



## Funding Education

### *Proposed Foundation Formula Increases Funding to Schools in 27<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District*

The Senate voted out legislation this week that rewrites the state's education funding formula. The proposed foundation formula improves upon the current formula by changing from a formula driven by tax rates, to a system based on differing student needs between districts. Devising this plan took collective efforts from Senators representing both rural and urban districts. Compromises on the Senate floor resulted in an extra \$15 million being slated to go toward high labor costs that are common in suburban and urban districts. On the other end of the spectrum, schools with fewer than 300 students will be able to draw from a \$10-million fund.

How the state funds education is one of the most complex topics that my colleagues and I face. To help you understand the formula better, I included two graphics below to show how the proposed foundation formula would work for the Sikeston and Jackson school districts. PART ONE of the proposed formula starts with a school district's average daily attendance(ADA) and adjusts the ADA based on extra needs of students in the district: free/discount lunch, special education, and low English proficiency. If a district has an excess number of students in these areas of need, then the district will receive additional credit for the funding needed.

PART TWO takes the weighted ADA calculated in PART ONE and multiplies it by the proposed state minimum-spending amount of \$6,117. This calculated figure is then multiplied by a dollar-value modifier that takes into account the different costs of living in various districts. The dollar-value modifier ranges from a high of 1.115% for Kansas City and St. Louis area schools, to a low of 1.000% for rural school districts. To determine the additional funding through the proposed formula, the local funding that school districts receive and current state funding are subtracted out.

The Sikeston school district starts with an ADA of 3,688. Sikeston has 2,100 students on free/discount lunch compared to the 981 students they are expected to have. Thus, they are credited with a greater number of students, giving them a weighted ADA is 3,968. The weighted ADA is multiplied by the proposed state minimum of \$6,117. Sikeston has a dollar-value modifier of 1.009%. Sikeston schools received \$8,589,674 in local funding last year and \$15,900,600 in state funding. The district's increase in funding under the proposed formula is \$4,886,494.

# SIKESTON

## PART ONE: Weighting the ADA

Students enrolled in certain programs need additional funding from the state.

**Average daily attendance**  
**3,688**

Based on average of the mid-90 % of the top 113 schools districts, each district would be expected to have...

26.6% = 981 in free/discount lunch  
14.9% = 550 in special education  
1.1% = 41 in low English proficiency

**Actual number in sample district enrolled in these programs**

2100  
346  
10

**Number of students in excess of expected**

1119  
0  
0

For each of these students beyond the expected number, a pre-set multiplier gives the district credit for the additional funding needed. This additional funding gets expressed as additional students.

$1119 \times 0.25 = 279.75$   
 $0 \times 0.75 = 0$   
 $0 \times 0.60 = 0$

**280 (rounded)**

Additional student credits to be funded by the state to help pay additional costs of special programs

## PART TWO: Calculating state funding

**Actual ADA 3688 + 280 = 3968**

$3967.93 \times \$6117 = \$24,271,828$   
Weighted ADA (not rounded) Proposed state minimum spending amount per student

$\times 1.009 =$   
Multiplied times dollar-value modifier, which is calculated to account for different costs of living in various districts. This multiplier is different for every county.

**\$24,490,274**  
Amount of funding necessary from state and local sources

**- 8,589,674**  
Local funding (i.e. property taxes)

**- 15,900,600**  
Current state funding

**= \$4,886,494**  
Amount of additional funding state would give to district above what it currently gets.

The Jackson school district has an ADA of 4,305 and their weighted ADA is the same because they don't have an excess number of students with special needs. Their dollar-value modifier is higher than Sikeston's at 1.031%. After accounting for local funding and current state funding, the district's increase in funding is \$5.8 million.

# JACKSON

## PART ONE: Weighting the ADA

Students enrolled in certain programs need additional funding from the state.

**Average daily attendance**  
**4,305**

Based on average of the mid-90 % of the top 113 schools districts, each district would be expected to have...

26.6% = 1,145 in free/discount lunch  
14.9% = 641 in special education  
1.1% = 47 in low English proficiency

**Actual number in sample district enrolled in these programs**

1067  
582  
5

**Number of students in excess of expected**

0  
0  
0

For each of these students beyond the expected number, a pre-set multiplier gives the district credit for the additional funding needed. This additional funding gets expressed as additional students.

