

# 2024 Candidate Webinar Series



Tuesday, 8/13 at 12pm – NH Businesses for Social Responsibility

Thursday, 8/15 at 12pm – Disability Rights Center – NH

**Tuesday, 8/20 at 12pm – NH Hunger Solutions**

Thursday, 8/22 at 12pm – AARP

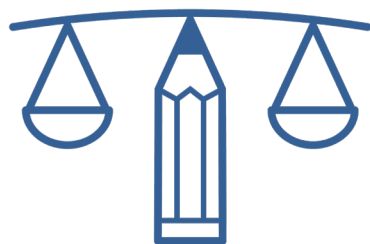
Tuesday, 8/27 at 12pm – NH Center for Justice and Equity

Thursday, 8/29 at 10am – Housing Action NH

Tuesday, 9/3 at 12pm – MomsRising

Thursday, 9/5 at 12pm – Reaching Higher NH





NH SCHOOL

# Funding Fairness Project

*Advocating to make  
school funding more equitable  
for students and taxpayers alike*



NH SCHOOL  
Funding Fairness  
Project

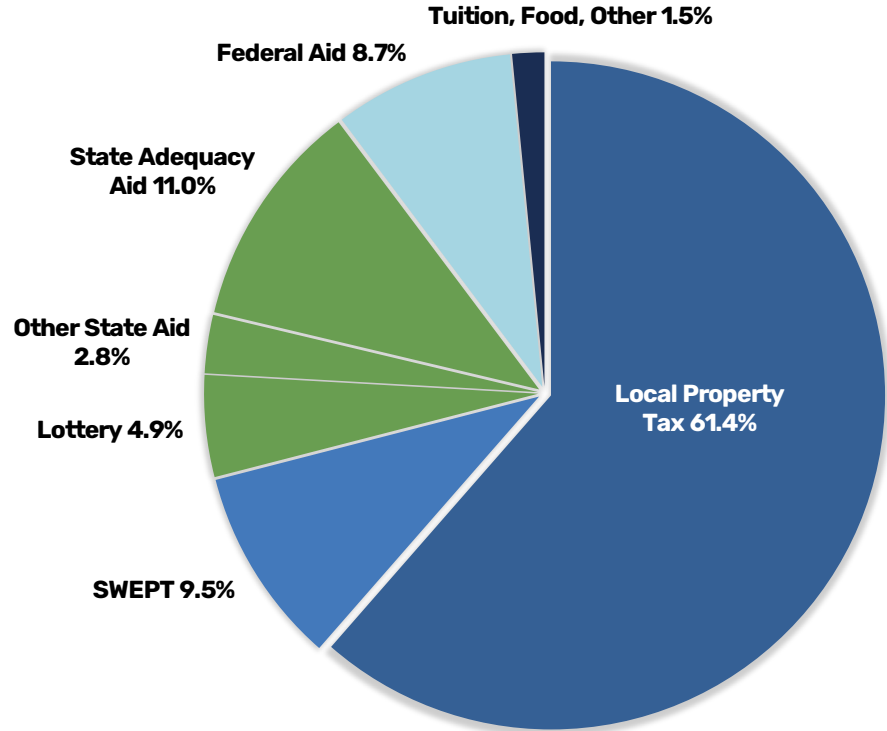
# New Hampshire School Funding

NH Relies Overwhelmingly on Local Property Taxes to Fund Public Education

## '22 - '23 Revenue Breakdown of NH School Districts

**\$3.8B in Total Revenue**

**Federal Aid: 8.7%**  
**State Revenue: 18.7%**  
**Property Taxes: 70.9%**



# New Hampshire School Funding

NH Relies Overwhelmingly on Local Property Taxes to Fund Public Education

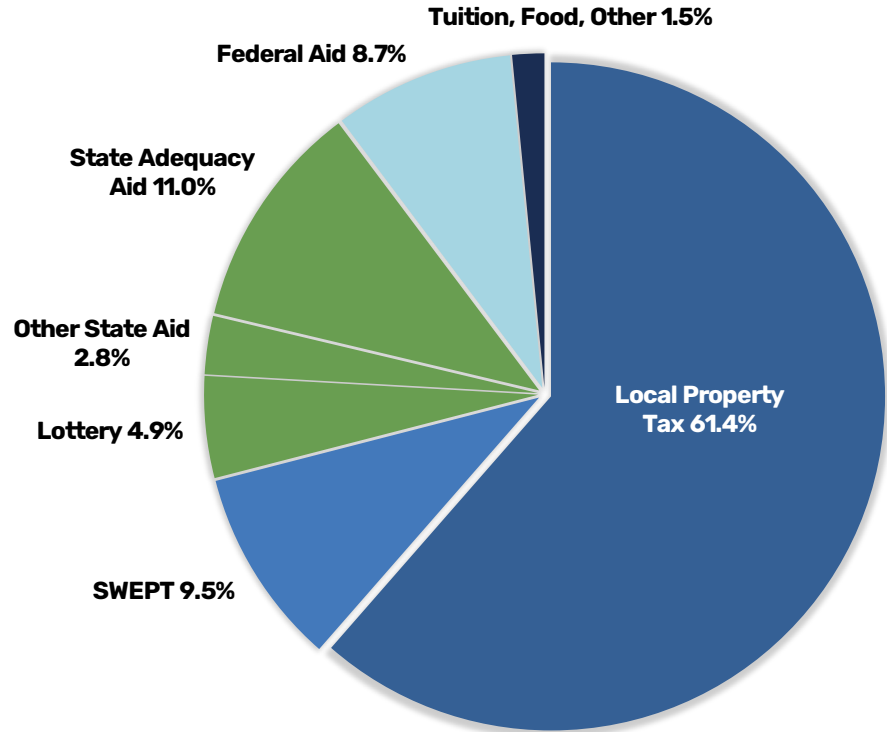
## '22 - '23 Revenue Breakdown of NH School Districts

**\$3.8B in Total Revenue**

**Property Taxes: 70.9%**

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**Almost \$2.7 Billion  
Downshifted Annually**



# ADEQUATE EDUCATION AID

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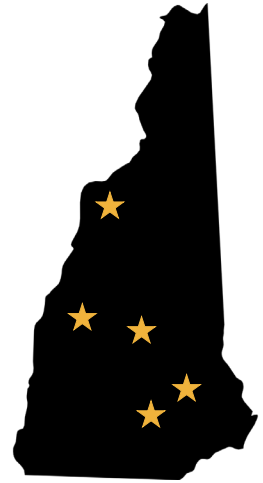
# The Claremont Rulings

In the 90s, 5 school districts came together to sue the State to fight for greater education funding

School Districts including Claremont, Pittsfield, Lisbon Regional, Franklin, and Allenstown as well as 8 taxpayers & parents and 5 students all came together to sue the state of New Hampshire.

After 7 years, the Plaintiffs come out victorious. The ruling can be summarized into 2 key factors:

1. The State of New Hampshire has a duty to pay for the cost of a **constitutionally adequate** education for every K-12 student.
2. The taxes that the State uses to pay for this education must have a **uniform rate** across the state.



