

THE GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER
 CENTER FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS
 CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

CAPITOL COMMENTS

KEY MESSAGES REGARDING CURRENT
 EDUCATION POLICY ISSUES IN MICHIGAN

MICHIGAN'S PER-PUPIL FUNDING EQUITY GAP

School funding and issues of equity have been a focus of policy discussions in recent years. Policymakers should understand the disparity in funding between students who attend charter public schools and those who attend traditional public schools.

STUDENTS IN CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS RECEIVED AN AVERAGE OF \$1,630 LESS IN FY 2015-16 THAN STUDENTS IN TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE STATE.

SCHOOL YEAR	CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT AVERAGE	TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT AVERAGE	DIFFERENCE
2013-14	\$7,132	\$8,636	\$1,504
2014-15	\$7,192	\$8,758	\$1,567
2015-16	\$7,391	\$9,021	\$1,630

- » State law capped the foundation allowance for students attending charter public schools at the lesser of \$7,391 per pupil for FY 2015-16, or the foundation allowance of the traditional school district in which the charter public school is located. In addition, charter public schools lack the authority to capture local tax funds to build and maintain facilities.
- » The largest funding gap between charter and traditional districts in the state was as high as \$6,715 per pupil in FY 2015-16.

NOTE: Total funding includes foundation allowances, local capital millages and local sinking fund millages, but does not include categorical funding and other items which might vary based on a school's unique student population. Regional calculations are based on the public schools located within the city's traditional public school district.

STATEWIDE AVERAGE



DETROIT



FLINT



GRAND RAPIDS



LANSING



■ CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS ■ TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

For additional information on any public policy issue impacting public education, please contact the Center at 517-364-9600.