

Upper Darby School District

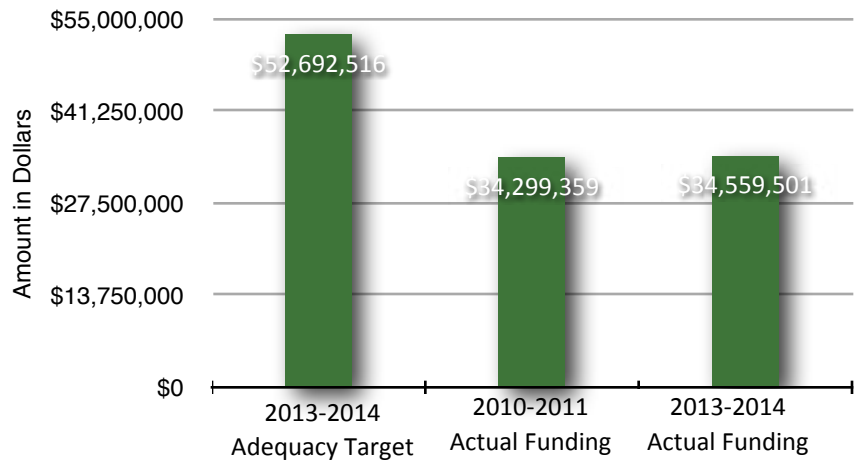
State Funding and Local Taxes

In 2011, Governor Corbett cut \$1 billion from state education funding and dismantled the funding formula, making Pennsylvania one of only 3 states that do not use a formula.

Now, school districts are receiving less state funding.

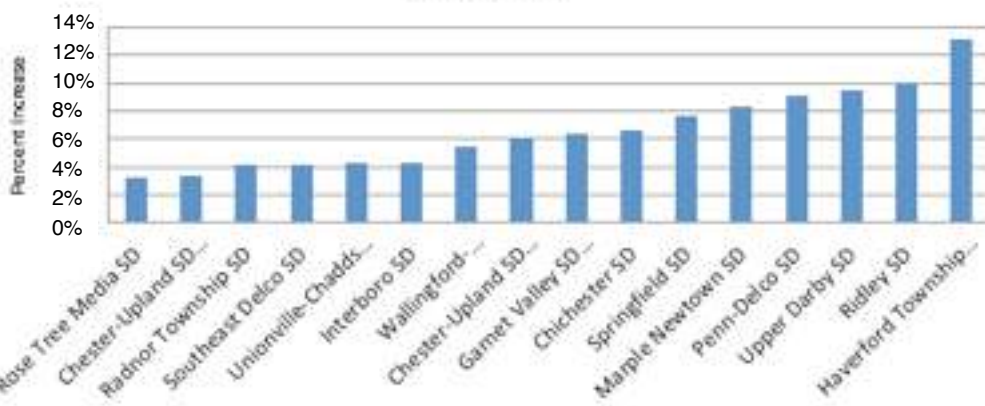
With the amount of state aid received for the 2013-14 academic year, Upper Darby School District is still more than **\$8 million** away from 2013-14 adequacy targets.

State Aid in Upper Darby



To cope with state budget cuts, the burden of funding schools has fallen on local communities. During the past three years, many school districts have raised property taxes at least once.

Delaware County School Districts Property Tax Increase 2010-2013



Upper Darby has raised property taxes by almost 10% in the past three years, the *3rd highest increase* in Delaware County.

Student Performance Facts

* Upper Darby School District is one of 5 school districts in Delaware County that had fewer than 70% of students perform at grade level in both reading and math in 2012.

* In Upper Darby, economically disadvantaged students scored almost 10 percentage points fewer than average in math, and black students scored nearly 20 percentage points fewer.

* Upper Darby graduates about 85% of its students, the 6th lowest rate in Delaware County.

What does the future hold for Upper Darby School District?

The Governor's 2014-15 budget proposal calls for \$241 million to restore funding for Pennsylvania's schools, most of which will be available through the newly created *Ready to Learn Block Grant*. If the Governor's proposal is adopted by legislature, next year districts will be \$440 million short in state funds compared to 2010-11 funding levels.

The Upper Darby School District has received politically motivated funding supplements in recent years. With the Governor's proposed *Ready to Learn Block Grant* for the 2014-15 academic year, the Upper Darby School District will continue to be funded above 2010-11 funding levels. While this has obviously been beneficial for Upper Darby, the money has not been distributed based on a fair funding formula, and so there is no guarantee that this funding will continue.

What can you do?

Contact your senator/representative and let them know that you want them to be a leader in:

- Restoring the cuts to education funding
- Establishing a Fair Funding Formula

The senator for the Upper Darby School District is:



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