Date: October 29, 2025

To: Local Educational Agency Leads

Route To: School Administrators, Staff, Parents, School District Communities

From: David F. Corso, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Finance and Business Services

Deadline: November 14, 2025

School Funding Survey is Now Available

The FY2026 New Jersey State Appropriations Act requires the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) to conduct an examination of school funding policies. That examination must include stakeholder input and "assess how to create multi-year policies for issues including but not limited to funding changes, special education, and transportation."

To that end, the NJDOE created a survey to solicit stakeholder input in six areas, generally aligned to feedback received from school officials and other stakeholders in previous school funding outreach initiatives and reflected in FY2026 state aid calculations and FY2026 Educational Adequacy Report: 1) the use of wealth measures in calculating State aid; 2) limiting the amount by which State aid may change annually; 3) applying greater flexibility to the tax levy growth limitation; 4) the calculation of transportation aid; 5) the calculation used for formula aid for special education services; and 6) the reimbursement amounts for exceptionally high costs special education services. This survey is open to all members of the public, and the results will inform the NJDOE's final report.

Additional Information

The survey can be found on the NJDOE's <u>School Funding Outreach webpage</u>. The public can provide additional comments regarding school funding by emailing comments to <u>SFRAOutreach@doe.nj.gov</u>. Please note that survey responses and comments will be accepted through November 14, 2025.

Contact Information

Questions regarding this outreach initiative can be directed to the Office of School Finance at 609-376-3941 or emailed to staid@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group