

ARIZONA TOWN HALL

November 13, 2017

MICHAEL GRIFFITH
SCHOOL FINANCE STRATEGIST
EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES

Putting the Fun in School Funding

A Handful of Facts That'll Make You a School Finance Expert (In 20 minutes or less)

People

About 1 in 6



Formulas vs. Funding Level

Pluming Vs

Water Pressure



Expenditures

60%

(Bonus number 20%)



Expenditures

47th

&

44th



Funding Sources

15.4% (8.4%)

38.6% (46.0%)

46.0% (45.6%)



New Revenue for Education

How can we direct more funding to schools without increasing taxes?

Hope that they discover oil in your state



Revenue

Which is the best tax?



Formula

1980



It's a New World

- Open Enrollment
- Charters
- Dual/Concurrent Enrollment
- On-line Learning
- High-need students



Funding Issues

Short term fixes for Permanent problems



Future Steps

What do you want your students to achieve?

Will it produce an additional cost?

Can your current formula get you there?



Additional Funding

Ensure that any additional funding is sufficient & will grow with your needs

Let voters know what they are buying with a tax increase

You get one bite at the apple

(once every 5 to 10 years or so)



A New Formula

"It's supposed to be hard. If it were easy, everyone would do it"

Tom Hanks in A League of Their Own



Funding Formulas

Don't let people tell you "it can't be done"



Students

\$8.30 per hour
But for most
About \$7.00 per hour



Michael Griffith School Finance Strategist Education Commission of the States 303-299-3600 mgriffith@ecs.org | www.ecs.org

@Edcommission

