

ED-RED

EDUCATION | RESEARCH | DEVELOPMENT



ED-RED in ACTION

This communication is sent to all ED-RED member district school administrators and school board members



Full Funding for Education

Full Funding for Our Schools

ED-RED is working to urge the General Assembly to fully fund our public schools in the FY 2022 state budget. **By adding \$350 million for Evidence-Based Funding and prioritizing funding for mandated categoricals, the State would ensure the security and financial stability for Illinois public school districts that the funding formula was developed to provide.**

This is a unique opportunity for ED-RED members to mobilize and engage their local legislators. By using the tools below members can take an active role in advocating for the financial stability of our schools not only for FY 2022 but for years to come. Use the tools below to assist you in engaging your local legislator. This toolkit includes both individual actions our members can take and a collective action school boards can adopt. We hope that you take a moment to act.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to Arabed Hernandez at arabed@ed-red.org or (847) 692-8048.

How to Engage

Email

Your local Legislator

Call	Your local Legislator's office
Post	On Twitter or Facebook. Don't forget to use #EDREDinACTION
Adopt	Have your school board adopt the board resolution as a board and submit to your local legislator

Join the Campaign

Take action TODAY by engaging your legislator and getting the word out. Use the tools below to help you advocate for financial stability for Illinois public schools.

Who Represents My District?

[Senators Contact Information](#)

[Representatives Contact Information](#)

**Click the link to access your legislators information.*

Call your local Legislator

Hello [LEGISLATORS TITLE & NAME]

Thank you for taking my call. I am [NAME, JOB TITLE & SCHOOL DISTRICT] and I am calling to express my support in fully funding Illinois public education by funding EBF at the legislatively mandated additional \$350 million and by fully funding mandated categoricals in the FY 2022 State Budget.

I understand that the State will be faced with many difficult decisions when it comes to the FY 2022 Budget. However, it is important to note that the pandemic has left a lasting impact on all of our communities and has reinforced the fact that public school districts are a pillar of support and services for Illinois communities. Therefore, it is crucial that all of our schools be provided stability through full consistent funding of the EBF.

I ask that you support full funding for Illinois public schools.

Thank you for your time.

Email your local Legislator

Subject Line: Full Funding for Education
Dear [LEGISLATORS TITLE & NAME]

My name is [FULL NAME] and I am [JOB TITLE] in [DISTRICT]. I am writing to express my support for fully funding Illinois public school districts. I request that the state fulfill its promise to our schools and the students they serve by funding the Evidence-Based Formula, inclusive of the \$350 million new dollars,

as well as fully fund mandated categoricals in the FY 2022 State Budget. By doing so the State will not only take a significant step towards providing stability for education but also restoring trust in the State's commitment to K-12 public education.

I understand that the State will be faced with many difficult decisions when it comes to the FY 2022 Budget. However, it is important to note that the pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing inequities and has left a lasting impact on all of our communities. The last year has reinforced the fact that all school districts are a pillar of support and services for Illinois communities. Therefore, it is crucial that all of our schools be provided stability through full consistent funding.

I ask that you support full equitable and adequate funding for Illinois public schools consistent by appropriating the full amount required in the Evidence Based Funding for Student Success (Public Act 100-0465) in Fiscal Year 2022 and subsequent years.

Thank you for your time. If you wish to further discuss this with me please contact me at [CONTACT INFO].

Sincerely,
[SIGNATURE]
[DISTRICT ADDRESS]

Post on Social Media

Twitter:

Stability for our kids and public schools is more crucial than ever. Illinois must fulfill its promise to fully fund EBF with the legislatively promised additional \$350 million and fully fund mandated categoricals to provide schools with financial stability in FY 2022 and beyond.

Facebook:

We need stable State funding for public education in Illinois. Last year the State held EBF at flat funding and is now considering doing so again. It is time for the State to fulfill the commitment made to public education in 2017 and provide consistent and stable funding for our schools by fully funding EBF at the legislatively-mandated \$350 million and fully funding mandated categoricals. Our legislators need to support full funding for our public schools in Fiscal Year 2022 and subsequent years.

