



## MISSOURI SENATE

Rob Mayer  
25th Senate District

JEFFERSON CITY

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 331  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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Contact: Irene Murray  
(573) 751-3859

# New Foundation Formula Increases Funding for Schools

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*Senath-Hornersville will receive a \$187,919 funding increase in 2006,  
more than \$1.54 million in additional annual funding by 2014*

JEFFERSON CITY – In the June 17 edition of *The Daily Dunklin Democrat*, Senath-Hornersville superintendent Yancy Poorman reportedly said that the new funding system for Missouri schools will not provide any additional money for school districts. Mr. Poorman is misinformed. I would like to challenge his statements with the facts.

The new foundation formula, which was approved by the General Assembly in the 2005 legislative session, will end up providing an additional \$830 million each year for Missouri schools by 2014. Statewide funding increases will be implemented gradually over the next several years, beginning in fiscal year 2007. A funding increase of \$113 million for fiscal year 2006 was made under the previous formula. Annual funding increases under the new formula break down as follows:

- Fiscal Year 2007: \$99,290,474
- Fiscal Year 2008: \$99,290,474
- Fiscal Year 2009: \$111,172,543
- Fiscal Year 2010: \$90,287,341
- Fiscal Year 2011: \$107,830,428
- Fiscal Year 2012: \$129,253,446
- Fiscal Year 2013: \$154,990,620
- Fiscal Year 2014: \$39,830,058
- **Total Annual Increase: \$ 831,945,384**

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With the statewide funding increases, the Senath-Hornersville district will also see more state funds. Senath-Hornersville's \$3,011,245 budget in 2005 will see a \$187,919 increase in 2006 under the previous formula. Annual funding increases under the new formula, totaling \$1,540,576 by 2014, break down as follows:

- Fiscal Year 2007: \$172,416
- Fiscal Year 2008: \$172,416
- Fiscal Year 2009: \$193,133
- Fiscal Year 2010: \$206,380
- Fiscal Year 2011: \$226,250
- Fiscal Year 2012: \$242,316
- Fiscal Year 2013: \$279,348
- Fiscal Year 2014: \$48,318
- **Total Annual Increase: \$ 1,540,576**

My colleagues and I in the Missouri Senate pledged to increase state funding for public schools without tax increases, and we have done just that. Our new foundation formula ensures that Missouri children receive an adequate education, and it does so while leveling the playing field between districts.

Per-pupil funding varied from \$5,000 to \$13,000 in Missouri school districts under the old funding system. However, our new formula determines a minimum per-pupil dollar figure needed to provide our students with an adequate education and adjusts funding according to our districts' differing costs of living. This legislation does not reduce state education funds in any Missouri district and guarantees that the buying power of Missouri districts will be equitable.

As a member of the Senate Education Committee and the Joint Committee on Education, I have seen this bill develop and move through both chambers of the General Assembly. The benefits it will provide for Missouri schools are worth the efforts that went into getting this bill passed. I wish that people would look at the numbers before criticizing a system that works to offer our students a better chance at success.

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*Senator Robert Mayer represents the people of Wayne, Ripley, Butler, Stoddard, New Madrid, Pemiscot and Dunklin counties in the Missouri Senate.*