



NORTH MERRICK
UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
—Nurturing Young Minds—

North Merrick UFSD State Foundation Aid Funding Plan 2023-2024

Increasing graduation rates and eliminating the achievement gap.

Plan Summary:

Funds will be used to support the budget to fund various summer programs, after-school tutoring, and other academic programs, such as foreign language instruction. The increase in Foundation Aid will ensure that these initiatives will continue into future years.

The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of funding after-school tutoring and summer support programs. **\$100,000**

Reducing class size.

Plan Summary:

The district will use foundation aid funds to hire additional teachers with the intention of maintaining reduced class sizes at our elementary schools and increasing special area sections in art, music, and physical education.

The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of reducing class sizes and increasing the number of special area sections. **\$225,000**

Providing supports for students who are not meeting, or who are at risk of not meeting, state learning standards in core academic subject areas.

Plan Summary:

Funds will be used to support the budget in funding additional AIS instruction and other academic programs, such as robotics. The increase in Foundation Aid will ensure that these initiatives continue into the future.

The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of increasing AIS services and adding additional academic programs for students, such as robotics. **\$720,000**

Addressing student social-emotional health.

Plan Summary:

The 2023-24 budget includes the funds to maintain and increase services that address the social-emotional health of students.

The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of using such funds to address the social-emotional health of students through after-school mindfulness clubs, partnerships with outside mental health providers/organizations, professional development for teachers and staff in responsive classrooms, and mental health classroom instruction. **\$550,000**

Providing adequate resources to English language learners, students with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness.

Plan Summary:

Funds will be used to hire full and part time staff to address the learning loss of students with disabilities and English language learners; support the private and public placement of students with disabilities; provide appropriate transportation as needed for special education students; and provide all necessary resources to maintain the educational requirements, mandated services, and advancement for all student sub-groups.

The community has requested additional information regarding the use of such funds and is in support of using funds to support students with special needs and English language learners. **\$485,951**

Total Foundation Aid Increase \$2,080,951

Please describe your analysis of public comment from parents, teachers, and other stakeholders on the plan.

The district was provided feedback from parents, teachers, staff, and community members during the budget development season and at monthly budget and board meetings regarding the need for additional AIS support for borderline (at-risk of not meeting standards) students; reduction in class sizes; support for students with disabilities, ELL students, and students experiencing homelessness; and the need to address the social-emotional wellness of students post Covid. The district prepared its budget allocation of the additional foundation aid to address these areas, and will continue to re-evaluate such funding during the school year. The district maintains open lines of communications with all stakeholders in an effort to receive continuous input regarding these areas.

Questions or comments regarding this plan may be sent to Tmcdaid@nmerrick.org.