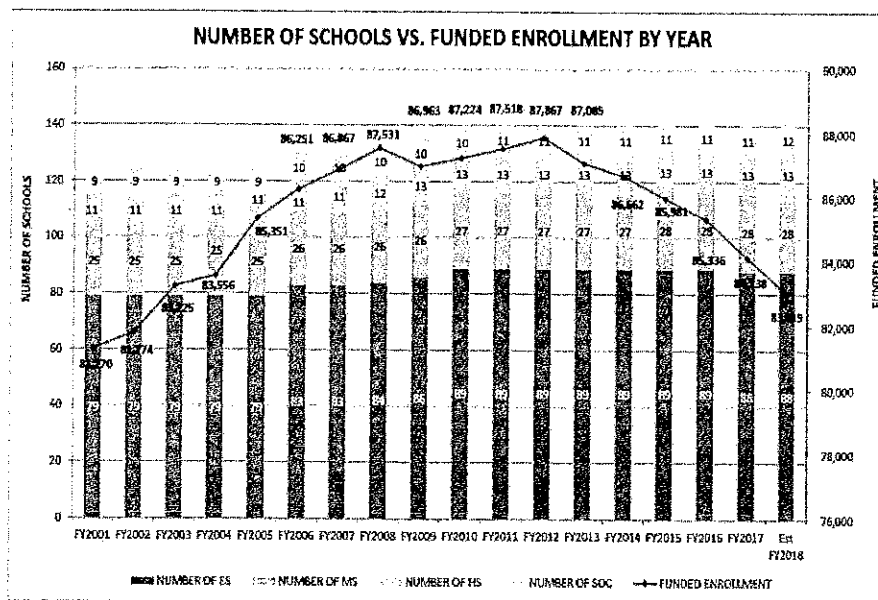


- 1) APS is spending \$1 million of our money just to hold an election to ask for even more money from us;
- 2) None of the money generated by this tax increase will be used to hire more teachers or pay the best teachers more money.
- 3) The APS district is not limited to the City of Albuquerque. Voters in Corrales, the South Valley, Los Ranchos, and even in the East Mountains will be asked to consider this tax hike. A map of APS can be found here.
- 4) If you live anywhere in the APS district and this tax hike passes, your taxes WILL go up. This is true whether you are a homeowner and you pay higher taxes directly or you rent and pay the tax indirectly.
- 5) Residential property taxes in Bern Co increase 3%/year. This is not the case in most other counties in N.M. With that, plus increased annual residential and commercial construction coming on the books, APS has tens of millions of new money every year for capital expenses without doing anything. They regularly see their bond measures approved and now they plead for even more money?
- 6) APS has about 83,000 students. That number has been declining since 2012. APS last had 83,000 students in 2003. APS now has 141 school buildings and had 124 back in 2003. Rather than raising taxes to build even more facilities, APS should be combining facilities and selling off underused and unnecessary facilities.



7) APS has a massive “twin towers” facility on Louisiana and just spent \$22 million to build a new “training” center which a vast majority of students will never step foot in. Now they want a massive tax hike?

8) APS spends more than \$16,000 per student for results that can only be described as “lousy.” Should taxpayers really just hand them a 19% tax increase?

9) According to a report produced by the National Education Association and analyzed by the Rio Grande Foundation, New Mexico schools spend the 6th most per student on capital outlay (the type of buildings etc. that this tax hike is for). Shouldn't APS be more efficient with what it has already.

10) There are many ways that APS could get more out of its infrastructure spending. Davis-Bacon prevailing wage laws increase construction costs. A 2002 report from the Ohio Legislature found overall savings of 10.7% from paying market prices instead of artificially-inflated prices.

11) LEED certification adds to project costs. According to a report from the American Chemistry Council obtaining LEED certification adds from **four to eleven percent to a project's construction costs.**

12) A recent KPMG report found 7% savings could be achieved with modular construction. Removing most architecture and design expenses could drive up those savings.

Talking Points on APS tax hike compiled by Rio Grande Foundation: for more details go to www.riograndefoundation.org or contact us at 505-264-6090