN NET ASSETS

\$4,384

**FOR 10 SYCSD
INNOVATIVE GRANTS**

For further information, please
contact:

Susan Green, Executive Director
Email: susan.green@sycsd.org
Phone: 717-235-4811, ext. 7278

EXCELLENCE IN ACHIEVEMENT

BRIDGE BUILDING COMPETITION

- SHS engineering students finished in first, second, and third place in the Pennsylvania Society for Professional Engineers (PSPE) Bridge Building Competition.

TEACHER RECEIVES PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

- An SES kindergarten teacher was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

PUNKIN' CHUNKIN' COMPETITION

- SHS engineering student teams placed first in the York County High School Punkin' Chunkin' competition.

SHIPPENSBURG OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

- Two SYCSD educators were recipients of the Outstanding Teacher Award, sponsored by the Shippensburg University School Study Council.

SHS CELEBRATES DIVERSITY

- SHS eleventh graders learned about the many forms of diversity during the third annual Culture Con.

PA GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE SCIENCES

- One SHS senior participated in the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences at Carnegie Mellon.

SCHOLASTIC ART AND WRITING

- One student received a gold key for short story.
- Four students received silver keys; one for novel writing, one for personal essay, one for short story, and one for photography.
- Four students received honorable mention; one for short story, one for poetry, one for journalism, and one for digital art.

JA BIZTOWN

- Elementary students participated in Junior Achievement's Biztown.

STEAM INTO HISTORY

- Fifth grade students from FES, ShES, and SES participated in the 'Steam Into History' historical program.

HIGH SCHOOL STEM SUMMIT

- SHS freshmen participated in Junior Achievement's STEM Summit.

YORK COMMUNITY ARTS SCHOLARS EXHIBITION

- One SHS student received the Juror's Choice Award at the York Community Arts Scholars Finalist Exhibition (YCASE).
- 7 SHS students were selected into the exhibition.

WRITING CONTESTS

- One SHS student was chosen as a finalist in the Yom HaShoah Committee's Holocaust Remembrance Essay Contest at the York Jewish Community Center.

PA STATE SPELLING BEE

- Three SMS students were finalists in the Pennsylvania State Spelling Bee. One student earned a spot in the WITF Grand Championship Spelling Bee.

HIGH SCHOOL BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST

- One SHS senior was recognized as the Penn Live Best and the Brightest in the Class of 2019.

GET REAL DAYS / REALITY CHECK

- Sophomore students participated in Get Real Days.
- Seventh grade students participated in Reality Check.

GEOGRAPHY BEE

- SMS students competed in a school geography bee.

FIRST TECH CHALLENGE ROBOTICS

- RoboWarriors won Judge's Award for their team's positive attitude.

YORK COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR LEARNING

- 21 SHS students participated in the Career Exploration Program.

KINSLEY PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

- Three SHS students were chosen to participate in the Kinsley Pre-Apprenticeship Program.



EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS

BAND, SOUTHERN MIDDLE SCHOOL

- The Band earned the highest rating of “Superior” at the High Note Festival.
- Six SMS students were members of the SHS Warrior Marching Band.
- Six SMS students participated in the annual York County Honors Band Festival.

BAND, SUSQUEHANNOCK HIGH SCHOOL

- The Marching Band finished 1st in the Liberty Class Open at the Cavalcade of Bands Championships.
- The Marching Band colorguard won high guard at the Cavalcade of Bands Championships.
- Eight students participated in the York County High School Honors Band Festival.
- Two students participated in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 7 Band Festival.
- Two students participated in the NAFME All-Eastern Concert Band Festival.
- The Marching Band percussion section won high percussion at the Cavalcade of Bands Championships.
- Indoor Percussion placed 4th at the Keystone Indoor Drill Association (KIDA) Championships.

- The Indoor Color Guard placed 1st at the Keystone Indoor Drill Association (KIDA) Solo and Ensemble Championships.

CHORUS, ELEMENTARY

- Four SES students performed in the PMEA District 7 Song Fest.
- Three SES students participated in OAKE National Choir.
- Ten FES students participated in the OAKE National Chorus.