# The Scope of an “Adequate Education”: Expansive and Future-Oriented

“Mere competence in the basics—reading, writing, and arithmetic—is insufficient in the waning days of the twentieth century to insure that this State's public school students are fully integrated into the world around them. A broad exposure to the social, economic, scientific, technological, and political realities of today's society is essential for our students to compete, contribute, and flourish in the twenty-first century.”

Claremont II, 142 N.H. at 474

# Defining an Adequate Education

Per 193-E:2-a the specific criteria & substantive educational program that deliver the opportunity for an adequate education shall be defined & id'd as the school approval standards in the following

## LEARNING AREAS

1. English/Language Arts & Reading
2. Mathematics
3. Science
4. Social studies
5. Arts education
6. World languages
7. Health and wellness education
8. Physical education
9. Engineering and Technologies
10. Personal Finance Literacy
11. Computer science

# Defining an Adequate Education (Cont'd)

Per 193-E:2-a the specific criteria & substantive educational program that deliver the opportunity for an adequate education shall be defined & id'd as the school approval standards in the following

	Requirement	Cost (2008)
<b>Learning Areas</b>	<b>Staff</b>	
	1 Teacher per 25 students K-2, per 30 students 3-12	<b>\$47,267</b>
	1 Specialist teacher for every 5 teachers	<b>\$47,267</b>
	1 Principal per 500 students	<b>\$101,014</b>
	1 Principal admin Assistant per 500 students	<b>\$42,177</b>
	1 Guidance Counselor per 400 students	<b>\$51,867</b>
	1 Library Media Specialist per 500 students	<b>\$47,267</b>
	1 Technology Coordinator per 1,200 students	<b>\$47,267</b>
	1 Custodian per 500 students	<b>\$36,628</b>
	<b>Other</b>	
	Instructional Materials	<b>\$250</b>
	Technology	<b>\$75</b>
	Teacher Professional Development	<b>\$20</b>
	Facilities Operation and Maintenance	<b>\$195</b>
Transportation	<b>\$315</b>	
<b>TOTAL (base adequacy per student)</b>		<b>\$3,456</b>

