

**SEE'S
2015
LEGISLATIVE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

And a look forward to the 2016 Legislative Session

SEE 2015 Legislative Platform

- 1) School Facilities
- 2) Basic Formula
- 3) Categoricals
- 4) Equalization

1) School Facilities

The School Facilities Finance Working Group recommendations from 2013 bring greater equity in terms of both resources and tax fairness and also streamlines the system of revenue streams currently available to school districts.

2016

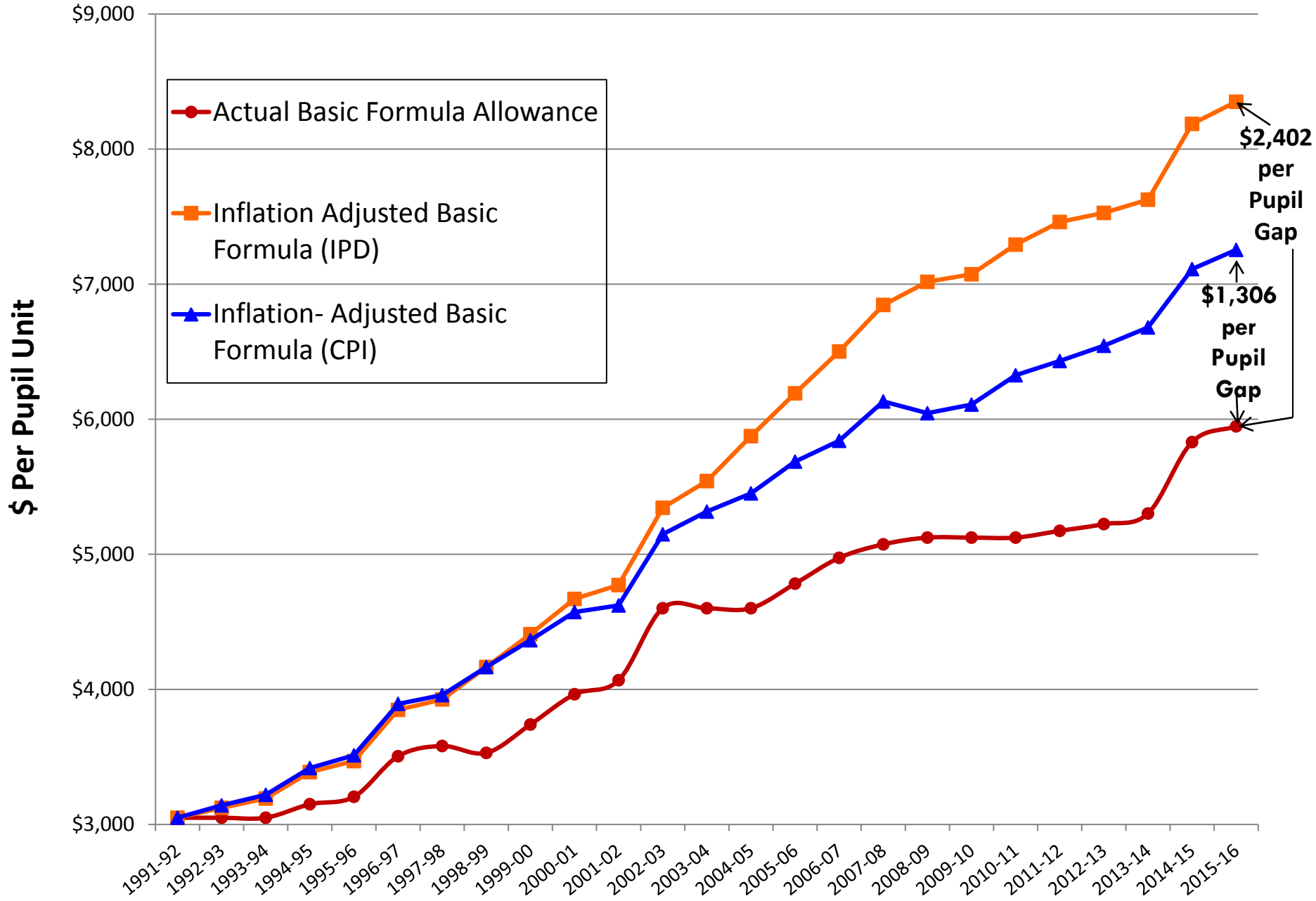
- ▣ Adopt the Working Group's recommendations.
- ✓ Provide the benefits of the Alternative Facilities program to all school districts in the state to help with deferred maintenance issues.
- ✓ Increase the equalization factors in the debt-service equalization program and other facilities-related formulas that have low equalizing factors.

