Public Education Quick Guide

2020 General Session of the Utah Legislature This summary is intended to be a review of selected highlights of educationrelated legislation from the 2020 Legislative Session. This Quick Guide is designed for teachers, parents, and public education-related organizations. Growth was funded in MSP 7.18% Programs (1.18%); additionally, the value of the WPU was increased by 6% **Total Minimum School Program** (MSP) Funding: \$5.2 billion, a 9.5% increase from FY 2020 \$5.91 **Total Public Education** Budget FY 2021 **Weighted Pupil Unit** FY 2020 FY 2021 Increase Percent

 Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) Value
 FY 2020
 FY 2021
 Increase
 Percent

 \$3,532
 \$3,745
 \$213
 6.0%



Enrollment Growth & WPU

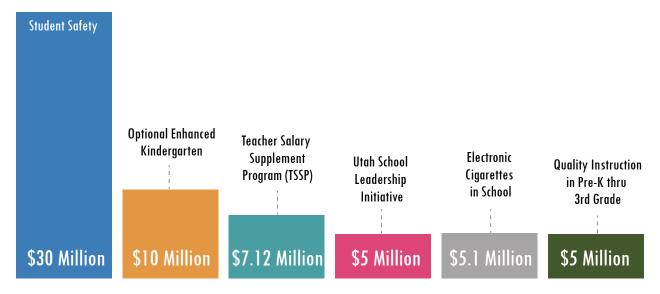
\$252,086,500 ongoing and **\$4,680,900** one-time. This funding includes the WPU value increase. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will be funded on the prior year Average Daily Membership (ADM) + growth. Enrollment growth was funded for an estimated increase of **7,902** students next year.



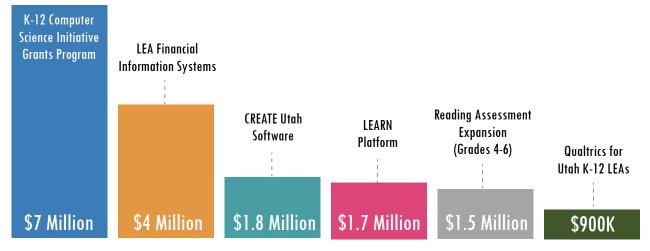
Voted and Board Local Levy Programs Increase

The Equity Pupil Tax Rate could increase the number of guaranteed local levy increments up to 20 for either the Voted or Board Local Levy Programs with appropriated funds of \$70 million.

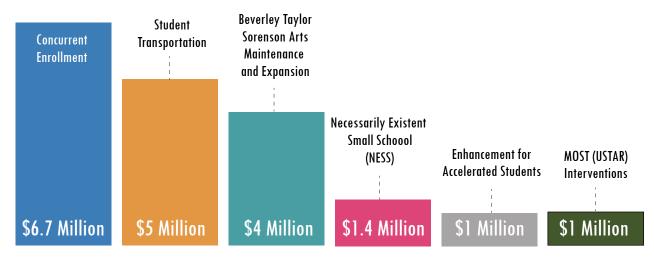
Notable Funding Highlights



Teacher & Student Support



Investments in Technology



Program Increases

2020 Notable Education Bills

The following are notable bills which passed during the 2020 General Session.

S.J.R. 9 H.B. 357

Proposal to Amend use of Tax Revenue & Public Education Funding Stabilization

Provides for an annual increase to the public education base budget equal to enrollment growth and inflation, contingent on passage of an amendment to the Utah Constitution to expand the uses of income tax revenue to include supporting children individuals with a disability.

H.B. 99

Enhanced Kindergarten Amendments

Requires LEAs to report to the state board the results of the kindergarten entry and exit assessments in order for an LEA to receive continued funding distributions. Moves a requirement for kindergarten entry and exit assessments between programs and repeals an expiring kindergarten program.

H.B. 114

Early Learning Training And Assessment Amendments

Provides funding to LEAs for professional learning for teachers working with students in grades Prek-3. Requires an LEA to establish an early learning plan that includes early literacy and mathematics. Requires LEAs to administer a numeracy assessment.

S.B. 99

School Leadership Development Amendments

Provides for the State Board of Education to award grants to qualifying local education agencies and regional education service agencies to use for mentorship and training activities for principals, including new principals hired by a local education agency within three years and aspiring principals.

H.B. 242

Charter School Operations and School Accountingv Amendments

Amends certain provisions related to school accounting methods, and the approval, oversight, and closure of charter schools by an authorizer.

S.B. 119

School Accountability Amendments

Removes requirement for the USBE to assign each school an overall letter grade for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years.

H.B. 58

Electronic Cigarettes in Schools Amendments

Requires policies for electronic cigarettes and school plans to address the causes of student substance use. Requires schools to develop positive behavior plans, and expands prevention programs to students in grade 4 or 5.

H.B. 384

Juvenile Justice Amendments

Allows schools to refer a minor for a class C misdemeanor committed on school property, or for being truant if the minor refuses to participate in an evidence-based intervention and prevention, and intervention provided by DJJS.

H.B. 323

School Mental Health Funding Amendments

Establishes a grant program for LEAs to conduct mental health screenings for students and allows LEAs to use TSSA money to match money for school-based student support. H.B. 67

LEA Financial Information Systems

Provides funding to support LEAs in meeting the required capabilities established by USBE for an LEA financial information system.

H.B. 222

Start Smart Utah Breakfast Program

Requires schools that participate in lunch to enroll in school breakfast unless granted a waiver. Schools with certain percentages of students qualifying for free or reduced lunch must use an alternative breakfast model.

H.B. 14

School Absenteeism and Truancy Amendments

Clarifies definitions around absence and truancy, limits the conditions under which an LEA can penalize a child for truancy, and adjusts requirements for LEA annual reporting on absences.

H.B. 391

School Textbook Fee Amendments

Amends the definition of textbook to exclude instructional materials/supplies, defines what an instructional material and supply includes, and allows LEAs to continue to charge fees for those materials and supplies.

S.B. 79

Regional Education Service Agencies

Renames regional service centers an regional education service agencies (RESA), provides additional duties and authority, including allowing a RESA to apply directly to USBE on behalf of member LEAs.

S.B. 166

Student Data Privacy Amendments

Extends deadline to July 2023, for LEAs to submit data for school disciplinary and law enforcement action report. Eliminates requirements to include suspension and expulsion information on a student's transcript.

S.B. 332

Special Needs Scholarship Amendments

Creates the Special Needs Scholarship Program, for students to enroll in private schools or pay for other qualifying expenses. Allows private donors to donate to a scholarship granting organization for a tax credit.

For a full list of bills and details see our Legislative Summary Book