

Week 3: Education Fund: Curricular Materials

What are curricular materials?

The state of Indiana defines curricular materials as materials students use for learning in the classroom. This includes textbooks, workbooks, student chromebooks, digital content/programs, materials for AP, dual credit and CTE courses, and many other items. The state mandates that districts adopt curriculum from an approved list of providers.

Who pays for them?

Prior to 2023 the parents and guardians paid text book rentals/fees each school year. Each grade level had a specific fee to cover the cost of the materials used in that grade. Fees were also adjusted for students enrolled in classes that used additional materials. Applications were available for families to apply to have free or reduced text book rental fees.

In 2023-2024 the State of Indiana passed a law that required these materials be provided to students at no cost. The state allocated \$160 million for the 23-24 school year. This averaged to \$158 per student. Our district had 1,547 students enrolled that year. We received \$244,757.84 from the state. This was enough to cover the cost of curricular materials for our district that year.

In 2024-2025 the State sent funds to schools, but these funds were less than the year prior. However, they were sufficient to cover the complete cost of the district curricular materials.

Below is a link to a DOE site that allows you to look at the curricular materials costs from 2024-2025 throughout the state. You can examine our school directly by selecting it from the drop down menu on the side.

<https://eddata.doe.in.gov/PublicHome/GetObjectByUuidAndViewType?uuid=60254360-d318-46b6-b5ac-b8d608683fe3&viewType=Report¤tPage=1>

In 2025-2026 the State again committed to \$160 million dollars for students. However, rather than a particular amount being sent to each school allocated specifically for text book fees, this amount would be rolled into Tuition Support. The formula was adjusted to have an increase in the amount of money coming to the district from the State to cover the cost of curricular materials. This is the money that comes from the State based on student enrollment.

Due to our drop in student enrollment, our district has less money coming from the State through tuition support. However, the cost of curricular materials does not adjust based solely on the number of students. For example, elementary students use a reading series. This series was purchased years ago. The cost was divided out amongst the anticipated life span of the series, approximately 7 years. The cost needed to pay for this yearly won't change, but the number of students in that class may. Other materials may be purchased based solely on the number of students. Due to this set up the district did not receive adequate funding for curricular materials. We were approximately \$30,000 short.

This earmarked money leaves less funds available for the other areas of the education fund, meaning the district must make strategic decisions on what materials and programs can be purchased, which supplies are essential, and what can be eliminated for this year. As this is also the fund that contributes to the hiring of teachers and support staff, covering the cost of these materials cuts into the funds available for hiring teachers and staff. If our student enrollment continues to drop and the state does not contribute additional funds, this will put additional financial strain on this already tight fund. To put \$30,000 into perspective, this is half a teacher position or a whole education support position.

Conclusion:

The State wanted to reduce the cost of textbook fees for families. However, funding to fully cover this has not existed at the state level. Districts have had to absorb the differences in funding which has resulted in tighter budgets and cuts in regards to hiring of teachers, support staff, and supplies available for the classroom.

Week Three: Curricular Materials

Click the below link for the “Video Overview”

[Video Overview](#)

The chart that is referenced in the video is also available within this document.



Curricular Materials Cost | AGENCY

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This dashboard reports curricular materials costs reported to the state in the fall of each year. The dashboard shows average costs of curricular materials by school and grade. Currently this dashboard shows only the 2024-2025.

