## K-12 Budget Proposal Comparisons

## By Tanner Delpier \& Andy Neumann

The Executive, Senate, and House School Aid Fund budgets for FY 2025 have been released. Each puts forward strong ideas to improve public education in Michigan. All three budgets contain increases in per pupil funding, make large investments in PK and improve the distribution of special education funding. To different degrees, each budget also improves the sustainability of several important new programs including mental health, transportation, and declining enrollment by replacing one-time funding with recurring resources.

Finally, it's worth noting that approximately two thirds of the increases in the FY 2025 education budget rely on a reduction in MPSERS costs (after fully funding retiree OPEB). The House's budget is unique in how it shares those savings with the school employees that actually paid part of this debt.

While the final education budget still must be negotiated in conference (likely to be released at the end of June, after the Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference next month), we can rest assured that the FY 2025 budget will improve the strength and fairness of public education in Michigan.

More analysis is in the works, but for now, here is a side-by-side comparison of the three budgets (note: all appropriations shown as a change from the current FY24 budget):

| Category | Description | Section(s) | Executive | Senate | House | Notes |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Core <br> Funding | State Foundation Allowance Share | 22a, 22b | 00,000 43,8 | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 00,000 & 125,8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 00,000 & 34,8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |  |
|  | Foundation Per Pupil Change | 22a, 22b, local share | 241 | 302 | 217 |  |
|  | Core Special Education | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 51a(2), 51c, } \\ & 51 e \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 00,000 & 306,8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 00,000 & 309,8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 00,000 & 305,6 \end{array}$ |  |
|  | Salary Reimbursement | 147f/147a(4) | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 00,000 & 45,8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $0,0$ | $00,000 \quad 242,3$ |  |
|  | GSRP (PK) | 32d | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline & 124,8 \\ 41,000 & \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 43,100 & 100,8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $00,000 \quad 93,3$ |  |
|  | GSRP Eligibility | 32d | Universal | 400\% of Poverty Line | 350\% of Poverty Line |  |
|  | Total Est. Change Per Pupil |  | 565 | 435 | 669 | Includes: 22a, 22b, local foundation share, 31aa, 32d, 51a(2), 51c, 51e, 147f/147a(4) |


| Weights | At-Risk | 31a | $\begin{array}{ll} 23,8 \\ 00,000 & \end{array}$ | $20,500 \quad 122,6$ | $00,000 \quad 70,1$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Special Education Equalization | 56 | $00,000 \quad 50,0$ | - | - | All three include different but significant improvements to special ed funding formula |
|  | English Learners | 41 | $47,000 \quad 3,0$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 66,500 & 39,7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline & 4,9 \\ 61,000 & \end{array}$ |  |
|  | Rural And Isolated Districts | 22d | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 85,000 & 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $00,900 \quad 5$ | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline 54,400 & 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |  |
|  | Total Est. Change Per Pupil |  | 56 | 118 | 55 |  |
| Other important programs | Reimburse 3\% Premium Subsidy | 147g | - | - | $34,100 \quad 51,6$ |  |
|  | Transportation Funding | 221 | - | - | - | paid from transport fund |
|  | Declining Enrollment | 29 | - | - | $00,000 \quad 21,6$ | paid of enrollment <br> stabilization <br> fund |
|  | Universal Meals | 30d | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline & 40,0 \\ 00,000 & \end{array}$ | $00$ | $00,000 \quad 40,0$ | all retained |
| Sustainabili ty | Transportation Fund Deposit | 22k | - | - | 00,000 150,0 |  |
|  | Declining Enrollment Fund Deposit | 29 | - | - | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline & 100,0 \\ 00,000 & \end{array}$ |  |
|  | Mental Health Funding | 31aa | Maintained at $\$ 300 \mathrm{~m}$ (half one time, half recurring) | Reduce to $\$ 150 \mathrm{~m}$ (two-thirds one time and one-third recurring | Retained at $\$ 313 \mathrm{~m}$ (all but $\$ 13 \mathrm{~m}$ moved to recurring | All include shifts from one-time to recurring funding to varying degrees |
| Educator <br> Retention <br> and <br> Recruitmen <br> t | Educator Fellowship | 27a | retained | retained | retained |  |
|  | Grow Your Own | 27b | new round of funding | new round of funding | new round of funding |  |
|  | Student Teacher Stipends | 27c | retained | retained | retained |  |
|  | Talent Together | 27g | cut | new round of funding | new round of funding |  |
|  | Mentoring Grants | 27h | retained | cut | cut |  |
|  | Educator Student Loan Payments | 27k | cut | partially retained | cut |  |
|  | National Board Certification | 27m | cut | retained | partially retained |  |

