

SPECIAL ACT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Special Act Districts are public school districts established by the NYS legislature to provide education and related services to students with behavioral, cognitive, and/or physical disabilities. These schools serve some of the state's most challenged students and are often the last option available when a home district is unable to provide appropriate academics and supports. While most students live on campus, many day students come from area schools.

WHO ARE OUR STUDENTS?

Our students are mainly from New York City, Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland Counties, as well as Long Island, and remain in our districts from several months to many years.

We educate students with emotional and educational challenges, often victims of abuse and neglect, and medically fragile children. Frequently our students have failed in multiple placements and we are their public school of last resort.

FISCAL CHALLENGES

Special Act schools are subject to the regulations of regular public schools. However instead of local taxing authority, revenues come from a tuition based model. Tuition rates are based on costs from two years ago and don't account for changes in student population and staffing.

- We lack a sustainable and equitable funding methodology.
- We need regulation that will allow us to make prudent, long term fiscal plans.
- We seek a baseline funding mechanism to support programs.

SUPPORT US!

Support guidance for 11% tuition rate increase

Support funding for tuition rate setting study with no preconditions

OUR DISTRICTS

6 of the 9 NYS Special Act Districts are located in Westchester County.

Greenburgh-Graham Union Free School District, Hastings-on-Hudson
Greenburgh Eleven Union Free School District, Dobbs Ferry
Greenburgh North Castle Union Free School District, Dobbs Ferry
Hawthorne Cedar Knolls Union Free School District, Hawthorne
Mount Pleasant Blythedale Union Free School District, Valhalla
Mount Pleasant Cottage Union Free School District, Pleasantville

For more information email lhec@lhec.org