CHORUS, SOUTHERN MIDDLE

- Ten students participated in the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Sweet Sound-sations Women’s Choral Festival.
- Ten students participated in Boyz Noyz Choral Festival.
- Seven students attended the 2018 PMEA District 7 Middle School Song Fest.
- 110 Concert Choir students performed in two concerts (Winter and Spring).
- The Concert Choir earned the top rating of Superior in the High Note Music Festival.

CHORUS, SUSQUEHANNOCK HIGH

- Two students participated in the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Sweet Sound-sations Women’s Choral Festival.
- One student participated in Boyz Noyz Choral Festival.

- Fifty Concert Choir students performed in the Candlelight Processional at Epcot.
- Eleven students participated in the Temple MANChoir Festival.
- One student participated in the PMEA District 7 Chorus Festival.
- The Concert Choir earned the top rating of Superior at the Music in the Parks Competition. They also earned overall Choir First Place.

ORCHESTRA

- SMS Orchestra earned a Superior rating at the High Note Music Festival at Dorney Park.
- Three SMS students participated in the York Junior Symphony.
- Twelve SMS Students participated in the PMEA Stringfest.
- Twelve SHS students participated in the York Youth Symphony.
- Three SHS students participated in the PMEA District 7 Orchestra Festival.

- One SHS student participated in the PMEA Central Region Orchestra.
- Eleven SHS students participated in the Lebanon Valley College Honors Orchestra.

THEATRE

- The SHS Theatre presented *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for its fall play.
- The SHS Theatre presented *The Wizard of Oz* for its spring musical.
- One student received an Outstanding Actor award for their performance in *The Wizard of Oz* at the York County Musical Theatre Awards (The Encores).
- One student received an Encore Award at the York County HS Theatre Awards for their involvement with theatre during their high school career.
- Three students received awards for their work with the International Thespian Society at the PA Thespian Festival.



EXCELLENCE IN ATHLETICS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN ATHLETICS

- Thirty-eight student athletes earned the York-Adams Academic All-League Award.
- Twenty-one student athletes earned the District III E. Jerry Brooks Academic Excellence Award.

BASKETBALL, GIRLS

- Earned YAIAA Sportsmanship Award.
- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships.
- Qualified for the PIAA 5A State Championships.
- One player was named to the All-State team and named YAIAA Division II Player of the Year.
- Two players reached 1000 career points.

BASKETBALL, BOYS

- Earned YAIAA Sportsmanship Award.

CROSS COUNTRY

- Earned YAIAA Sportsmanship Award.

FIELD HOCKEY

- Qualified for District III Championships.

FOOTBALL

- Earned YAIAA Sportsmanship Award.

GOLF

- YAIAA Division II Champions.
- YAIAA County Tournament Runner-Up.
- Two golfers qualified for the District III Championships.



LACROSSE, BOYS

- Finished 3rd in YAIAA Division I.
- Qualified for District III Championships.
- One player named US Lacrosse Academic All American.
- One player named US Lacrosse All American.

LACROSSE, GIRLS

- Qualified for District III Championships.
- One player named US Lacrosse Academic All American.

SOCCER, BOYS

- YAIAA Division II Champions.
- YAIAA County Champions.
- Qualified for PIAA District III Championships.

SOCCER, GIRLS

- YAIAA Division II Champions.
- Qualified for the PIAA District III Championships.

SWIMMING & DIVING

- One student finished tenth in the PIAA State Diving Competition.
- One student named All State.

TENNIS, GIRLS

- Earned YAIAA Sportsmanship Award.
- One player qualified for the District III Singles Championships.

VOLLEYBALL, GIRLS

- Qualified for the District III Championships.

