Underfunded Mandatory Programs

All children are unique and have needs that a regular education program may not always meet. Programs developed to meet those needs are very beneficial. They are important and helpful to both the families and the school. When those programs are mandated by the state or federal government and appropriate funding is provided to cover the cost, it is a win/win. Initially, funding was provided, but as time went on, the needs have surpassed the funding provided and costs have increased. Districts now find themselves having to make up the deficits locally.

The chart below shows a comparison of the allocation received and the cost of the program in 2013-2014 and 2016-2017 for mandated programs.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mandatory Programs | Allocation  | Actual Expenditures  | % Funded | Deficit absorbed locally | Allocation | Actual Expenditures | % Funded | Deficit absorbed locally |
|  | 2013-2014 | 2016-2017 |
| Special Education | $217,057 | $721,266 | 30.1% | ($504,209) | $128,872 | $662,059 | 19.5% | ($533,187) |
| ECSE | $116,718 | $115,250 | 100% | $1,468 | $81,883 | $97,051 | 84.4% | ($15,168) |
| Transportation | $53,668 | $227,462 | 23.6% | ($173,794) | $53,570 | $286,520 | 18.7% | ($232,950) |
| Technology | -0- | $122,388 | -0- | ($122,388) | -0- | $163,576 | -0- | ($163,576) |
| PAT | $21,728 | $63,355 | 34.3% | ($41,627) | $3,794 | $54,339 | 7.0% | ($50,545) |
| Tuition to Other Districts | -0- | $26,929 | -0- | ($26,929) | -0- | $12,480 | -0- | ($12,480) |
| Total Deficit | ($868,947) | ($1,007,906) |