2) Basic Formula

The basic formula is crucial to all school districts, but especially to those school districts that do not generate considerable revenue through categorical formulas or are not able to pass large referendum levies.

- ✓ Increase the basic formula to restore school funding and provide all school districts with the flexibility to meet unfunded mandates.
- Develop comprehensive funding reform that creates an adequate and equitable system of funding that reduces the need for referendum levies.

The Basic Formula Has Not Kept Up With Inflation



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□ Develop comprehensive funding reform that creates an adequate and equitable system of funding that reduces the need for referendum levies.

3) Categoricals

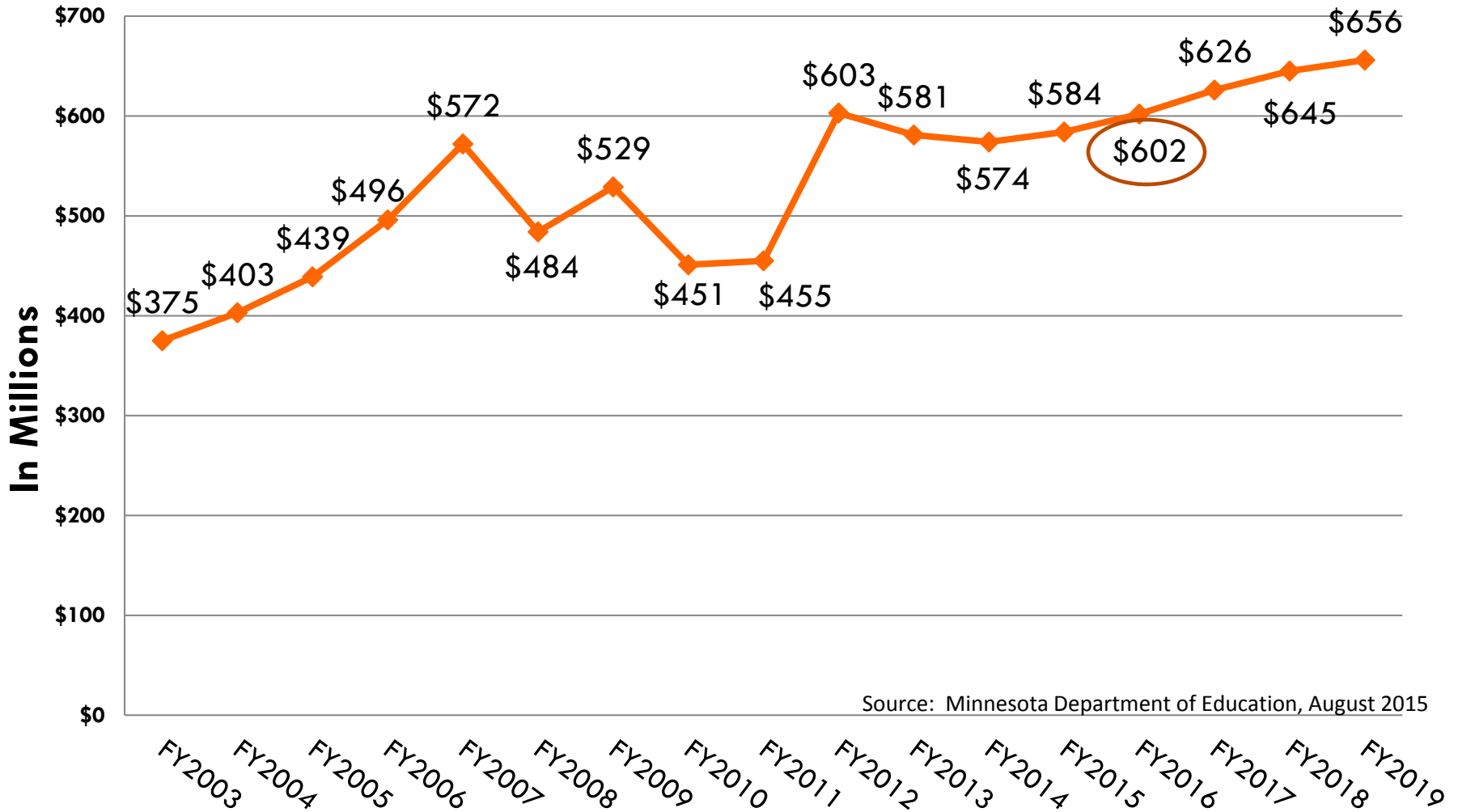
Adjust the categorical formulas in the general education formula to provide greater assistance to districts that currently receive little revenue through these formulas.