Curricular Costs Reported by LEAs for 2024-25 School Year by Grade

Curricular Materials Cost Insights

Corporation

All

Corporation Type

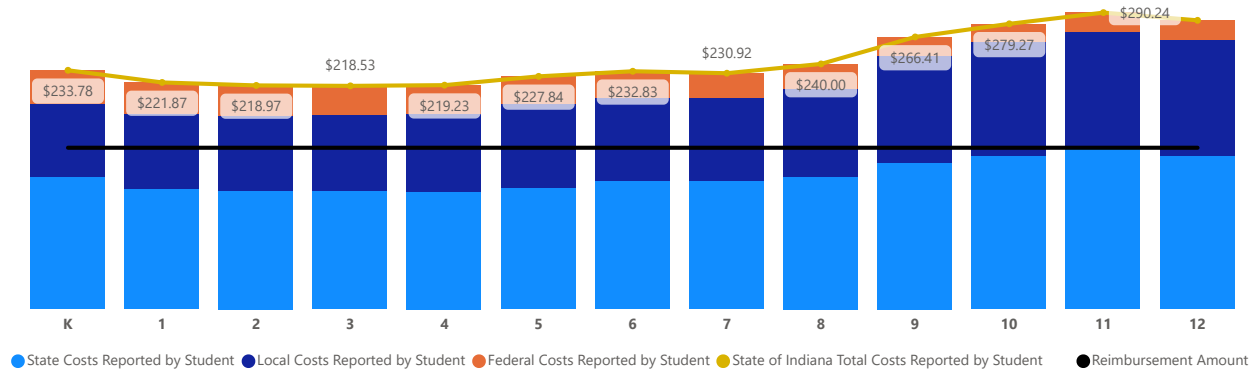
All

The black line on the graph represents the State Reimbursement Rate for 2025 (\$157.95) per student.

Average Curricular Costs Reported by LEA per Student is calculated by dividing the Curricular Costs Reported by LEA by the Average Daily Membership.

This is the first year that reported costs are broken out by funding source.

Costs Reported by Student for the 2024-25 School Year by Grade



Curricular Costs Reported by LEA

Corporation	Average Daily Membership (ADM)	Local Funds	Local Funds Per Student Cost	State Funds	State Funds Per Student	Federal Funds	Federal Funds Per Student	Total Claimed	Total Claimed Per Student	Total Claimed by Entire State Per Student
21st Century Charter Sch of Gary - 9545	1,180.00	\$345,423.68	\$292.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$108,333.29	\$91.81	\$453,756.97	\$384.54	\$243.69
ACE Preparatory Academy - 9970	131.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,284.08	\$254.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$33,284.08	\$254.08	\$243.69
Adams Central Community Schools - 0015	1,291.00	\$152,837.73	\$118.39	\$147,967.69	\$114.61	\$5,510.00	\$4.27	\$306,315.42	\$237.27	\$243.69
Adelante Schools - 9130	451.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,650.76	\$23.62	\$27,035.92	\$59.95	\$37,686.68	\$83.56	\$243.69
Adventist Christian Elementary - C905	16.00	\$3,047.64	\$190.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,047.64	\$190.48	\$243.69
Alexandria Community School Corp - 5265	1,320.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$231,658.15	\$175.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$231,658.15	\$175.50	\$243.69
Allegiant Preparatory Academy - 9065	166.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$38,282.70	\$230.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$38,282.70	\$230.62	\$243.69
Anderson Community School Corp - 5275	5,931.00	\$1,067,683.39	\$180.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,067,683.39	\$180.02	\$243.69
Anderson Preparatory Academy - 9790	776.00	\$177,000.00	\$228.09	\$394,099.00	\$507.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$571,099.00	\$735.95	\$243.69
Andrean High School - B760	142.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$231,705.48	\$1,631.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$231,705.48	\$1,631.73	\$243.69
Andrew J Brown Academy - 9615	435.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$46,600.48	\$107.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$46,600.48	\$107.13	\$243.69
Argos Community Schools - 5470	621.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$203,274.77	\$327.32	\$6,358.02	\$10.24	\$209,632.79	\$337.56	\$243.69
Ascension Lutheran Christian Schl - B892	45.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,974.00	\$310.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,974.00	\$310.53	\$243.69
Total	1,001,663.67	\$89,805,172.00	\$89.66	\$131,813,515.04	\$131.59	\$24,911,291.07	\$24.87	\$246,529,978.11	\$246.12	\$243.69