



AMPHITHEATER

P u b l i c S c h o o l s

Annual Report on Programs Financed by Budget Overrides

General Information about a Budget Override

- 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 can only be used for the specific purposes approved by the voters.
- The amount of 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.



Amphitheater Public Schools Overrides

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



Important Facts about Both Overrides

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



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 because state education funding and student enrollment were higher then.
- Override currently provides \$7,792,593 in additional funding to Amphitheater Public Schools.



Comparison of Amounts Provided by 10% M&O Override

2019-2020

2020-2021

\$7,909,288

\$7,792,593



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

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

- Provides additional 8.0 Full Time Equivalency (FTE) teachers to reduce class sizes
- 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

Career Exploration

Drama

Dance

MESA

Science

Programming

Technology

Math Lab

Writing Lab

- All high schools benefit through additional elective classes in areas of technology, science, and fine arts

Art

Music

Computer Science

Modern Languages

Advanced Placement

- Students in all schools further benefit through tutoring and intervention programs during the school year and over the summer.



Other Important Benefits Provided by the 10% M&O Override

- The 10% M&O override adds approximately 3% 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.
 - Two (2) Maintenance Tech II positions in the Facilities Department and
 - One (1) Programmer Analyst in the Technology Department.



3.5% Special Programs Override Amount

- Voters authorized the school 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 Full-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 \$2,727,407 in additional funding for our K-3 program.



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

2019-2020

2020-2021

No
Override

\$2,727,407



How the 3.5% K-3 Special Programs 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

Additional Class Size Reduction for K-3 Grades

- Since the election, Regulation IIB-R (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.
- Courtesy of the override, K-3 class sizes throughout Amphitheater Public Schools currently average 18.43 students.



Concluding Remarks

- Both overrides provide substantial benefits for Amphitheater students and their educational programs.
- These overrides provide critical programs that are necessary for student success at a national level in a rapidly changing world.
- Amphitheater Public Schools is especially grateful to the voters of the school district who continue to place their confidence in the District with these overrides.