- Establish a \$1,700 per pupil minimum for compensatory education students to reflect the actual cost of providing effective services for low-income students.
- ✓ □ Give school districts the flexibility to allocate compensatory revenue based on student need.
- Fully fund the Special Education mandate.
- Increase funding for Career and Technical Education.
- Provide districts below the state average in total general education funding per pupil with an option to bring them up to the state average through an enhanced voter-approved referendum.
- ✓ □ Increase the amount for English language learners and extend eligibility to seven years.

Compensatory Revenue for Selected School Buildings for the 2014-15 School Year

Dist. No.	District Name	Building Name	Fall 2013 School Enrollment	Pupils Eligible for Free or Reduced Meals	% of Enrollees Eligible	Compensatory Revenue	Compensatory Revenue/ Enrollee
1	Minneapolis	Bethune	359	359	100%	\$1,060,300	\$2,953
625	St. Paul	Vento	516	497	96%	\$1,467,648	\$2,844
709	Duluth	Myers-Wilkins	424	360	85%	\$1,045,325	\$2,465
38	Red Lake	Elementary	529	424	80%	\$1,248,549	\$2,360
625	St. Paul	Adams	705	383	54%	\$594,247	\$843
1	Minneapolis	Barton	743	218	29%	\$221,195	\$298
264	Herman	Elementary	54	17	31%	\$15,625	\$289
833	South Wash Co.	Park Sr.	1,824	433	24%	\$297,224	\$163
709	Duluth	East	1,549	335	22%	\$211,111	\$136
282	St. Anthony	Sr. High	663	139	21%	\$81,969	\$124
273	Edina	South View	1,305	129	10%	\$39,587	\$30
State Average Total			850,859	327,827	39%	\$523,548,730	\$615

Special Education Cross Subsidies



3) Categoricals

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2016 Provide districts below the state average in total general education funding per pupil with an option to bring them up to the state average through an enhanced voter-approved referendum.

✓ Increase the amount for English language learners and extend eligibility to seven years.

4) Equalization

Continue to make voter-approved school referendum more affordable in low property wealth districts by indexing equalization aid.

- ✓ Increase the equalization factor in the Alternative Facilities program and index to inflation.
- The School Facilities Finance Working Group recommendations call for an increase in the debt-service equalization program's equalizing factors.
- Even with the progress made in 2013, equalization aid must be increased to provide taxpayers in low property wealth districts with greater fairness and should be indexed to prevent erosion in the tax relief delivered to property taxpayers.

Taxpayer Cost for \$500 per Pupil of Revenue for Debt-Service of Bonds

School District	Home Owner	Business Owner
Cook County	\$16	\$23
Pequot Lakes	\$28	\$42
Westonka	\$32	\$48
Hopkins	\$33	\$49
Ely	\$39	\$59
Hastings	\$67	\$100
Forest Lake	\$70	\$105
Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted	\$72	\$108
Fridley	\$84	\$126
Albert Lea	\$84	\$126
Sartell-St. Stephens	\$84	\$126
Cambridge-Isanti	\$84	\$126

Note: Annual taxpayer cost per \$100,000 of property value.

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**All public school children must have equal
access to a high quality education
regardless of where they live in Minnesota**