

Annual Report on District Programs Financed through Budget Overrides





General Information about Budget Overrides

- Arizona law permits school districts to obtain local voter approval to *override* the state budget formulas for a school district's capital and/or maintenance and operations (M&O) budgets.
- Voters may also authorize a special programs override to exceed the budget for a specific program.
- Funds received through the override are used for the specific purposes approved by the voters.
- The amount of the budget increase is limited to the percentage amount approved by the voters and for the length of time authorized by the voters.



State Limitations on School District Spending

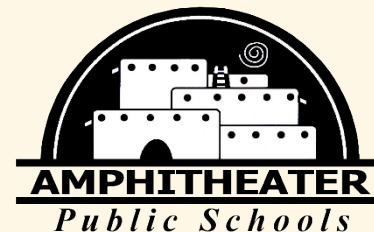
- Regardless of a school district's tax base or its level of need, each school district is limited by state formulas to the amount it can spend as M&O and Capital funds.
- Except for bonds, state formulas generally tie spending to the number of enrolled students.
- Arizona school districts do not have authority to increase their budget without voter-approval to *override* the budget set through state formula.
- The additional funding provided through a budget override annually depends on the M&O budget. Annual amounts provided by a budget override are a percentage of the M&O budget.



Amphitheater Public Schools Overrides

Prior to 2025, with the support of our voters, Amphitheater has benefitted from two overrides that support programs that directly benefit our students.

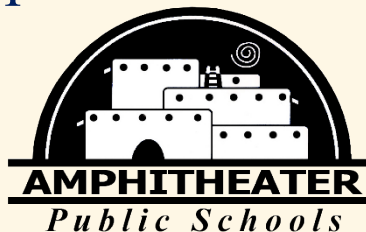
1. 10% general M&O budget override
2. 3.5% K-3 special programs budget override





10% M&O Override Amount

- The 10% budget override amount is 10% of the amount of funding the State provides Amphitheater Public Schools each year.
- When the state education funding is higher, then the 10% budget increase is higher.
- When the M&O override was first approved in 2005, the override amount was approximately \$8.1 million. It fluctuates annually depending on the amount of funding the state provides for education that year and the District's student enrollment.
- Last year, the M&O override provided \$8,902,633 in additional funding to Amphitheater Public Schools. The amount in 2024-25 increased from the previous year largely due to increases in enrollment.





Comparison of Amounts Provided by 10% M&O Override

2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
(Actual)	(Actual)	(Actual)
\$8,550,093	\$8,623,074	\$8,902,633



Schools that Receive Funding through the 10% M&O Override

High Schools

Amphitheater High School
Canyon del Oro High School
Ironwood Ridge High School

Middle Schools

Amphitheater Middle School
Cross Middle School
La Cima Middle School

K-8 Schools

Coronado K-8 School
Wilson K-8 School

Online School

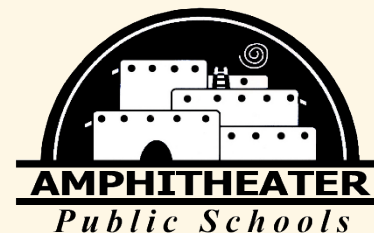
Amphi Academy Online

Student Services Program

Rillito Center

Elementary Schools

Copper Creek Elementary
Donaldson Elementary
Harelson Elementary
Holaway Elementary
Innovation Academy
Keeling Elementary
Mesa Verde Elementary
Nash Elementary
Painted Sky Elementary
Prince Elementary
Rio Vista Elementary
Walker Elementary





How the 10% M&O Override Helps Schools

- All elementary schools have dedicated certificated teachers for their special class offerings:

Art

Music

Physical Education

- All middle schools benefit through additional elective classes and intervention labs, which may include:

Career Exploration

Drama

Dance

MESA

Science

Programming

Technology

Math Lab

Writing Lab

- All high schools benefit with additional elective classes in areas of technology, science and fine arts, such as:

Art

Music

Computer Science

Modern Languages

Advanced Placement

- Students in every Amphi school have benefitted from the override through tutoring and intervention programs provided during the school year and over the summer.



Other Important Benefits Provided through 10% M&O Override

- The 10% M&O override adds approximately 3.8% to base salaries for employees, which helps keep District salaries competitive to be able to hire quality educators.
- The 10% M&O override adds technology and facilities positions to enable the District to remain current with technology changes and growing technology demands.
 - 2 Maintenance Tech II positions in the Facilities Department, and
 - 1 Programmer Analyst in the Technology Department.



3.5% Special Programs Override Amount

- Voters authorized the District to override its budget for Kindergarten through Third Grade by 3.5%
- Funds must be used in the K-3 program for the specific purpose approved by the voters :
 1. Free All Day Kindergarten
 2. Further reduction of class size in K-3 grades
- Amount provided by override depends on amount of funding the State provides Amphitheater Public Schools each year
- 3.5% K-3 Special Programs Override currently provides \$3,097,209 in additional funding for our K-3 program



Comparison of Amounts Provided by the 3.5% K-3 Special Programs Override

2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
(Actual)	(Actual)	(Actual)
\$2,474,823	\$2,610,148	\$3,097,209



How the 3.5% K-3 Special Programs Override Helps Elementary Schools

Free Full-day Kindergarten in All Elementary and K-8 Schools

- Title I funds were previously used to subsidize Kindergarten in Title I schools
 - Now, those funds are being used to help all students in the Title I schools
- Parents in schools that did not qualify to receive Title I funds used to have to subsidize a half-day of Kindergarten
 - Now, no parent pays for Kindergarten at any Amphitheater school



Additional Help for K-3 Students through the 3.5% Special Programs Override

Additional Class Size Reduction for K-3 Grades

- Since the election, Procedure 5-211.A (Class Size) has been revised to further reduce class size maximums for K-3 classes while the override is in place to:

Kindergarten:	25 Students
First Grade:	25 Students
Second Grade:	26 Students
Third Grade:	27 Students

- This year, average K-3 class sizes meet the 5-211.A maximums. However, 5-211.A also puts steps in place for assistance to be provided to a teacher should class maximums need to be exceeded.



Important Facts about the 10% and 3.5% Overrides

- Approved by the voters on November 5, 2019
- Remain in place for 7-years
 - Authorize budget override at the full percentage for the first 5 years
 - Begins School Year 2020-2021
 - Full override ends School Year 2024-2025
- Unless renewed, each override will phase down during years 6 and 7 as follows:
 - Year 6 (2025-2026): decreased by 1/3
 - Year 7 (2026-2027): decreased by another 1/3
 - Year 8 (2027-2028): override ceases and budget returns to regular state budget

Concluding Remarks



- Both overrides provide substantial benefits for Amphitheater students and their educational programs
- These overrides provide critical programs and support necessary for student success at a national level and in a rapidly changing world. Recognizing the overrides expired in 2024-2025, Amphitheater School District sought voter approval for a new override that combined the 10% M&O and 3.5% K-3 overrides. In November 2024, the Amphitheater community approved the new 13.5% override. The new override is projected to infuse approximately \$11,452,336 into Amphitheater's programs, ensuring that our students continue to benefit from these incredible programs and staff.
- Amphitheater Public Schools is especially grateful to the voters of the school district who continue to support the students of the District with these overrides

