

Hi there,

Happy Halloween! We have a special treat to share with you, an easy opportunity for you to take action on some important legislation.

On November 9, the House Ways & Means Committee will be voting on their recommendation for a bill they worked on over the summer, HB 569. This bill takes a two-pronged, equitable approach to addressing property tax inequities created by our school funding system.

[Use our advocacy tool to tell the House Ways & Means Committee to recommend HB 569 as Ought to Pass!](#)

First, **this bill would end the unconstitutional retention of excess SWEPT revenues** by having the State actually collect SWEPT, just like every other State tax. Second, this bill would expand the State's existing Low & Moderate Income Homeowner Property Tax Relief Program. The bill increases the income caps on the program, making many more people eligible. It also increases the maximum amount of money the program could pay out to \$30 million. In 2021, the program paid out around \$1.3 million, and the average payment was just \$236 per household.

Combining these changes is important. Just because someone lives in a property wealthy community, that does not mean that they themselves are wealthy, and there are people who live in those communities who could struggle to pay higher property taxes. This bill fixes our unconstitutional SWEPT while expanding equitable access to property tax assistance.

Email the Committee



Upcoming Events

We have a lot of great events coming up! Just tomorrow night, Wednesday, November 1, we're going to be in Hampstead at the Hampstead Public Library for a presentation at 6pm.

And next week, on **Thursday, November 9, we'll be in Wolfeboro! Join us at Wolfeboro Town Hall at 6pm** to learn about school funding in the Lakes Region. Click on the buttons below to register for these events that are just around the corner.

Hampstead

Wolfeboro

JOIN THE NH SCHOOL FUNDING FAIRNESS PROJECT FOR

SCHOOL FUNDING & PROPERTY TAXES: HAMPSTEAD

NOVEMBER 1st • 6:00PM
HAMPSTEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Learn how NH's school funding system unevenly distributes the cost of funding public education on local property tax payers, and how students and communities are impacted as a result.

SCHOOL FUNDING & PROPERTY TAXES
WOLFEBORO

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH, 6PM.
WOLFEBORO TOWN HALL
84. S MAIN ST.

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S REFUSAL TO FUND AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION IS HURTING PROPERTY TAX PAYERS AND STUDENTS. JOIN US TO LEARN MORE. REGISTER AT FAIRFUNDINGNH.ORG/EVENTS

HOSTED BY
NH SCHOOL Funding Fairness Project

And that's not all! We already have two presentations on the books for the first week of December. First, we are very excited to be doing a presentation right in **Concord on Tuesday, December 5 at 6pm**. We think it's going to be a lot of fun because we are hosting it at **Red River Theaters!**

And on the Thursday of that week, **December 7, join us at 6pm at John Stark High School in Weare!**

We hope you'll be able to join us at one of these events, and if we aren't coming to a town near you, just wait! We have a lot in the works that we are looking forward to announcing soon!

[Register for Concord](#)

[Register for Weare](#)

12/7
SCHOOL FUNDING & PROPERTY TAXES
CONCORD

JOIN NHSFFP FOR A SPECIAL SCHOOL FUNDING PRESENTATION AT RED RIVER THEATERS
TUESDAY, DEC 5TH 6PM

SCHOOL FUNDING & PROPERTY TAXES
WEARE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 6PM.
JOHN STARK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
618 NORTH STARK HIGHWAY

NEW HAMPSHIRE'S REFUSAL TO FUND AN ADEQUATE EDUCATION IS HURTING PROPERTY TAX PAYERS AND STUDENTS. JOIN US TO LEARN MORE. REGISTER AT FAIRFUNDINGNH.ORG /EVENTS

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November Insider Call



Join us on **November 15th at 6pm** on Zoom for our first Insider Call of the Fall!

To re-boot our Insider Series, our team will give a preview of the legislation we're tracking for the upcoming session, give an update on the two School Funding

Lawsuits currently pending in New Hampshire's Superior Court, and run through the Project's event program. **Join us to stay on the inside track of all things School Funding.** The Zoom link for this meeting will be sent upon registration, and sent again the day of the event!

Register



Meet the Newest Member of Our Team

Say hello to our new Advocacy and Outreach Coordinator, Micaela Demeter!

Micaela grew up in Amherst and now lives in Dover with her husband and two kids, where she also serves on the Dover School Board.

As our Advocacy and Outreach Coordinator, Micaela will work with key stakeholders like on parents of school-age children, special education advocates, and local elected officials to build momentum for our public events and equip volunteers to take actions within their communities.



[Learn more about Micaela and the rest of the Fair Funding Team on our website.](#)



Learn How Special Education is Funded in NH

Every district in New Hampshire shares in the responsibility of ensuring the equal opportunity of all students to receive an education. Meeting the diverse needs of students in our schools is achieved through special programs and Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) that ensure students get the support they need to learn.

Special education costs accounted for \$842,738,088 during the 2021-2022 school year, about 25% of total education expenditures. After accounting for Federal and State funds (differentiated aid for special education in the new State budget comes in at only \$2,300 per pupil, while the average additional cost for students with IEPs is \$28,361), local tax payers were responsible for raising \$685,754,769 to fund special education services in 2021-22.

Like the rest of our funding system, differing local property values make fulfilling this responsibility more expensive in some communities than others. And with shifting student populations and needs from year to year, it can be hard for districts to budget for special education. **Read our newest report looking at special education funding in New Hampshire** to learn how increasing State aid for special education could help ensure that all special education students are treated equitably and have access to the services they need while stabilizing district budgets.

[Read the Report](#)



School Funding News Roundup

These are some of the stories we've had our eye on this month:

NH Business Review: "[The volatility of special education costs](#)"

Our report on special education funding generated some news coverage. Read more about how funding for special education in New Hampshire highlights the issues caused by low State funding for education.

NH Bulletin: "[In Granite State, investments in public education are key to a prosperous, inclusive future](#)"

Read this great piece from NH Fiscal Policy Institute about the long-lasting benefits of investing in public education.

InDepth NH: "[School Voucher Enrollment and Costs Grow Substantially in Three Years](#)"

New data on participation in the State's voucher program were released this month. Learn more about the reach of the program as it enters its third year.



The support of generous donors like you is critical to our success. Please consider becoming a part of the fair funding movement and contributing to our efforts.

Donate

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