WRESTLING

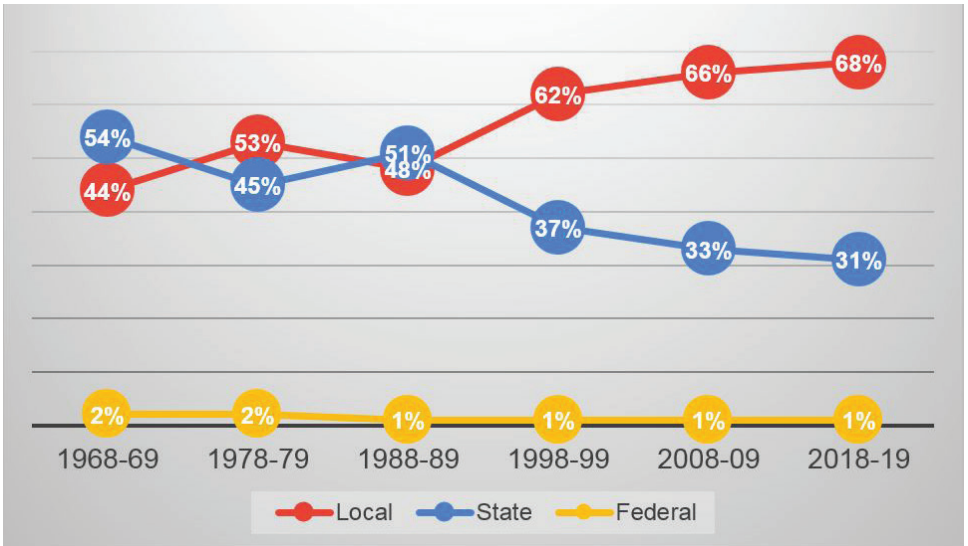
- YAIAA Division II Champions.
- One wrestler qualified for the PIAA State Championships.
- One wrestler named All State.



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 larger share of public education has been paid by local communities and that continues today. As shown in the graph below, 67% of the cost of education for 2018-19 was funded from local dollars, 32% from state, and only 1% 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:

- 2018-2019 audit had an unmodified opinion, which is the best opinion an auditor can give. Additionally, there were no findings in the financial statement audit, single audit, and the most recent auditor general audit.
- General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance exceeds 5% of budget target, which is necessary at the local level because the state does not always provide timely funding.
- Fund Balance has been reserved for future building renovations. Reserving fund balance enables the district to slowly phase in millage necessary for capital projects and also to save on interest by reducing borrowing.
- Financial condition of the District supports a high quality educational program at a reasonable cost per student.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

COST TO EDUCATE A STUDENT

A question that many community members often ask is: "How much does it cost to educate a student?" The chart below shows the most recent information from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. As shown, Southern is ranked at 258 out of 500 districts for overall cost per student and 229 overall for average instructional expense. Southern prides itself on putting as many of our resources into the classroom as possible. Southern's overall cost per student is less than the median and slightly above the median for instructional expenses. As shown previously in this report, the District's student achievement is well above the state and national averages.

Also reflected in the chart is that Southern is in the top third of Pennsylvania School Districts for size, which plays a role in the cost to educate a student.

SOUTHERN COMPARED TO OTHER PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2017-2018 DATA

	SOUTHERN	RANKING OUT OF 500	LOWEST	HIGHEST
COST PER STUDENT	\$16,941	258	\$12,403	\$55,019
AVERAGE INSTRUCTIONAL EXPENSE	\$9,597	229	\$6,222	\$35,471
STUDENTS	3,181	161	6	203,017



