Mount Olive Township Schools — 2025 Taxpayers' Guide to Education Spending (TGES) Spending Summary

Source: NJ Dept of Education TGES 2025 | Peer Group: G. K–12 / 3,501+ (96 districts) | County: Morris | ★ = 2024–25 Budgeted | Rank 1 = lowest spending · Rank 96 = highest spending

SPENDING PER PUPIL — 2024–25 Budgeted ★ (compared to K-12/3,500+ peer group of 96 NJ districts)

Indicator	Description	Mount Olive 2024–25 ★	Group Avg (K-12/3,500+)	Group Median (K-12/3,500+)	State Avg (All types)	State Median (All types)	MO Rank in Group	MO vs Group Avg	Key Takeaway for Board
Ind 1	Budgetary Cost Per Pupil	**$21,489**	$21,302	$20,321	$21,199	$21,004	64 of 96	+0.9%	MO ranks 64/96 — meaning MO spends more per pupil than 63 of 96 comparable districts. Rank has improved from 76/96 in FY23, reflecting disciplined budget management.
Ind 2	Total Classroom Instruction Per Pupil	**$11,633**	$12,347	$11,906	$12,175	$12,057	39 of 96	-5.8%	⚠ MO directs $11,633/pupil (rank 39/96) to classrooms — 54.1% of budgetary cost vs group avg of 58.0%. Ranking 39/96 means 38 districts spend less on classroom instruction.
Ind 3	Classroom Salaries & Benefits Per Pupil	**$10,585**	$11,300	$11,022	$11,166	$11,146	35 of 96	-6.3%	MO classroom salary/benefits rank 35/96 — 34 districts spend less. At 90.9% of classroom spending going to salaries/benefits, the ratio is in line with peer norms.
Ind 4	Classroom Supplies & Textbooks Per Pupil (2023–24 budgeted)	**$421**	$459	$351	$460	$391	59 of 96	-8.3%	Note: Ind 4 reflects 2023–24 budgeted. MO at $421 (rank 59/96) — 58 districts spend less on supplies. Above group median ($351) and near group avg ($459).
Ind 5	Classroom Purchased Services Per Pupil	**$359**	$516	$358	$514	$366	49 of 96	-30.4%	✅ MO purchased services ($359) ranks 49/96 — exactly at the group midpoint. Neither a high nor low spender in this category. Efficient use of contracted services.
Ind 6	Total Support Services Per Pupil	**$3,999**	$3,748	$3,643	$3,687	$3,660	72 of 96	+6.7%	⚠ MO support spending ($3,999) ranks 72/96 — 71 districts spend less. Reflects intentional investment in counselors, psychologists, and special ed staff. Rising trend warrants monitoring.
Ind 7	Support Services Salaries & Benefits Per Pupil	**$3,555**	$3,115	$2,964	$3,010	$2,893	78 of 96	+14.1%	⚠ MO support salary/benefits ($3,555) ranks 78/96 — 77 districts spend less. Reflects strong support staffing levels confirmed by Ind 17 student-to-support ratio.
Ind 8	Total Administration Per Pupil	**$2,144**	$1,982	$1,943	$2,172	$2,211	68 of 96	+8.2%	⚠ MO admin cost ($2,144) ranks 68/96 — 67 districts spend less on administration. Above group avg ($1,982). Offset by faculty/admin ratio of 18.7 (rank 15/96).
Ind 8A	Legal Services Per Pupil	**$52**	$49	$42	$51	$48	62 of 95	+6.1%	MO legal costs ($52) rank 62/96 — 61 districts spend less. Above group median ($42). Significant improvement from $93 (rank 85/96) in FY22 — a 44% reduction.
Ind 9	Admin Salaries & Benefits Per Pupil	**$1,683**	$1,596	$1,591	$1,700	$1,730	57 of 96	+5.5%	✅ MO admin salary/benefits ($1,683) ranks 57/96 — near the group midpoint. 56 districts spend less. Cost structure is appropriate relative to peers.
Ind 10	Operations & Maintenance Per Pupil	**$2,872**	$2,767	$2,402	$2,649	$2,454	74 of 96	+3.8%	⚠ MO O&M ($2,872) ranks 74/96 — 73 districts spend less. Above group avg ($2,767). Reflects aging facilities; addressed through the capital planning process.
Ind 13	Extracurricular Costs Per Pupil	**$569**	$313	$352	$412	$330	91 of 96	+81.8%	✅ MO extracurricular ($569) ranks 91/96 — only 5 of 96 districts spend MORE. This is a top-tier investment in student programming. 2.6% of budget. Board should own this with pride.

STAFFING RATIOS — 2024–25 ★ (lower student-to-staff ratio = more staff per student)

Indicator	Description	Mount Olive 2024–25 ★	Group Avg (K-12/3,500+)	Group Median (K-12/3,500+)	State Avg (All types)	State Median (All types)	MO Rank in Group	MO vs Group Avg	Key Takeaway for Board
Ind 16	Students per Classroom Teacher (lower = better)	**10.6**			11.7	10.9	88 of 96		✅ MO student/teacher ratio 10.6 ranks 88/96 — 87 districts have MORE students per teacher (less favorable). MO has among the most teachers per student in the peer group.
Ind 17	Students per Support Staff (lower = better)	**47.9**			64.6	64.9	93 of 95		✅ MO student/support ratio 47.9 ranks 93/95 — 92 of 95 districts have MORE students per support staff member. MO is one of the best-staffed districts for student support in NJ.
Ind 18	Students per Admin Staff (higher = leaner)	**139.5**			137.1	123.8	69 of 96		MO student/admin ratio 139.5 ranks 69/96 — 68 districts have fewer students per administrator (more admin-heavy). MO runs a leaner admin structure than most peers.
Ind 19	Faculty to Admin Ratio (higher = better)	**18.7**			13.8	13.3	15 of 96		✅ MO faculty/admin ratio 18.7 ranks 15/96 — rank 1 would mean fewest teachers per admin. Rank 15 means MO has proportionally far more teachers than administrators vs peers.

OTHER KEY INDICATORS

Indicator	Description	Mount Olive	State Avg	State Median					Key Takeaway for Board
Ind 14	Employee Benefits as % of Total Salaries (2024–25 budgeted)	**34.7%**	34.0%	33.4%					MO benefits rate (34.7%) is near both the state avg (34.0%) and median (33.4%) for FY25. Driven by NJ pension obligations — not an outlier.
Ind 15	Equipment Cost Per Pupil (FY23 actual / FY25 budgeted)	**$272 actual $283 budgeted**	$139 avg	$117 median					✅ Equipment spending is approx. 2× the state average. Sustained investment in technology and capital equipment is a board priority.
Ind 20	Fund Balance vs Budget (2022–23 actual)	**Budgeted: $16.3M Actual**	N/A	N/A					✅ Positive variance of +$3.1M. MO generated more fund balance than planned — reflects sound fiscal management.
Ind 21	Excess Surplus (FY23 / FY24)	**$4.6M (FY23) $1.5M (FY24)**	N/A	N/A					Declining excess surplus is expected as reserves are deployed. FY24 amount is within normal compliance range.
Transport	Transportation Efficiency Rating	**1.69**	N/A	N/A					Efficiency rating of 1.69 is within the normal range. Ratings approaching 2.0+ would warrant further board review.

LEGEND: ⚠ = Area warranting board discussion ✅ = Notable strength Gold = Mount Olive value ★ = 2024–25 Budgeted (most recent) Ranks shown within G. K-12/3,501+ peer group (96 districts statewide)