

FAQ #1

You have questions? We have answers!



What are Impact Fees?

An impact fee is a one-time payment imposed by a local government on a property developer. These fees are assessed and collected by the county. These monies are used to help the school districts reduce the amount of funds needed for a major capital project. Funds are held in an account allowing schools to access funding for additions, certain types of renovations, or for new school construction.

In these types of projects, the district must complete a Certificate of Necessity and submit it to the Delaware Department of Education. All major capital projects for our district, if approved, are 60% funded by the state and 40% by local funds. If approved, the district would then go to a major capital referendum for the local match.

***Impact fees would help offset the local funding amount needed in a major capital improvement referendum, hence you may not see a tax increase.***

Our district has sent a letter asking the County Council to support the implementation of impact fees in our county. Please consider calling or writing to your council representative and requesting the same.

How does the district determine the number of administrative positions to hire?

Similar to how teaching positions are generated, the district earns administrative positions based on state-mandated formulas calculated through the annual September 30<sup>th</sup> unit count based on student enrollment. Since the implementation of the state giveback in Fiscal Year 2018 (see reverse side), the district has consistently given back several administrative units to the state each year, thereby not filling all earned administrative positions. For the 2024-2025 school year, this giveback equated to 7.5% of total administrative positions earned. The chart below illustrates the number of administrative positions generated compared to those hired, along with the anticipated administrative positions for the 2025-2-26 school year following the reductions in March 2025.

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS GENERATED 2024-2025	ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS HIRED 2024-2025	ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS 2025-2026 (AFTER MARCH 2025 REDUCTION)
1 Superintendent	1 Superintendent	1 Superintendent
2 Assistant Superintendents	1 Assistant Superintendent	1 Assistant Superintendent
6 Directors	5 Directors	5 Directors
6 Supervisors	6 Supervisors	6 Supervisors
1 Supervisor of Transportation	1 Supervisor of Transportation	1 Supervisor of Transportation
1 Supervisor of Food Services	1 Supervisor of Food Services	1 Supervisor of Food Services
1 Supervisor of Building/Grounds	1 Supervisor of Building/Grounds	1 Supervisor of Build/Grounds
1 Administrative Assistant	1 Administrative Assistant	0 Administrative Assistant
15 Principals	15 Principals	15 Principals
29.65 Assistant Principals	26 Assistant Principals	25 Assistant Principals
TOTAL = 63.65	TOTAL = 58	TOTAL = 56

***As you can see from the above charts, two-thirds of the administrators hired in our district make up our school administrative teams.***

### Are specialists considered administrative positions?

There were nine positions filled as instructional specialists for this school year. These positions are not administrative positions. These positions are funded utilizing Title I, Opportunity Grant funding, Reading Cadre and Academic Excellence. The IRSD School Board voted during the March meeting to eliminate four of these positions. The five remaining positions will support staff in the areas of Secondary English

Language Arts/Multilingual Learners, Elementary Reading/Multilingual Learners, Elementary Math, Secondary Math, and one K-12 Instructional Technology.



### What is the Delaware Giveback Requirement?

In 2018 Delaware found itself in a serious financial crisis. As a result, the state **required** districts and charter schools to return \$26 million dollars annually. The belief in 2018 was that this would be a one to two year requirement. The giveback has occurred every year since. Our district's amount this school year totaled \$2,000,177.27. This is a reason why we consistently hire less staff then we are entitled.

The IRSD giveback includes:

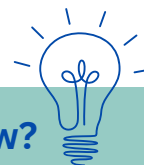
- (1) Assistant Superintendent
- (1) Director
- (3) Assistant Principals
- (9) Teachers
- (4.35) Secretaries
- (2) Custodians

### What else is IRSD doing to save money?

The reduction in staffing is not the only measure that will be implemented. IRSD is also evaluating the discretionary budget with the aim of making significant cuts in that area.

IRSD is reducing discretionary budgets, which include:

- school budgets
- department budgets
- non-athletic extra pay for extra responsibility budgets (EPER)
- athletic budgets



### Did you know?

We are the only school district in Kent and Sussex Counties to maintain two high schools (IRHS, SCHS) and a special needs school (HTE). Our district consists of 15 schools and our attendance area covers over 364 square miles, the largest geographical area of any district in state.



**VOTE JUNE 5, 2025 7AM - 8PM SCAN FOR MORE INFO ON VOTING!**

