



FUNDING

CHALLENGES AND NEEDS

Douglas County School District is home to **68,000 students** who attend **89 public schools**. Covering **850 total square miles**, our district is the **third largest in Colorado**. As we approach our **60th anniversary**, there are many funding challenges and needs that must be addressed to ensure that

each and every one of our students has access to the **best possible public education**.

What Do Our Schools Need?

The Best Teachers for Our Students

Address competitive pay to retain and attract excellent teachers amidst the current teacher shortage.

Student Safety & Wellness

Enhance the security of our schools and invest in additional mental health support and prevention programming for students.

Increase Career & Technical Education Opportunities

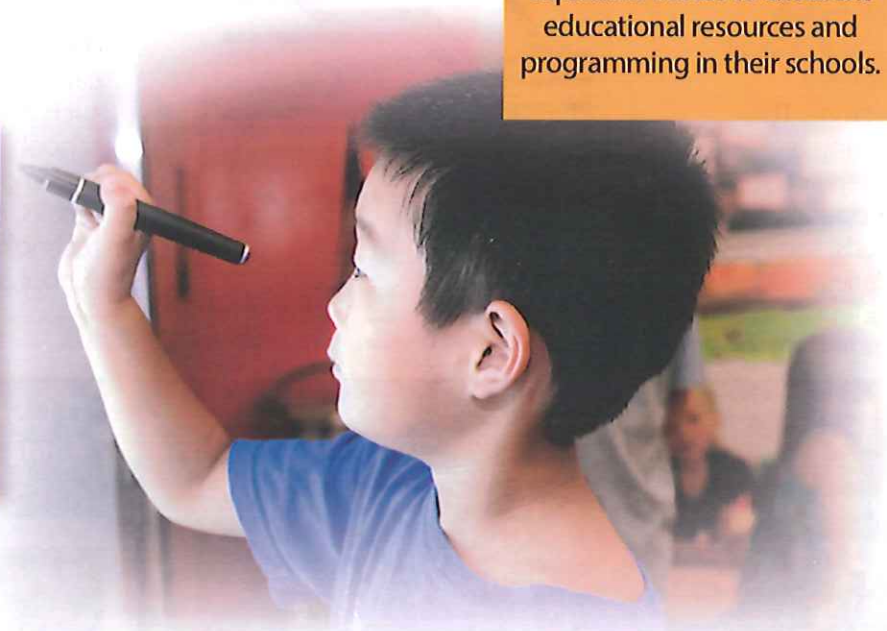
Provide additional pathways that prepare our students for their future careers or vocations.

Excellence in Student Programming

Ensure all students have equitable access to excellent educational resources and programming in their schools.

Update Aging School Buildings & Address Growth

Update our aging school buildings and provide space for growth to ensure optimal learning environments for current and future generations of students.





FUNDING CHALLENGES AND NEEDS

How Are Our Schools Funded?

The **1994 School Finance Act** determines how much funding each school district will receive ("Total Program" and "Per Pupil Funding").

Local Share = Fixed tax rate set by State of Colorado applied to all DCSD taxpayers – 25.440 mills.



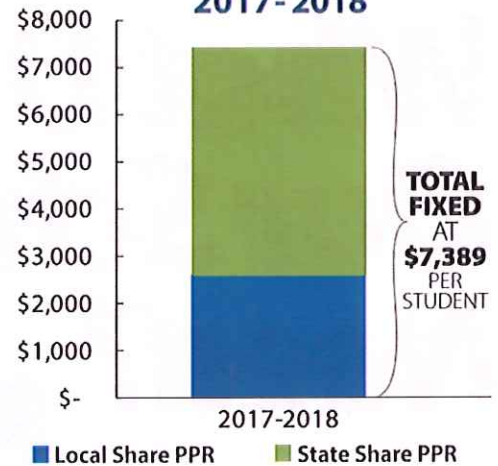
State Share = Funding from State Income Tax and Sales Tax allocated by Legislature (39% of State's General Fund).

More Local Share = Less State Share

An increase in local funding due to economic growth and rising property taxes does NOT provide our schools with more money – it just means the state contributes less.

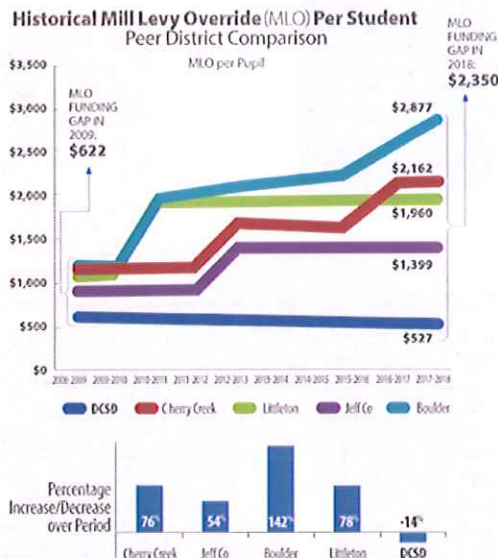
NOTE: Local Share refers to School Finance Act funding only and is not inclusive of Mill Levy Override.

DCSD Per Pupil Revenue 2017-2018



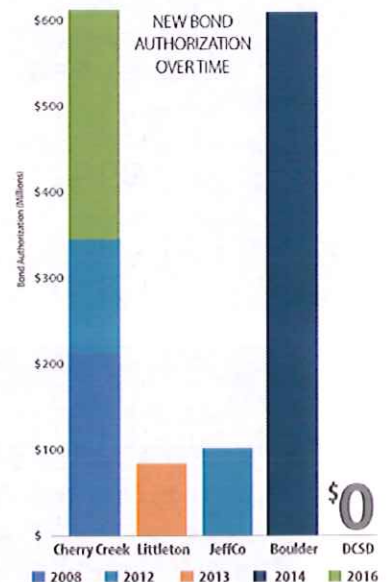
Mill Levy Overrides

Each district can request additional local funding (up to 25% more) through a local Mill Levy Override. This funding is generally used for operational needs, such as salaries and student programming.



Bonds

Local voter-approved general obligation bonds are used by school districts for capital needs such as new school buildings, repairs, technology or school buses.



FACT: Cherry Creek receives \$1,635 more per student in Mill Levy Override over DCSD. With DCSD's student count, this equates to more than \$100 million annually.

FACT: DCSD's Average Teacher Salary is \$17K less than Cherry Creek and \$13K less than Littleton. Source: CDE 2015-16 Average Teacher Salary

DCSD Capital Needs
Aging Infrastructure - \$205-\$269 Million (to "catch up") (\$25-\$30M per year to "keep up")

New Construction
(1 - 5 Years) \$107 Million

► All DCSD Mill Levy Override money stays with DCSD schools.