

WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
2003-04 BUDGET

ASSUMPTIONS for REVENUES

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ASSUMPTIONS FOR REVENUES

LOCAL EFFORT

6111 Current Real Estate Taxes - The greatest amount of funds is raised from our taxpayers based on a 12.59 mill (Chester County) and 10.20 mill (Delaware County) levy on the assessed valuation of all taxable property within the School District. The amount budgeted represents 96.4% of the tax to be levied; the difference being our experience as to the amount of discounts granted during the discount period and the amount uncollected which will go to lien.

6112 Interim Real Estate Taxes - Represents the amount of taxes we anticipate collecting on new construction and additions to existing properties, which, because of these completion dates, do not appear on the regular tax duplicate. This year's estimate is based on historical data and the expected new construction in the area as determined by the number of building permits issued by municipalities.

6113 Public Utility Realty Tax - The District's portion of the tax as collected by the Commonwealth based on the assessed valuation of the utility properties in the District. This tax is collected by the utility from the taxpayer as part of the service bill.

6151 Earned Income Tax - The District's portion (one-half percent) of the one percent earned income tax on all residents of the School District, except those residents working in Philadelphia and out-of-state who pay a tax on income where they work. The budget represents a 4.0% projected increase in taxable income.

6153 Real Estate Transfer Tax - Transfer tax is revenue collected by the County Recorder of Deeds on the value of all real estate property within the District boundaries sold during the year. This tax is equal to one-half percent of the value of the property sold and is paid at the time of the transfer. This year's estimate is based on historical data and anticipated trends for the area.

6400 Delinquent Taxes (all levies) - Delinquent tax is revenue collected by the County Tax Claim Bureau. Delinquent taxes are real estate taxes that were not paid during the original year of issue. The estimate includes collection factors on unpaid liens as follows: 2003-04 projected liens (20%), 2002-03 liens (40%), 2001-02 liens (60%), and all remaining prior years' liens (70%).

6500 Earnings on Investments - The estimated interest the District will earn through its cash management program on general fund investments (average investments \$40.8 million earning 1.9% annually).

6940 Tuition from Patrons & Other LEAS - Tuition we will receive from students, their parents/guardians for participation in the District's summer school programs and Outdoor Education Program. Monies received for providing services to pupils of another Local Education Agency. Includes tuition from the resident school district for students placed by the courts and for institutional children placed in the District's educational programs (formerly 9610).

6990 Miscellaneous Revenue - Represents the amount the District anticipates receiving from miscellaneous sources. The primary source of revenue is rent received from various organizations or groups for the use of the District's buildings and facilities.

0770 Beginning Unreserved Fund Balance - The Fund Balance appropriation represents the equity of prior years' operation that is being committed to the 2003-04 operation. Adequate fund balance levels are recommended to be at least equal to one month's operating expenditures (8.3%). Bond raters, such as Moody's, evaluate the financial stability of the District based on several factors, one of which is adequate fund balance. The projected balance to be carried forward into the 2003-04 year is \$4,407,363.

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STATE SOURCES

7110 Basic Instructional Subsidy - The instructional subsidy is the largest single source of revenue from the state. According to the Governor's proposed 2003-04 budget for the Commonwealth, there is no increase in this subsidy.

7270 Special Education of Exceptional Pupils - There was no recommendation on special education funding in the Governor's budget. Therefore, the proposed budget is based on the funding recommendation per HB16/SB153. There is no contingency funding budgeted in the 2003-04 year. Additional contingency funds were received in 2002-03.

7160 Tuition for Private Home Placement - This state reimbursement is for providing education to non-resident orphaned children placed in private homes by court order. It also includes those non-resident inmates of children's institutions whose district of residence cannot be determined.

7170 Instructional Support Team - This is special education Instructional Support Team (IST) funding. 1997-98 was the final year for IST program funding for the District.

7310 Transportation Subsidy - This is a reimbursement to the District for the operation of a school busing program in compliance with state law and regulations. It is not required that each district operate a busing program, but if operated, it must comply with the state law and regulations and is eligible for the transportation subsidy based on factors including the number of public and non-public students, students transported due to hazardous conditions, the approved cost of transportation, and market value of real estate.

7220 Vocational Education Subsidy - Reimbursement for District programs in distributive education, business educations, and home economics based on classes that satisfy the state's criteria for reimbursement and the number of students enrolled in these classes.

7250 Migratory Student Subsidy - Revenue received from the Commonwealth as subsidy for attendance of migratory children in the District.

7320 Rent Subsidy - Reimbursement for building projects on a basis of approved costs times our permanent reimbursement ratio of 27.54 percent. Our budgeted revenue includes rental subsidy for our anticipated debt service payments.

7330-07340 Medical/Dental/Nursing Services - Represents medical & nursing services reimbursement at \$8.60 per ADM, \$2.00 per student receiving dental hygiene services, and \$9.70 per ADM for additional Act 25 funding.

7210 Homebound Instruction - The amount the District anticipates receiving for state reimbursement of homebound instruction costs.

7140 Charter School Subsidy - Revenue received from the Commonwealth to fund charter schools' initiative. The state subsidy received includes revenue for transitional grants, non-public student transfers, and a 30% reimbursement for charter school expenditures from the proceeding year.

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2003-04 BUDGET**

7810 Social Security Subsidy - Effective 1/1/87, the Commonwealth reimbursed the School District for 1/2 of the employer's share of social security. Prior to this date, the state made payments directly to Social Security Administration. Act 29 of 1994 includes provisions to apply the state aid ratio to the social security subsidy, although at this time, the minimum reimbursement is defined as full funding of 1/2 of the employer's share.

7820 Retirement Subsidy - According to Act 29 of 1994, effective 7/1/95, the Commonwealth will reimburse the School District for 1/2 of the employer's share of contributions to Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS). Prior to this date, the state made payments directly to PSERS. Act 29 of 1994 includes provisions to apply the state aid ratio to the retirement subsidy, although at this time, the minimum reimbursement is defined as full funding of 1/2 of the employer's share. From 1997-98 to 2001-02, the state subsidy for retirement has declined, which reflects the reduction in the District's required PSERS contribution rate.

OTHER FINANCING SOURCES

9500 Refunds of Prior Years - Refunds are receipts of cash returning all or part of a prior period expenditure, now **6990**. Examples in this category include refunds from our medical insurance carrier and the CCIU.

9610 Receipts from other LEAS - Monies received for providing services to pupils of another Local Education Agency. Includes tuition received from the resident school district for students placed by the courts and for institutional children placed in the District's educational programs. These receipts are now being recorded in **6944**.