

Fund Schools Equitably!

KNOW THE FACTS

- **The funding formula used for traditional public schools is different than for charter schools (Type II and V), course choice programs, and private school scholarships.**
- **The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) applies the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula to the state share of funds but not the local share of funds when funding charter schools.**
- **In 2015, a correction to the funding level for the state share of the formula revealed charter schools, on average, had been receiving over \$500 more per student than the MFP formula allows - and that was just the state share of funds, or about half of the inequity.**

What Can Legislators Do?

Ensure funding to schools is equitable across ALL school systems based on the needs of the students they serve by mandating the weighted formula be used on the local share of the MFP.

Why Do This?

The MFP recognizes that it costs more to educate students with disabilities; however, traditional public school systems do not receive all the funds needed to serve students with disabilities.

Funding for students with disabilities should stay in the school systems that serve them. Schools should not lose funding designated to support the unique needs of students with disabilities when students without disabilities choose to go to a different school.

Students who need the most costly supports and services need individualized programs.

The math is simple. Traditional school funding is different for each student based on the student's needs. Charter schools receive the same amount of local funds for every student. Funding inequities occur when charter schools do not serve their fair share of students with disabilities, but are still provided with the funding initially calculated to serve students with higher cost needs who remain in the traditional public schools.