# Calculating the Cost of an Adequate Education

Every student receives **\$4,100** in 'Base Adequacy'

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Every student receives **\$4,100** in 'Base Adequacy'

**+ \$2,300**

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For each student receiving special education services

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Every student receives **\$4,100** in 'Base Adequacy'

**+ \$2,300**

for each student eligible for free or reduced-priced lunch

**+ \$2,100**

For each student receiving special education services

**+ \$800**

For each student who is an English Language Learner

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# Calculating the Cost of an Adequate Education

Every student receives **\$4,100** in 'Base Adequacy'

**+ \$2,300**

for each student eligible for free or reduced-priced lunch

**+ \$2,100**

For each student receiving special education services

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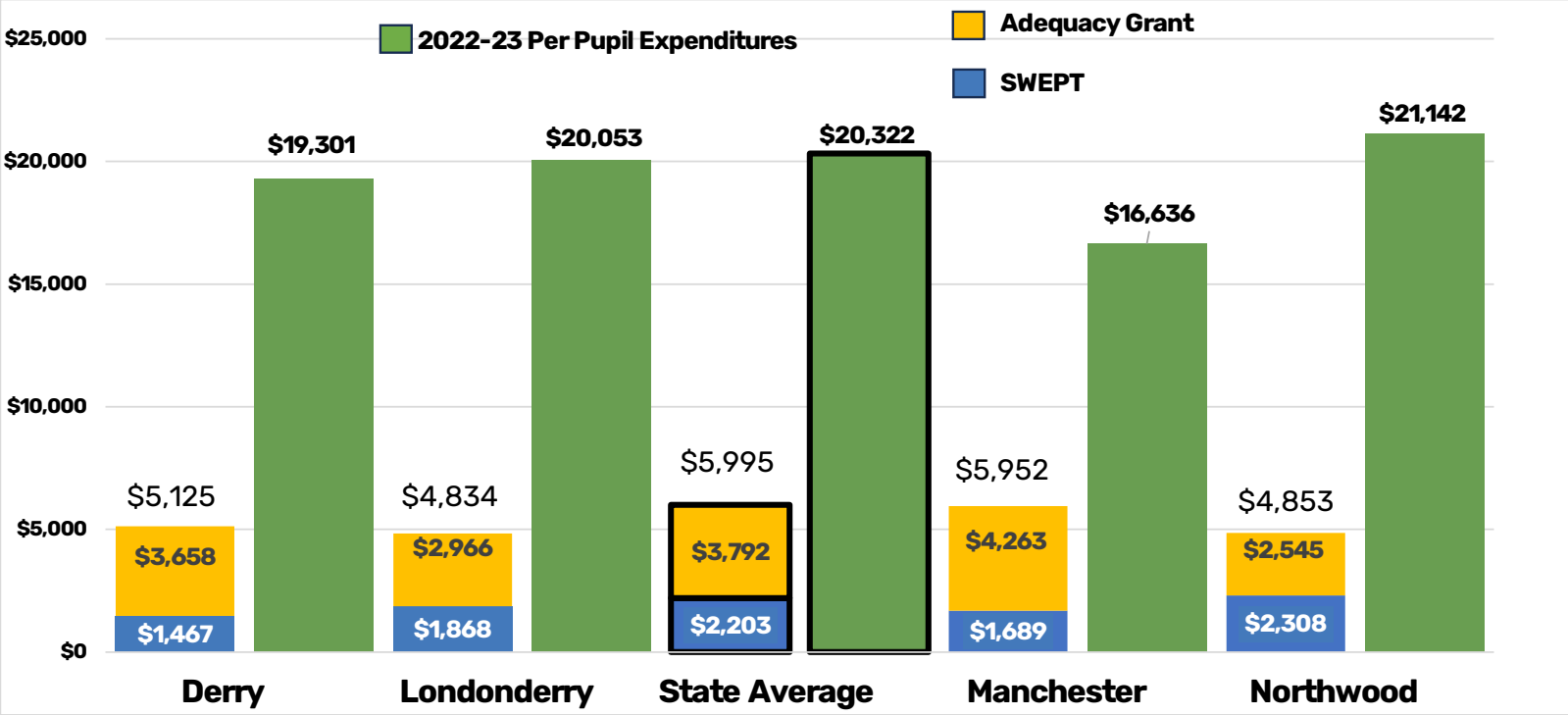
For each student who is an English Language Learner

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**= \$5,995**

**Average Adequacy Grant Per Student**

# Current State Adequacy Grants Fall Well Short of Actual Costs to Educate Children



# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

## 1. The Problem

The State of New Hampshire said that, for Allenstown's 511 students, an adequate education should cost **\$2,418,121** or **\$4,980** per student in 2022-23.

