



Fair School Funding Plan

A comprehensive, fair
school funding plan for Ohio

Sponsors: State Representatives Bob Cupp & John Patterson





Special Education Recommendations

Return

- Return to a multiplier of the base cost as the method of weighted funding

Fund & Authorize

- Allocate funds and grant ODE the authority to update the special education cost study that was completed in 2001

Count and fund

- Count and fund special education preschool students based on a calendar and percent of time instead of all students being funded at half-time

100% Funding

- Fund special education at 100%, setting aside 10% for catastrophic costs



Special Education: Return to a multiplier of the base cost

- In Fiscal Year 2014 the weighted funding for special education was converted to per pupil amounts
- In the most recent biennium the per pupil weights for special education remained constant while the per pupil base cost increased
- To avoid parity issues the weighted funding for special education should be a multiplier of the base cost



Special Education: Fund & authorize cost study

Last full cost
study was
completed in
2001

Updates were
completed in
2006 & 2014

New methods,
technology,
and best
practices have
evolved and
changed since
2001



Special Education: Fund preschool based on % of time

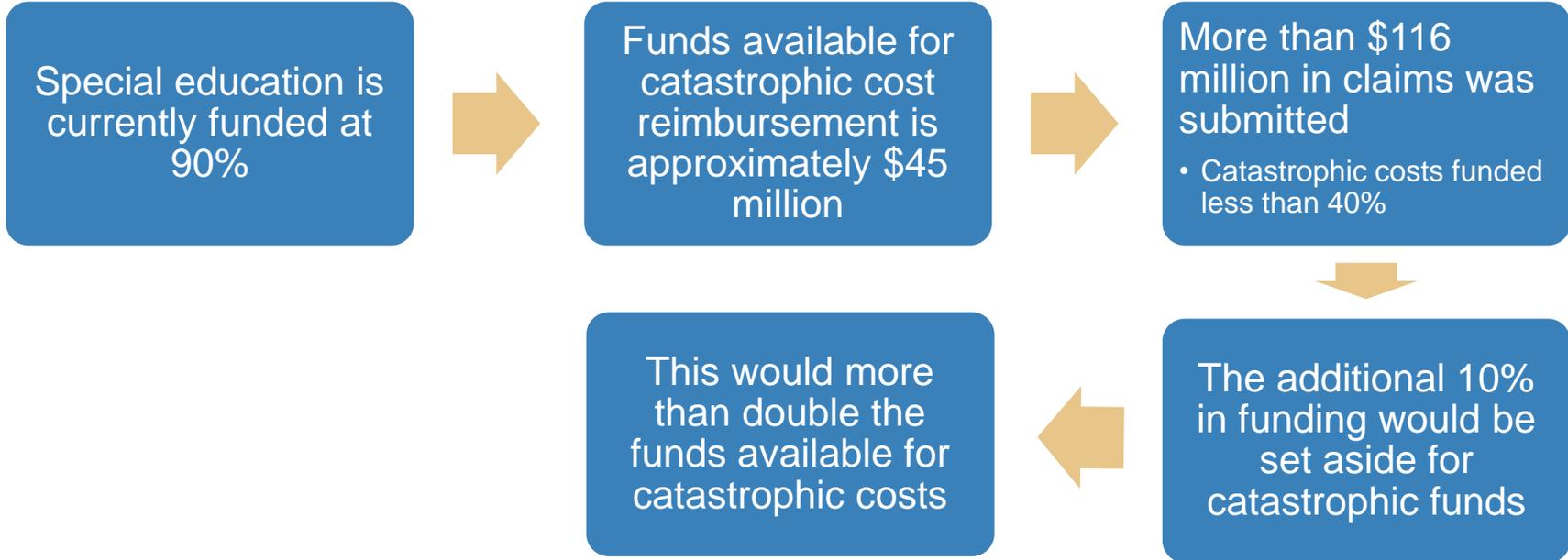
Special Education preschool students are currently funded at half-time (.5 FTE)

