



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Budget Landscape

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Endless possibilities

Enrollment: Past, Present, & Future

Two independent studies tell the same story:

- Enrollment was expected to decline beginning in the early 2020s
- Both studies show CMS reaching a low point mid-decade
- Significant enrollment growth resumes towards the end of the decade
- These trends were predicted a year or more ago; this decline is not a surprise
- Similar demographic changes are occurring across North Carolina
- Required birth rate for stable enrollment is 2.1 per female, current rate is 1.63
 - This gap means fewer students over time

K-12 Enrollment Changes		~ Number of Students	Period of time
Decreases 3.1%		~4,500 students	between 2023-24 and 2028-29
Increases 6.8%		~9,400 students	between 2028-29 and 2033-34

Current Enrollment & Funding

Fiscal Year	Best of First 2 Months Average Daily Membership (ADM)
2019-20	147,206
2020-21	139,839
2021-22	140,706
2022-23	141,434
2023-24	141,105
2024-25	141,894
2025-26	139,476 reduction (2,418)

(1.7%)

Enrollment Based Formulas
Classroom Teachers
Assistant Principal
Counselor
Technology Associate
Elementary Art, Music, PE
Teacher Assistants
Media Assistants
Clerical Support
Custodial Support

Operating Funds

State
(55.8%)

Sound Basic Education

State determines spending
Primarily enrollment driven
GS115C-47(1); GS115C-408

Federal
(6.1%)

Supplemental

Federal determines
spending rules

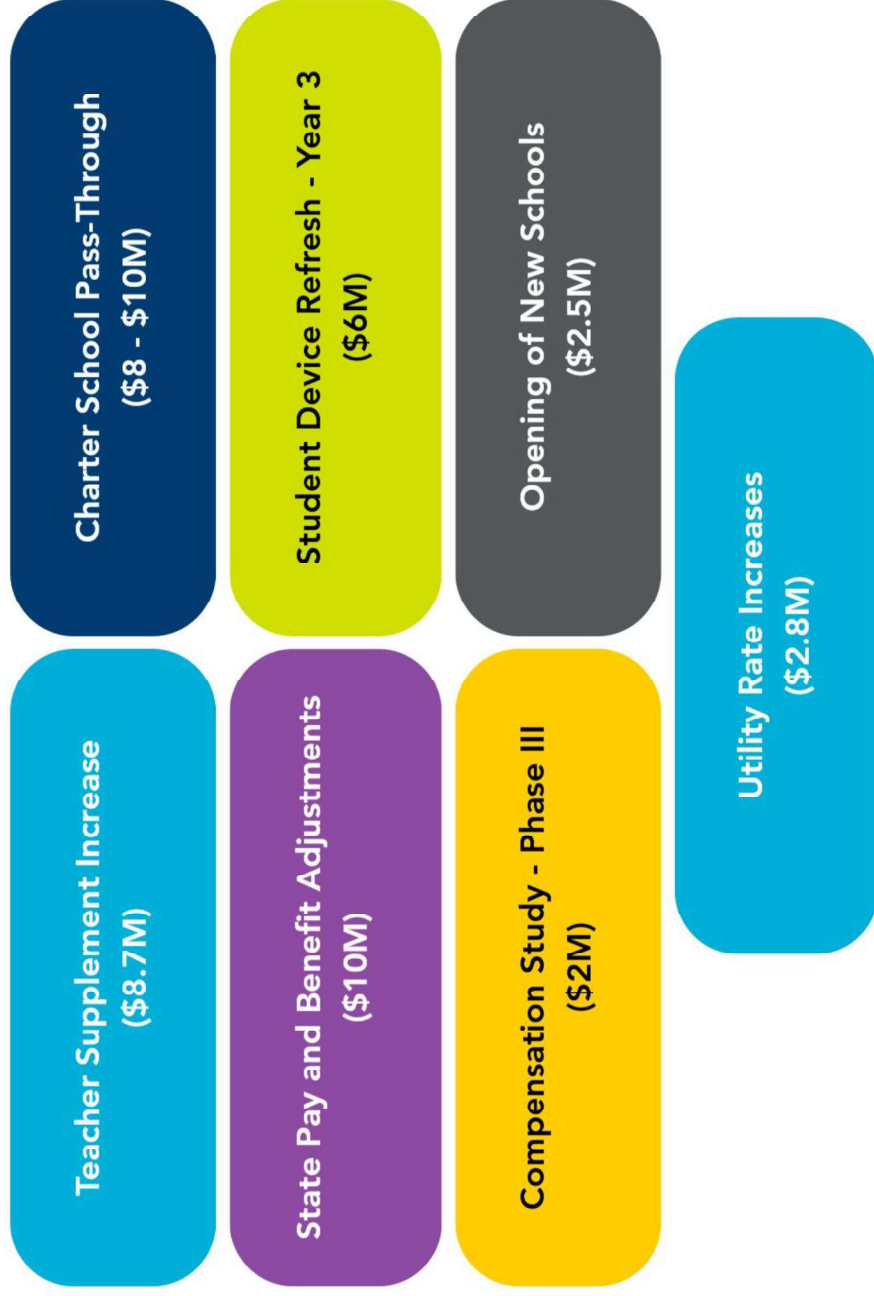
Local
(34.4%)

Sound Basic Education
(Good → Great)

General Statutes define
basic funding structure
GS115C-426; GS115C-408

FY2027 Budget Landscape

(high level estimates!)



FY2027 Budget: Enhancing Excellence

