

What programs does the Education Fund support?

The State supplies the majority of the money for the education fund. The State collects money from sales, income, and corporate taxes, as well as funds from the Hoosier Lottery. Some federal funds are also funneled into this category.

These funds are used to pay for the following costs:

- **Teacher and Staff Salaries and Benefits:** Covers compensation for teachers, building administrators, and education support staff.
- **Curricular Materials** Funds for classroom materials and supplies for teaching and learning within the school.
- **Guidance and Support Services:** Supports guidance counseling, occupational services, speech therapy services, and other student support services.
- **Education to Operations Fund Transfer:** Starting in 2019, the State passed legislation that allows school districts to transfer funds from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund - up to 15% of the total amount.

How does the State determine how much money our schools receive?

The following funding sources provide money for the Education Fund.

- The Indiana basic tuition funding formula per student
- Additional state funding based on the percentage of low-income and students in foster care
- State grant funds to support additional needs in special education, career and technical education, and non-English speaking students
- Summer school reimbursement

State Tuition Support Formula

This is the major funding formula for determining how much money our school will receive. The formula's calculations use the Annual Daily Membership, also known as ADM. ADM is a count of all kindergarten to grade 12 students who are enrolled full-time in the district. There are two count days each year, one in October and one in February. The enrollment on these days determines the funding we will receive. Students enrolled in a district's virtual school count for 85% of a student, rather than a 100% full-time student. There are additional formulas that provide supplemental funds for students with special needs and English language learners.

What happens when there isn't enough money?

Changes in enrollment can have positive or negative impacts on our district. The state has guidelines on what expenses can be paid from the education fund. Funds from operations and debt services can not be used to pay these expenses.

Our district has tried to maintain smaller class sizes. We know that having a qualified teacher and smaller class sizes are essential to offering the best education to our students. Therefore, we strive to avoid eliminating teachers and their positions. In the last few years the education fund has become very tight. Additional ESSER money, grants distributed to help during COVID, ran out. This loss caused us to reduce five interventionists who were hired to help students who need extra support. Educational support professional positions have also been reduced as funds have become tighter. Further cost-saving measures had to be weighed this year. As teachers left the district, consideration was given to having other teachers absorb their roles. Some roles needed to be filled, but others could be merged. By not filling all of these positions, the district aims to save costs with as little disruption to education as possible.

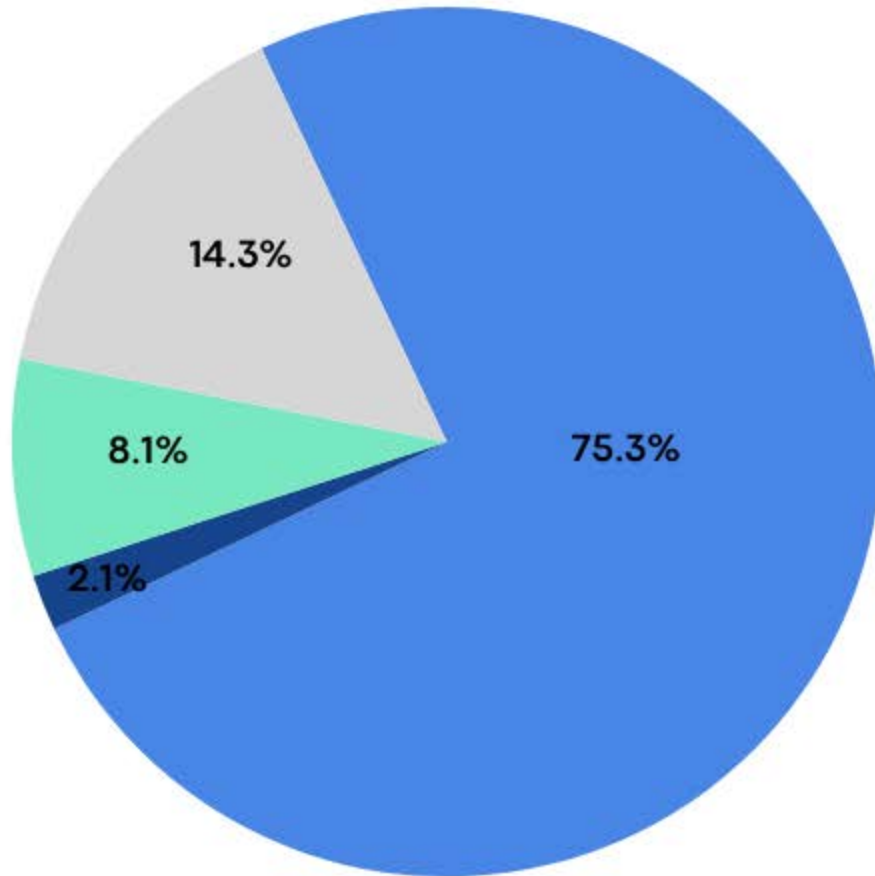
Teacher Salaries

The revenue in the education fund determines how much money is available for teacher raises. The teachers association bargains with the district each fall to determine changes to salary and benefits. The amount of money they have to negotiate is tied directly to the amount of additional money that is given to the district this year over last year, “new money” so to speak. As the district annually uses all of its funds, only “new money” is available to be used for teacher raises. Historically, our district receives small amounts of “new money.” This has resulted in lower salaries for our teachers and staff compared to surrounding districts. Each year the district and the teachers association work together to figure out the best way to stretch funds to compensate our hard-working staff.

Summary

The education fund is the largest fund in our district and has the most direct impact on student education. When the state appropriates additional funds into this area, we are able as a district to provide more support and resources to our students. When funds are tight, resources and support are reduced or eliminated.

HOW ARE FUNDS SPENT IN THE EDUCATION FUND?



- TEACHER AND STAFF SALARIES AND BENEFITS**
Covers compensation for teachers, building administrators, and education support staff.
- CURRICULAR MATERIALS**
Funds for classroom materials and supplies for teaching and learning within the school.
- GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES**
Support of guidance counseling, occupational therapy, speech services and other student support services.
- EDUCATION TO OPERATIONS FUND TRANSFER**
The transfer of funds from the education fund to the operations fund allowed by the state.

Monroe-Gregg School District

Student Enrollment (ADM)

