

Unfunded Mandates

One of the phrases that historically come up during budget time each year is “unfunded mandates.” **Unfunded mandates** are the programs, processes and procedures that **must** be implemented in all public school districts, by law, yet do not bring any additional dollars to the communities in which these mandates are required. In short, the Weston taxpayer must cover these costs.

While many people have heard of this term, few can specifically identify even a few examples of what unfunded mandates are. To give you proper perspective on what the Weston Public Schools must implement (and pay for) due to unfunded mandates, we have included the full list for this year. It may be surprising to you.

PARTIALLY UNFUNDED MANDATES

Adult Education/Continuing Ed

CAPT Testing, Gr. 10

CMT Testing - Gr. 4, 6, 8 Expanded Testing

CMT Testing - Prep. for Science testing, Gr. 5, 8

English Language Learners -- ELL

Special Education -- 10% paid of 40% required by law

The school district must test students that either the parent or the school district suspects has a disability that is eligible for services under IDEA or 504.

The school district must identify Talented and Gifted (TAG) students. However, they do not have to provide a program.

NCLB mandates that all students, including those identified for Special Education Services, must achieve goals on standardized tests.

The State Department of Education requires district's to staff the following positions: Nurse, Guidance, Psychologist, and if needed to provide services Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist and Speech and Language Clinician.

Excess Cost and Agency Placement Fees (75% cap)

FULLY UNFUNDED MANDATES

ADA Accommodations (transportation/signs/elevator)

Alternate Education for Expelled Students
 Air Quality
 Asbestos Training for Building/Grounds staff
 Background checks and fingerprinting
 BEST Program
 Blood Borne Pathogen Training
 Bullying Policy (investigation/record keeping/follow-up)
 Child Abuse Reporting
 Benefits costs as result of CT New Civil Union Legislation
 C.G.S. 10-145: Administrators and Teachers must have appropriate certification
 C.G.S. 10-153: Administrators, Teachers and Classified employees collective bargaining rights. Salary & benefits determined by this process, number of staff determined by BOE
 Continuing Education Units (CEU Prof. Dev.)
 CPR/First Aid and Heimlich Training
 Hepatitis B Screening
 Drug Education
 ED-001: End of Year School Report
 ED-003: Administrator Negotiations
 ED-006S: Public School Information
 ED-014: Minimum Expenditure Compliance Check

School Building Projects:

ED-042: Request for Review of Final Plans
 ED-042CO: Notice of Change Order
 ED-045: Notice of Debt Service
 ED-046: Request for School Construction Progress Payment
 ED-049: Grant App. for School Building Project
 ED-050: School Facilities Survey
 ED-053: Site Analysis

ED-099: Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs
 ED-103: Reimbursement Claim/Nat'l School Lunch Program
 ED-111: Cash Management Report
 ED-114: Pre-payment Grant Budget Request
 ED-141: Statement of Expenditures Fed/State Projects
 ED-156: Fall Hiring Survey
 ED-162: Non-Certified Staff
 ED-163: CT School Data Report
 ED-166: Discipline Offense Report
 ED-165: Data Reporting - Technology
 ED-172: Request 90 Day Certification
 ED-1723: Request Temporary Authorization for Minor Assignments
 ED-175: Special Waiver for Substitute

ED-177: Request Durational Shortage Area Permit
 ED-186: Application - Temp./Emergency coaching Permits
 ED-236: Immigrant Student Survey Report
 ED-238: Emergency Immigrant Ed Progress Report
 ED-452: Debt Services Claim Form
 ED-540: Graduation Class Report
 ED-612: Language Assessment Data Collection (4 weeks)
 Family & Medical Leave Act
 Family & Medical Leave Act
 Freedom of Information (FOI) Training
 Health Education (staff)
 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA)
 Internet Protection Act for Children
 No Child Left Behind Act, NCLB

- Report results
- HOUSSE Plan

 Pesticide Application Policy
 Promotion/Graduation Requirements
 Restraint Training for Special Ed and Support Staff
 School Records and Retention
 School Transportation/Safety Reporting
 SEDAC (Special Ed Information System)
 Sexual Harassment Training
 Special Education Due Process (proactive)
 Special Education Coverage at PPTs
 Strategic School Profiles (SSP) data collection/reporting
 Student Physicals/Immunizations (Gr. K, 7, 10)

- Vision Screenings
- Hearing Screenings
- Scoliosis Screenings
- School Medical Advisor
- Related Medical Equipment

 Summer School or other supplemental services for intervention
 Teacher/Administrator Evaluations
 Five Year Technology Plan
 CAPT Readiness Computer Certification
 Transportation to Regional VOAG/Technical schools
 Truancy Reporting (10 per year)
 Youth Suicide Prevention
 504 Accommodations
 RTI – Response to Intervention
 Wellness Committee
 Wellness Policy

Workers' Compensation

Unemployment

Submit Federal and State Withholding/FICA/Medicare Taxes by pay period

File Quarterly 941 tax report with the Federal Government

File Quarterly and Annually the Connecticut Withholding Tax Report

Maintain I-9s and W-4s and keep current

Issue W-2s, 1099Rs and 1099s

Comply with federal laws regarding 403(b) and 457 deferred compensation plans

State Municipal Employee Retirement Plan Monthly Reporting

State Teachers Retirement Monthly Reporting

Fund GASB 43 & 45

Annual OSHA Update Training: Asbestos Awareness, B.B.P. Ladder Safety, Lock-out tag-out, etc.