

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Joel Filas, Chief School Business Official
DATE: January 12, 2026
RE: Business & Operations Report

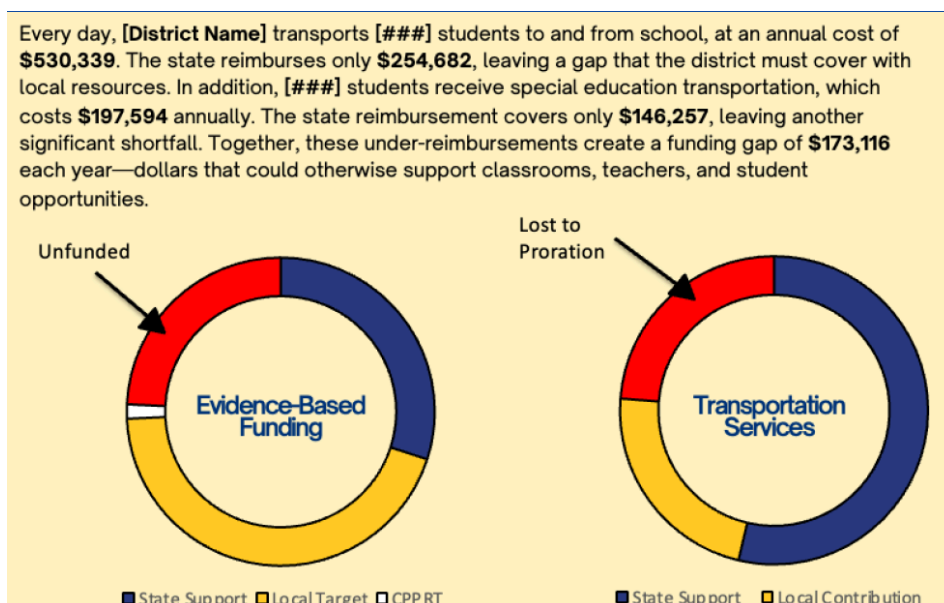
Update: School Project Maintenance Grant

The business office is pleased to announce that ISBE has approved our School Project Maintenance Grant application. The grant will supplement \$50,000 in capital expenditures scheduled for this summer.

Legislative Update

I attended the first webinar for IASBO's statewide advocacy initiative, "Driving Success: Completing the School Funding Puzzle," which we discussed at the last Board Meeting. Our discussions focused on the need to educate stakeholders on the "whole picture" of school funding in Illinois, as well as the impact of MCAT proration on School Districts. IASBO members are asked to emphasize the price students pay due to underfunding of MCATs and to focus attention on asking legislators to fully fund all mandated categorical reimbursements at 100% alongside continued investments in Evidence-based Funding, as these streams do not "compete" - they "complete."

To achieve this goal, school business officials will create one-page templates for legislators to see how proration has impacted their school districts. Due to the timing of the webinar, Benjamin 25's information could not be provided for this meeting, but I will include it in a future weekly update from Dr. McGill.



Monthly Safety Committee

The Safety Committee met on December 16th. The meeting focused on identifying Monthly Safety topics and a methodology for delivering monthly professional development on these topics. Additionally, three members of our committee will attend the Annual School Safety Summit, presented by the DuPage Regional Office of Education, later this month. The conference will focus on crisis communications for schools and feature speakers and activities to identify practical improvements to school communication plans.

A LOOK AHEAD

February Board Meeting:

- January CPI Report (Projection is currently 2.5-2.9%)
- FY27 Compensation Calculations

Respectfully submitted,

