

William Floyd State Aid Advocacy

Important Information

Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA)

The GEA was introduced in 2010 to help eliminate the State's \$10 billion budget deficit by reducing the amount of state aid to school districts.

Below is the cost to William Floyd since the GEA's inception:

- \$40 million reduction since 2010
- \$8 million reduction for 2013-2014 school year
- Resulting in a loss of \$930 per student for the 2013-2014 school year

Funding inequities

- 5% State Aid increase for NYS school districts (2013-2014)
- 2.03% increase in State Aid for William Floyd (2013-2014)
- William Floyd received the fifth lowest increase in Suffolk County per student (2013-2014)
- Assuming 2% property levy cap, William Floyd will have the third lowest in Suffolk for 2014-2015 before State Aid

Unfunded Mandates

- Examine current mandates
- No new mandates unless funded
- "Stop Loss" on all mandates

Additional information on program and staff reductions (2010-2012)

The district suffered the following program and staff reductions due to budget cuts:

- 200+ staff including more than 100 teachers
- High school electives
- Athletic programs
- High school musical
- Cultural arts program
- Elementary instrumental performing groups
- Secondary clubs
- Transportation for field trips

Advocacy Efforts

What can you do? Contact our elected officials and tell them your personal story. A detailed list of contact information is available on the district website: <http://www.wfsd.k12.ny.us/state/state.asp>

When telling your story, use the acronym **CPR – Concise, Personal and Respectful**

- **Concise:** Keep your comments brief and to the point
- **Personal:** In your own words, describe how these reductions affect you and your children – give personal examples (do not copy and paste a form or mass letter as they do more harm than good)
- **Respectful:** Please remember to be courteous