

Desegregation Forum Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ): Did You Know?

Is the district moving Desegregation Funds into its regular Maintenance & Operations budget?

No. In fact, this would be illegal. The administration is requesting that an additional expense of \$3.5 million be moved into the Desegregation budget. All expenditures utilizing Desegregation funds must meet the parameters of the law regulating the usage of Desegregation funding in Arizona as noted in A.R.S. 15-910 (G).

If the district funds this additional \$3.5 million for reading and math intervention teachers using Desegregation funds, is that permanent?

If approved, the expense would be moved into the district's Desegregation budget and could only be removed by a vote of the Governing Board after successful completion of a Performance Impact Analysis posted for public review and comment.

Will there be any cuts to the Equity Diversity and Inclusion Department, African American Student Services, or Mexican American Student Services?

The administration is not proposing any cuts, cost reductions, or modifications of any kind to any of these departments.

Is there a court order mandating the creation of the Equity Diversity and Inclusiveness as a department?

The former Unitary Status Plan never specified, mentioned, or required the creation of an Equity Diversity and Inclusiveness Department or the Assistant Superintendent of EDI position. There is no court order requiring the creation of the EDI Department as a condition for the district's release from court supervision.

What is the impact to the district's proposed Desegregation budget reductions on students?

All the proposed expenditure reductions inside of the Desegregation budget being proposed are administrative, operational, and do not impact direct instruction to students.

How did the administration assess the impact of the reading and math intervention teachers on the students served?

The administration facilitated a study demonstrating improved academic performance on the Arizona Academic Skills Assessment for English Language Arts and Math for students that had access to a reading or math intervention teacher.

Can the administration modify or eliminate programming mandated in the former Unitary Status Plan without public input?

No. The administration is required to post a Performance Impact Analysis for public review and comment for any change or modification being requested for programming mandated under the former Unitary Status Plan.

Can the district increase the amount of Desegregation funding it levies to pay for the additional expense of funding the reading and math intervention teachers?

No. The district is unable to levy any additional Desegregation funding. The Desegregation funding level for the district has been capped at the tax year 2009 limit for the last 15 years.