$0 \times 0.25 = 0$   
 $0 \times 0.75 = 0$   
 $0 \times 0.60 = 0$

**0**

Additional student credits to be funded by the state to help pay additional costs of special programs

## PART TWO: Calculating state funding

**Actual ADA 4305 + 0 = 4305**

$4305.29 \times \$6117 = \$26,335,459$   
Weighted ADA (not rounded) Proposed state minimum spending amount per student

$\times 1.031 =$   
Multiplied times dollar-value modifier, which is calculated to account for different costs of living in various districts. This multiplier is different for every county.

**\$27,151,858**  
Amount of funding necessary from state and local sources

**- 11,954,782**  
Local funding (i.e. property taxes)

**- 9,309,508**  
Current state funding

**= \$5,887,568**  
Amount of additional funding state would give to district above what it currently gets.

As you can see, the Sikeston and Jackson school districts would gain substantial funding from the proposed foundation formula. Below is a chart that shows the change in funding for all schools in the 27th Senatorial District.

<b>SCHOOL DISTRICT</b>	<b>ADA</b>	<b>WT. ADA</b>	<b>\$ Value Modifier</b>	<b>Current Funding</b>	<b>New State Funding</b>	<b>Additional Funding</b>
Meadow Heights R-II	557	586	1.000	\$1,744,625	\$2,409,808	\$665,183
Leopold R-II	213	213	1.000	\$701,909	\$976,046	\$274,136
Zalma R-V	263	288	1.000	\$898,402	\$1,282,441	\$384,040
Woodland R-IV	890	940	1.000	\$2,617,678	\$3,870,551	\$1,252,873
Jackson R-II	4,305	4,305	1.031	\$9,309,508	\$15,197,076	\$5,887,568
Delta R-V	338	356	1.031	\$1,149,281	\$1,483,120	\$333,840
Oak Ridge R-VI	370	382	1.031	\$999,195	\$1,623,495	\$624,300
Cape Girardeau 63	3,741	4,027	1.031	\$5,118,703	\$8,420,261	\$3,301,558
Nell Holcomb R-IV	430	433	1.031	\$770,881	\$1,282,671	\$511,790
Marquand-Zion R-VI	186	204	1.000	\$637,377	\$800,810	\$163,434
Fredericktown R-I	1,780	1,872	1.000	\$5,733,928	\$7,483,132	\$1,749,204
East Prairie R-II	1,033	1,136	1.000	\$3,193,709	\$4,920,540	\$1,726,830
Charleston R-I	1,224	1,368	1.000	\$3,531,359	\$5,618,369	\$2,087,009
Perry Co. 32	2,076	2,222	1.019	\$3,336,203	\$5,120,550	\$1,784,346
Altenburg 48	125	126	1.019	\$204,389	\$246,166	\$41,778
Scott City R-I	935	998	1.009	\$2,632,747	\$4,147,170	\$1,514,423
Scott Co. R-II	523	558	1.009	\$1,738,660	\$2,443,813	\$705,152
Scott Co. R-IV	965	1,016	1.009	\$2,717,168	\$4,340,392	\$1,623,225
Scott Co. Central	402	441	1.009	\$1,472,197	\$2,065,827	\$593,630
Sikeston R-VI	3,688	3,968	1.009	\$11,014,106	\$15,900,600	\$4,886,494
Kelso C-7	176	176	1.009	\$284,586	\$363,699	\$79,113
Oran R-III	349	373	1.009	\$1,156,342	1,560,274	\$403,932

Education reigns as my top priority because of the benefits it provides our children. The value we place on education is reflected in the Senate's proposal, which calls for a nearly 30-percent increase to public school funding, bringing the total state spending on education to \$3.1 billion. Over the next five years, the state will invest a minimum of \$685 million to implement the new formula. As a result of the tough decisions that my colleagues and I made to control spending on the state's Medicaid welfare system, we are poised to fulfill our promise of making education our top priority.

## **Contact Me**

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: [jcrowell@senate.mo.gov](mailto:jcrowell@senate.mo.gov) or visit me on the web at <http://www.jasoncrowell.com>.

Thank you for your time.

*Senator Jason Crowell represents the people of Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry and Scott counties in the Missouri Senate.*