



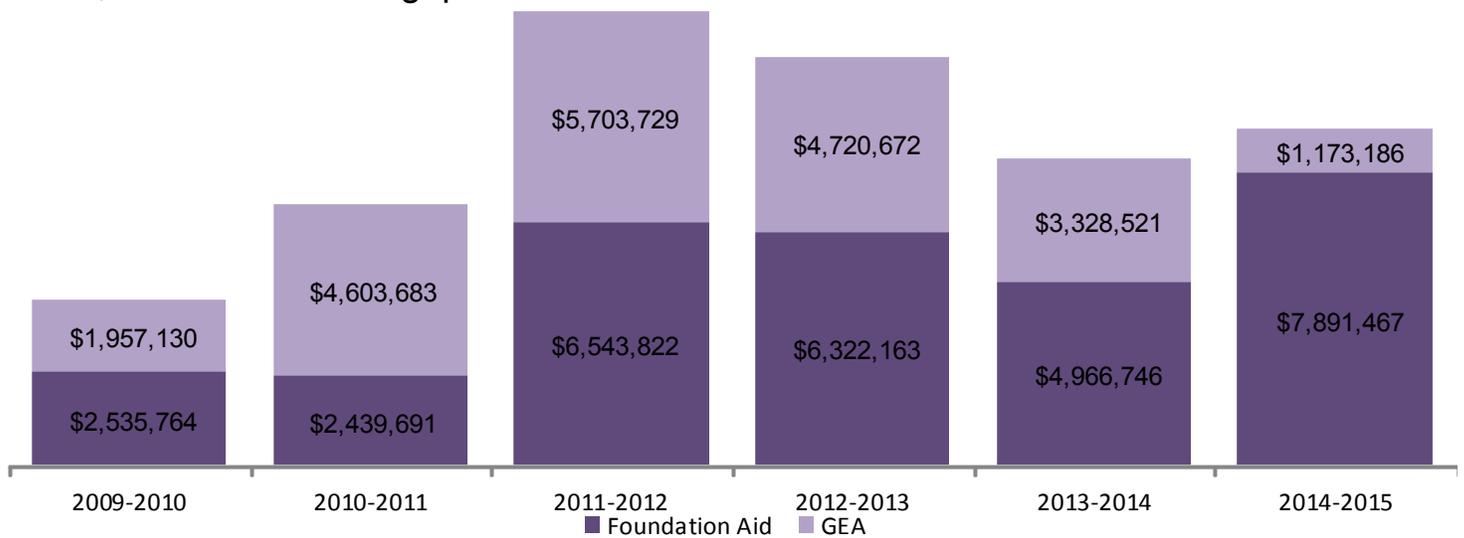
ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
TROY

TODAY'S STUDENTS. TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

**Our students
still need your help!**

We are a small urban school district with approximately 4,100 students, with programs housed in eight buildings. We are a high needs urban school district with a combined wealth ratio (CWR) of .560, well below the 1.0 which indicates average wealth.

NYS schools are owed \$5.9 billion in Foundation Aid & Gap Elimination Adjustment funding. If the state provides the funding that is due to school districts, as it committed to doing in the resolution of the CFE case in 2007, it would significantly close the funding inequity gap, and in turn, the achievement gap for school districts like ours.



Troy has been underfunded \$52 Million in six years

In addition, during the same period of public school underfunding, charter school tuition rates were frozen. That resulted in \$5,653,743 additional dollars being diverted from Troy students so local charter schools could enjoy full funding.

“I think the inequity in education is probably the civil rights issue of our time. There are two education systems in this state. Not public private. One for the rich and one for the poor and they are both public systems...The state is supposed to equalize or come close to equalizing with its funding.” — Andrew Cuomo, October 2010

...it IS about the money...

- *Effectively no Foundation Aid increase since 2008*
- *State Aid comprised 53.72% of our budget in 2014-2015 — Troy is more dependent on State Aid than average and high wealth districts*
- *Our Combined Wealth Ratio (the measure of our district's wealth) has decreased from .597 in 2012-2013 to .560 in 2014 — We are less able to fund ourselves*
- *55% of the real property in the city of Troy is tax-exempt — We have a smaller tax base*

...it IS about the money...

- *Because of our decrease in funding from the State, we have had to cut over 140 positions, an 18% reduction in staff, over the last five years*
- *Enrollment has increased by 1.6% since 2009-2010*
- *Last year alone, our elementary enrollment increased by 9%*

We need adequate resources to help our students reach their full potential:

- *Additional ESL teachers (to meet new State mandates for this sub-group).*
- *Special Education providers (to meet the State mandates and to meet the individual needs of students based on their IEPs). The Troy School District serves 825 students with disabilities district wide.*
- *Social Workers (to meet the social and emotional needs of our students to ensure they are ready to learn).*

These are not luxuries. These are necessities in our urban school district.

Despite these challenges, our students are succeeding.

Graduation Rates	Poorest School Districts	TROY	Wealthiest School Districts
2013-14	66%	83%	92%

Advanced Regents Diplomas Earned	Poorest School Districts	TROY	Wealthiest School Districts
2013-2014	18%	30%	50%

With the proper funding, our district has proven that it can rise to meet and exceed higher academic expectations and match the successes of the wealthiest school districts.

A student's zip code should not determine their educational opportunities or outcomes.

“This is the year to roll up our sleeves and take on the dramatic challenge that has eluded us for so many years, for so many reasons”

— Governor Cuomo, January 2015

We agree with Governor Cuomo’s statement, but it needs to manifest itself in properly funding schools by changing the inequitable funding distribution between low and high wealth districts.

* The colleges and universities our students have attended in the last five years appear as the background of this page.