

Delaware Funding Formula Options

Funding Formulas

- ▶ What needs to be included in a new funding formula?
- ▶ School funding options
- ▶ Moving forward

Key Take Aways So Far

- ▷ *Districts/charters must be held harmless from any loss*
- ▷ *Any new formula must contain protections for teaching positions and other key educational staff*

Commission's goals for a new formula

1. Adequate: Ensure that funding is adequate to meet school/student needs
2. Equitable: Funding should be adjusted for local wealth and student needs
3. Flexible: Allow for greater flexibility in how funds are expended
4. Targeted: Provide additional funding to high-need student groups (Special ed., low-income, English learners)

Commission's goals for a new formula

5. Staff Protections: The formula should contain greater protections for teachers & other school staff
6. Streamlined: A new system should reduce the administrative burden on schools.
7. Transparent: Greater clarity on how funds are generated and expended

For the Commission

- ▶ Did we capture all your goals?
- ▶ Are there any additional funding goals that we should include?
- ▶ Additional thoughts?

Important topics we will not talk about today




(Don't worry, we will talk about them at future meetings)

- Accountability
- Local referendum process
- State/local split
- Other topics – Capital, transportation, health insurance, shared services, and many others
- Property tax re-assessment



Current State Education Funding System in Delaware

Quick Reminder

	Current Formula	<i>Each of these is a continuum– we can design a system for Delaware along this continuum</i>	Recommended by AIR Report
How funding is determined	Based on teaching units		Based on students
Level of spending flexibility	Lower		Higher
Expenditure decisions are primarily made by:	The State		Districts/Charters
Protections for Teachers and Other Staff	Higher		Lower



Why a New Formula is Needed

Comparative Funding

2021-22

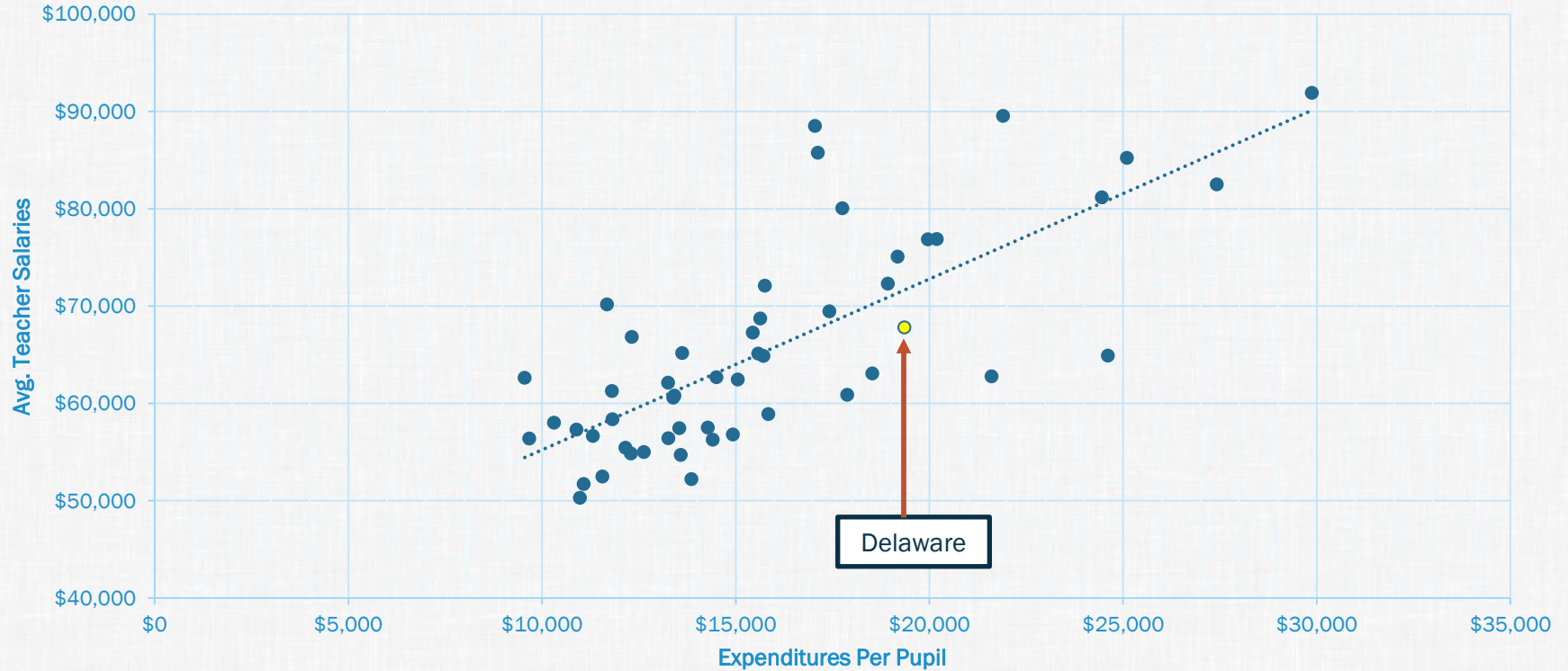
▶	Average Funding Per Pupil		Expended on Teacher Salary & Benefits
National	\$15,633		National 52.7%
Virginia	\$15,059		Delaware 51.0%
Maryland	\$17,753		New Jersey 52.7%
Pennsylvania	\$19,186		Virginia 55.1%
Delaware	\$19,357		Pennsylvania 56.3%
New Jersey	\$25,099		Maryland 57.5%

Comparative Funding 2021-22




▶	Average Funding Per Pupil		Average Instructor Pay	Student to Teacher Ratios
National	\$15,633		National	15.4
Virginia	\$15,059		Virginia	14.4
Maryland	\$17,753		Delaware	14.1
Pennsylvania	\$19,186		Pennsylvania	13.4
Delaware	\$19,357		Maryland	14.0
New Jersey	\$25,099		New Jersey	11.7

Source: NCES & NEA

Education Spending and Teacher Pay



Quick Reminder

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Expenditure decisions are primarily made by:	The State		Districts/Charters
Protections for Teachers and Other Staff	Higher		Lower



Questions & Comments



Pizza Time!



Open Discussion about School Funding Priorities

What are Your Thoughts On:

Rate how you would prioritize these on a scale of 1-5, with "5" being high priority and 1 being low priority.

1. Adequate

- Funding should be adequate to allow all students to achieve state standards

2. Equitable

- Horizontal equity: All students receive relatively equitable funding
- Targeted/Vertical equity: Students receive equitable funding based on their needs
 - This is done by targeting funding to high-need students (For example: At-risk, MII, Special Ed. & low-income)

What are Your Thoughts On:


3. Flexible with guardrails

- Including investments in teachers and other staff

4. Transparency

- Including streamlining the formula to reduce the administrative burden on schools
- Clarity on how funds are generated and expended

5. Connecting student outcomes to funding



Final Questions and Thoughts