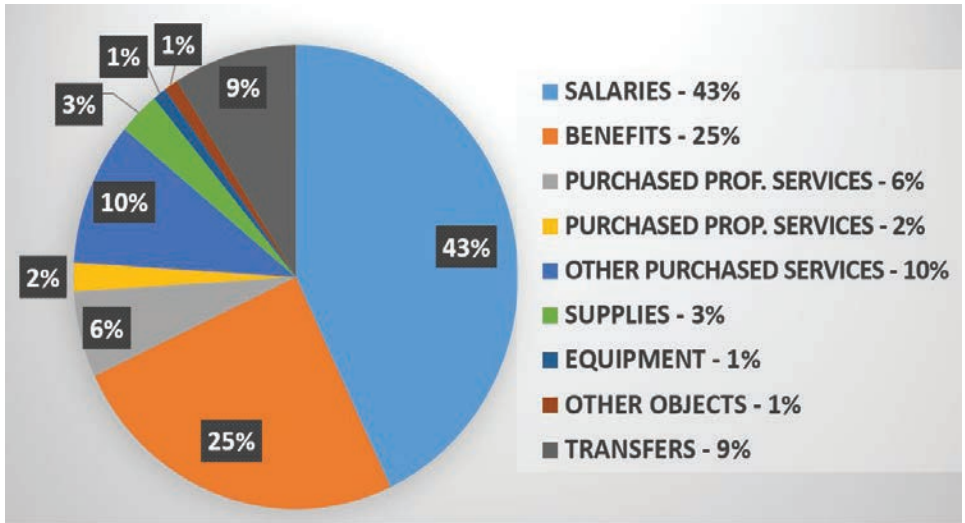
2019-20 BUDGET

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.

The Southern York County School District adopted a \$57.9 million budget for the 2019-20 fiscal year. The budget includes an assumption of no increased state funding, \$1.5 million use of fund balance, and we are pleased to report no real estate tax increase. The budget is based upon the priorities of providing an excellent educational program to prepare our students to be career or college and life ready while maintaining our outstanding facilities at a level our community supports. To meet these priorities, the budget includes restoration of several teaching positions, curriculum additions, long-range planning for technology device replacement, and a phase-in of debt service for building renovations.

As noted in the actual cost to educate a student, the priority in budgeting is to operate as efficiently as possible to drive dollars to areas that impact student achievement. This is balanced with also making sure that there is safe and efficient transportation, well-maintained, secure facilities for students to learn and thrive, technology for students and staff, and support services in place to meet the needs of every student.

2019-2020 EXPENDITURES



The Board and administration seriously consider the impact an increase in taxes has on its community members and were able to balance this budget without any additional increase. The 2019-20 budgeted expenditures are \$740,000 or 1.29% higher than 2018-19.

Based upon the budget priorities, changes were made to the budget including restoring two professional staff positions, restoration of a full-time custodial position, and the addition of two personal assistants to meet individual student needs. With the addition of the professional staff positions, there are 227 professional staff for 2019-20, which compares to 248 in 2009-10.

Other budget additions included lease costs for elementary technology devices, the implementation of a math program at Southern Middle School, a reading diagnostic and intervention program, increases to building and department budgets, and increases for cyber charter school costs.

The budget also includes 0.20 mill for future debt service payments to be used to fund long-term facility needs and updates. This will allow the district to continue to maintain our beautiful facilities for the use of generations to come.

2019-20 MILLAGE RATES

A mill levy is the number of dollars a taxpayer pays for every \$1,000 of assessed value. The current 2019-20 real estate tax rate of 19.39 mills results in a tax bill of \$1,939 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.

2019-20 SCHOOL DISTRICT TAXES ON A \$100,000 HOME

YORK CITY	\$3,373.61
NORTHEASTERN	\$2,647.00
EASTERN	\$2,469.00
WEST YORK	\$2,422.38
SPRING GROVE	\$2,366.63
DALLASTOWN	\$2,366.00
YORK SUBURBAN	\$2,341.33
HANOVER	\$2,306.00
DOVER	\$2,264.30
RED LION	\$2,227.91
SOUTH EASTERN	\$2,225.03
CENTRAL	\$2,033.00
SOUTH WESTERN	\$2,032.00
SOUTHERN	\$1,939.00

EXCELLENCE IN ALTRUISM



SHES STUDENTS 'GIVE FROM THE HEART' TO SALVATION ARMY & RYAN'S HOPE

FES STUDENTS COLLECT WINTER ACCESSORIES FOR "A CHRISTMAS SMILE"



SES SAC PURCHASES NEW BOOKS FOR EVERY STUDENT

SHS MINI-THON DONATES \$16,000 TO FOUR DIAMONDS TO CONQUER CHILDHOOD CANCER



SMS STUDENTS RAISE \$3,800 FOR AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

SHS WARRIOR BASEBALL TEAM VOLUNTEERED WITH VETERANS



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