Hashtags:

Make sure to use any of the following hashtags when you post on social media.

#EDREDinACTION

#StabilityforKids

#FundILSchools

Adopt a Board Resolution

Resolution in Support of
Fully Funding the Evidence-Based Funding Formula
In Fiscal Year 2022

Whereas, for decades, Illinois has ranked in the bottom in the country for equitable and adequate State funding of K-12 public education; and

Whereas, after years of negotiations between education stakeholders and the General Assembly to find a way to ensure that State dollars are steadily and significantly increased and those State dollars are distributed to school districts in the most equitable way, the General Assembly passed the Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act which was signed into law in 2017 as Public Act 100-0465 (the "EBF"); and

Whereas, the EBF promised a consistent and steady increase of State funds that would bring all districts to equitable and adequate funding levels over a period of years; and

Whereas, in Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020, the State kept that promise and appropriated the required level of funding at set forth in the EBF; and

Whereas, in Fiscal Year 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic emerged, severely impacting the State's revenues which led to a temporary pause in the State's commitment to increase K-12 public school funding and all school districts were held to flat funding in Fiscal Year 2021; and

Whereas, this pause in increased State funding negatively impacted Illinois school district's funding levels and a significant number of districts are below adequate funding levels; and

Whereas, the General Assembly and the Governor are now tasked with appropriating State Education dollars for Fiscal Year 2022;

Whereas, while significant pressures on the State budget remain, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing inequities in our State's school districts and resuming the funding promises of the EBF is essential.

Now therefore, the Board of Education of District _____ urges the General Assembly and Governor to recommit to the promise of the Evidence Based Funding Formula for Student Success Act and appropriate the full amount of funding specified in that Act for Fiscal Year 2022 to ensure the that K-12 public school districts can provide the essential services that the Illinois students need and deserve.

Share the Fact Sheet

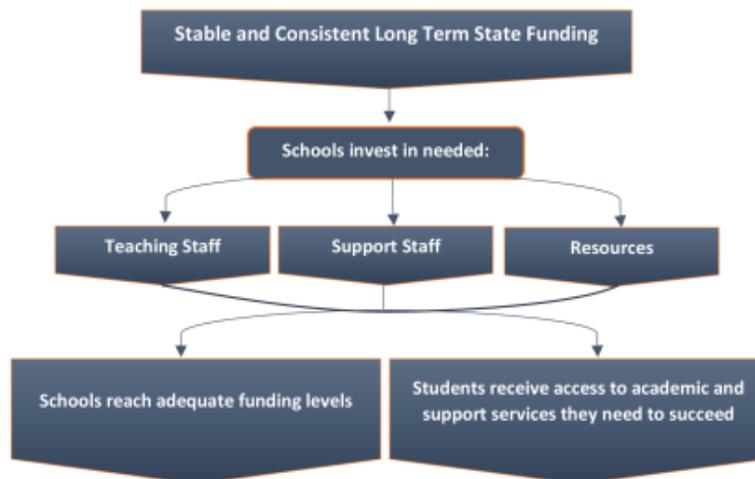
**FULL
FUNDING*****\$350 MILLION FOR EVIDENCE-BASED FUNDING******PRIORITIZING MANDATED CATEGORICALS***

ED-RED requests that the additional \$350 million for K-12 public education be added to the FY 2022 State Budget through the Evidence Based Funding formula (EBF). The State must fully fund EBF, as well as mandated categorical, to ensure the security and financial stability that the EBF was meant to provide.

After 3 years of meeting its commitment through EBF, the State needed to temporarily pause in new funding in Fiscal Year 2021 given the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on State revenues. However, it is time for the State to renew its commitment to EBF. Consistent State funding is more essential than ever for public schools due to the impact of the pandemic, the uncertainties in property tax revenue collections (particularly for commercial properties impacted by the pandemic), and low CPI for the 2021 levy.

Throughout this past year, schools have continued to work to address the needs of their students, staff, and community. This has included academic, social emotional, food services and other needed services for students.

As the State and school districts work to meet the needs of its students during these difficult times, it is even more important than ever that funding from the State remains consistent as promised.

**Thank you to our ED-RED Annual Sponsors**

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