

24. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

Update: Budget (HB 2)

On Thursday of this week, the Missouri General Assembly completed its work on the 2019-20 budget. Before we dive into the highlights of this year's budget, we would like to again note that the School Administrators Coalition is incredibly thankful for the work of the Legislature this year in crafting a budget that provides additional money for K-12 education. This was a difficult budget year due to the uncertainty surrounding state revenues as a result of improper withholding tables issued by the Missouri Department of Revenue. This error cast a large, dark cloud over budget projections all session. Despite the challenges that were presented, the Legislature rose to the occasion for our public schools. A special thanks for this year's budget goes to Senator Dan Hegeman (R - Cosby), the Senate Appropriations Chair and to Representative Cody Smith (R - Carthage), the House Budget Chair.

While we do not always agree with the Legislature's ideas for public education, it is important to remember that these men and women have prioritized funding for our K-12 public schools. That support for public education should be praised and not forgotten through the ups and downs of this year's legislative session.

As such, we ask that you take some time to contact your representative(s) and senator(s) to let them know how appreciative you are of their commitment to funding K-12 public education. We also ask that you take a moment to reach out to Senator Hegeman and Representative Smith to thank them for their hard work.

The budget bills will now move to the Governor's desk for his approval.

Here are the highlights:

1) Full Funding of the Formula: The Legislature appropriated full funding for the foundation formula by adding approximately \$61.4 million in new money. If this new money comes to fruition, it is believed that the SAT will be \$6,375 for next school year. Of course, if the Governor were to make withholds to the foundation formula, it would impact the final SAT amount; however, this action has been extremely rare and is not expected at this time.

use \$6,340 in 19/20 budget to allow for prior year correction

2) Transportation Funding: The Legislature appropriated \$5 million in new money for school transportation which will result in a total appropriation of \$107.5 million for fiscal year 2020. As you know from previous bulletins, the school transportation appropriation could have been as high as \$112.5 million had the Conference Committee agreed to take the Senate's position with regard to this line item. However, that did not occur. Instead, the Conference Committee sided with the House's recommendation.

3) Proposition C: As you know, Proposition C is a dedicated tax. The Legislature believes this dedicated tax will increase \$40.9 million for fiscal year 2020.

↳ would be estimated \$1,036 per WADA using \$1,005 per WADA in 19/20 budget + used \$986 in 18/19 budget