Create calendars for preschool students

Fund students based on percent of time in attendance



Special Education: Fund at 100%







Gifted Recommendations

Establish

Establish workgroup to recommend improvements in financial reporting of gifted expenditures

Fund

Fund categories and levels recommended in gifted study

Establish

Establish incentive program for rural districts



Gifted:

Establish financial transparency workgroup

- USAS coding only includes two (2) functions for the reporting of gifted expenditures
- Gifted expenditures reported by Districts vary state-wide and possibly under-report the true investment in gifted education
- To help facilitate a more accurate and transparent picture, we recommend the legislature direct the Ohio Department of Education, in cooperation with the Auditor of State, to establish a work group to recommend improvements in financial reporting
- This work group shall be comprised of five (5) Treasurers/CFOs, two (2) EMIS professionals and one (1) representative of the Ohio Association for Gifted Children.
- The Treasurer/CFO representatives shall be a mix of rural, urban and suburban districts as well as regions, with one (1) specific to ESC (Educational Service Center) districts.



Gifted: Fund based on May 2018 study

Fund categories & levels in gifted study

The Ohio Department of Education recently released a gifted cost study.

The study was mandated by the General Assembly to determine the appropriate amounts and the most appropriate method for funding Ohio's gifted education services.

The project scope is anchored in Ohio's new operating standards which became effective July 1, 2017.

Category	Student Grade Level	Funding per student	Student count basis	Description
Identification/Testing:	K-6	\$ 24.00	# enrolled	One whole grade screening K-2 & one whole-grade screening in 3-6
Identification/Referrals	K-12	\$ 2.50	# enrolled	Requested by parents after whole-grade screenings
Professional Development	K-12	\$ 28.00	# identified w/10% minimum	60 hrs of PD for general ed teachers providing gifted services (2 yr period)
Gifted Coordinators	K-12	\$ 29.00	# enrolled	One for each 3,300 students, minimum .5, max 8 - avg salary & fringe \$85,776
Instructional Services	K-8	\$ 638.00	* # identified	140 pupils per GIS, avg salary & fringe \$89,378
Instructional Services	9-12	\$ 578.00	# identified	140 pupils per HS teacher, avg salary & fringe \$80,974
* Funding per student = \$641 with .2 minimum applied				



Gifted:
Establish rural incentive

We recommend the establishment of an incentive program
for rural districts

This recommendation is in response to the disparities between rural and non-rural districts which were noted in the gifted study





English Language Learners Recommendations

Return

Return to a multiplier of the base cost as the method of weighted funding

Fund & Authorize

Allocate funds and grant ODE the authority to complete a cost study of ELL

Revise

Revise category 2 funding to include ELL students enrolled more than 180 days and are classified as trial mainstream

Revise

Revise category 3 funding to include ELL students who have exited the program for the two years of progress monitoring which is federally required



English Language Learners: Return to a multiplier of the base cost

- In Fiscal Year 2014 the weighted funding for ELL (English Language Learners) was converted to per pupil amounts
- In the most recent biennium the per pupil weights for ELL remained constant while the per pupil base cost increased
- To avoid parity issues the weighted funding for ELL should be a multiplier of the base cost



English Language Learners: Fund & authorize cost study

- A state-wide cost study has not been completed to date for English language learners
- To establish the appropriate funding amounts for the three categories of ELL funding we recommend:

To fund and authorize the Ohio Department of Education to complete a cost study for English language learners



English Language Learners:

Revise category 2 & 3 funding criteria

- ELL funding includes three (3) categories
- Recent changes at the federal level under ESSA requires district tracking of ELL students two (2) years after exit of ELL status
- Revise category 2 funding to include all students enrolled more than 180 days until they achieve proficiency
- Revise category 3 funding to include ELL students for the two (2) years after they have achieved proficiency

Fair School Funding

We ask our legislators and all Ohioans to consider our plan in its entirety, as an essential roadmap to guide school funding decisions

Together, we strive to ensure that Ohio's children will have the quality educational opportunities .

And together, we can adopt a comprehensive, fair school funding plan that meets the needs of Ohio's children, future workforce, and economy.



Thank You for Your Interest and Action for Ohio's Future

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