The Allenstown School District budget for 2022-23 was **\$12,243,949** or **\$24,197** per student.

*Let's see what we must pair down to reach the adequate education target budget...*

1. The Problem

2. Round 1 Cuts – Operations & Supplies

3. Round 2 Cuts – Learning & Program Support

4. Round 3 Cuts – Supporting Staff

5. Round 4 Cuts – Educational Staff

6. Potential Offenses

7. Tuition Cuts

8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts

# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

## 2. Round 1 Cuts - Operations & Supplies

1. The Problem	
<b>2. Round 1 Cuts - Operations &amp; Supplies</b>	
3. Round 2 Cuts - Learning & Program Support	
4. Round 3 Cuts - Supporting Staff	
5. Round 4 Cuts - Educational Staff	
6. Potential Offenses	
7. Tuition Cuts	
8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ Eliminate all busing (including special education busing)</li><li>✗ Eliminate all supplies, copier machines, liability insurance, plumbing and heating repairs</li><li>✗ Eliminate all educational materials (including new textbooks)</li><li>✗ Eliminate all art, music, and PE equipment</li><li>✗ Eliminate all Chromebook technology and software contracts</li><li>✗ Eliminate all payments on the school building bond (<i>resulting in default</i>)</li><li>✗ Eliminate all food services</li><li>✗ Eliminate grounds maintenance (including plowing)</li><li>✗ Eliminate SAU 53 costs (including the superintendent and staff) and fees for audits and attorneys</li></ul>

# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

## 3. Round 2 Cuts - Learning & Program Support

1. The Problem	
2. Round 1 Cuts - Operations & Supplies	
<b>3. Round 2 Cuts - Learning &amp; Program Support</b>	
4. Round 3 Cuts - Supporting Staff	
5. Round 4 Cuts - Educational Staff	
6. Potential Offenses	
7. Tuition Cuts	
8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ Eliminate all English Language Learner support</li><li>✗ Eliminate all special education contracted services</li><li>✗ Eliminate all special education appraisal services</li><li>✗ Eliminate all special education out-of-district placements</li><li>✗ Eliminate all co-curricular clubs, sports, field trips, and student assemblies</li><li>✗ Eliminate all summer programs</li></ul>

# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

## 4. Round 3 Cuts - Supporting Staff

1. The Problem	
2. Round 1 Cuts - Operations & Supplies	
3. Round 2 Cuts - Learning & Program Support	
<b>4. Round 3 Cuts - Supporting Staff</b>	
5. Round 4 Cuts - Educational Staff	
6. Potential Offenses	
7. Tuition Cuts	
8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ Eliminate two secretaries</li><li>✗ Eliminate three of 4 custodians</li><li>✗ Eliminate all school board stipends and fees</li><li>✗ Eliminate one of the 2 nurses</li><li>✗ Eliminate both guidance counselors</li><li>✗ Eliminate both street crossing guards</li><li>✗ Eliminate technology support personnel</li><li>✗ Eliminate the assistant principal</li><li>✗ Eliminate two of 17 special education paraprofessionals (and reduced special education coordinator to half-time)</li><li>✗ Eliminate special education speech/language pathologist</li><li>✗ Eliminate all substitute salaries</li><li>✗ Eliminate the reading specialist</li><li>✗ Eliminate the special education secretary</li><li>✗ Eliminate the library media specialist</li><li>✗ Eliminate the speech language pathologist</li><li>✗ Eliminate reduced library aid to half-time</li></ul>

# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

## 5. Round 4 Cuts - Educational Staff

1. The Problem	
2. Round 1 Cuts - Operations & Supplies	
3. Round 2 Cuts - Learning & Program Support	
4. Round 3 Cuts - Supporting Staff	
<b>5. Round 4 Cuts - Educational Staff</b>	
6. Potential Offenses	
7. Tuition Cuts	
8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts	

- ✗ Eliminate the art teacher
- ✗ Eliminate the music teacher
- ✗ Eliminate the physical education teacher
- ✗ Eliminate the behavior teacher
- ✗ Eliminate one of 7 special education teachers

# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

## 6. Potential Offenses

1. The Problem	2. Round 1 Cuts – Operations & Supplies	3. Round 2 Cuts – Learning & Program Support	4. Round 3 Cuts – Supporting Staff	5. Round 4 Cuts – Educational Staff	<b>6. Potential Offenses</b>	7. Tuition Cuts	8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts	<p>Aside from the clear decrease in the quality of the education provided as a result of the cuts, many of the cuts are also violations of laws &amp; education regulation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X <b>Eliminate all busing (including special education busing)</b></li> <li>X <b>Eliminate all English Language Learner support</b></li> <li>X <b>Eliminate all special education contracted services</b></li> <li>X Eliminate all special education appraisal services</li> <li>X Eliminate all special education out-of-district placements</li> <li>X Eliminate all supplies, copier machines, liability insurance, plumbing and heating repairs</li> <li>X Eliminate all educational materials (including new textbooks)</li> <li>X Eliminate all art, music, and PE equipment</li> <li>X Eliminate all Chromebook technology and software contracts</li> <li>X Eliminate all co-curricular clubs, sports, field trips, and student assemblies</li> <li>X Eliminate two secretaries</li> <li>X Eliminate three of 4 custodians</li> <li>X Eliminate all school board stipends and fees</li> <li>X Eliminate all payments on the school building bond (<i>resulting in default</i>)</li> <li>X Eliminate all summer programs</li> <li>X Eliminate all food services</li> <li>X Eliminate the art teacher</li> <li>X Eliminate the music teacher</li> <li>X Eliminate the physical education teacher</li> <li>X Eliminate the behavior teacher</li> <li>X Eliminate all substitute salaries</li> <li>X Eliminate one of the 2 nurses</li> <li>X Eliminate both guidance counselors</li> <li>X Eliminate both street crossing guards</li> <li>X Eliminate technology support personnel</li> <li>X Eliminate the assistant principal</li> <li>X Eliminate two of 17 special education paraprofessionals (and reduced special education coordinator to half-time)</li> <li>X Eliminate special education speech/language pathologist</li> <li>X Eliminate one of 7 special education teachers</li> <li>X Eliminate the reading specialist</li> <li>X Eliminate the special education secretary</li> <li>X Eliminate the library media specialist</li> <li>X Eliminate the speech language pathologist</li> <li>X Eliminate reduced library aid to half-time</li> <li>X Eliminate grounds maintenance (including plowing)</li> <li>X Eliminate SAU 53 costs (including the superintendent and staff) and fees for audits and attorneys</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="background-color: #f4a460; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;">Violates Federal Law</div> <div style="background-color: #a4d4e0; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;">Violates State Regulation</div> <div style="background-color: #8ebf8e; padding: 5px; border: 1px solid black;">Violates Rqmts to be a Public School</div> </div>
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# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

## 7. Tuition Cuts

In addition, cut all tuition payments for 147 High School students

- Allentown budgeted \$2.2M for tuition to Pembroke Academy
- There is no way to control this line item, so it had to be cut

1. The Problem

2. Round 1 Cuts – Operations & Supplies

3. Round 2 Cuts – Learning & Program Support

4. Round 3 Cuts – Supporting Staff

5. Round 4 Cuts – Educational Staff

6. Potential Offenses

7. Tuition Cuts

8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts

# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

## 8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts

The Budget at this point is still far above the State's "adequacy" level

In order to reach the State's "adequacy" level of \$2,418,121 and given everything else that has been cut, the remaining items involve teaching staff

- Grades K-4 would have 29 students / teacher ratio
- Grades 5-8 would have 38 students / teacher ratio
- An "adequate education" would need end in the 8th grade...

1. The Problem

2. Round 1 Cuts - Operations & Supplies

3. Round 2 Cuts - Learning & Program Support

4. Round 3 Cuts - Supporting Staff

5. Round 4 Cuts - Educational Staff

6. Potential Offenses

7. Tuition Cuts

8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts

# What does an 'Adequate' K-12 Education Cost?

An Example...

1. The Problem	<h2>How does anyone believe that this will provide an adequate education for Allenstown's 511 students?</h2>
2. Round 1 Cuts – Operations & Supplies	
3. Round 2 Cuts – Learning & Program Support	
4. Round 3 Cuts – Supporting Staff	
5. Round 4 Cuts – Educational Staff	
6. Potential Offenses	
7. Tuition Cuts	
8. Final Staff and Grade Cuts	

# Calculating the Cost of an Adequate Education: 24-25

Every student receives ~~\$4,100~~ **\$4,182** in 'Base Adequacy'

**+ \$2,346**

~~\$2,300~~

for each student eligible for free or reduced-priced lunch

**+ \$2,142**

~~\$2,100~~

For each student receiving special education services

**+ \$816**

~~\$800~~

For each student who is an English Language Learner

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**= \$6,115**

**Estimated\* Average Adequacy Grant  
Per Student**