



## FY 2020 Recommended Budget Budget Question

Board Question #: 19

**BUDGET QUESTION:** Actual enrollment has been essentially flat or even declining. The number of special needs students, ESL students, and economically disadvantaged students is growing. Where then are the students going who don't require special services, are English-speaking, and are financially stable?

**RESPONDING DEPARTMENT/OFFICE:** Schools

**RESPONSE:** We hope to gain clarity regarding this question. However, we have provided some information that is connected to the question.

- Demographic changes or shifts in the SCPS student population have been shared numerous times, including previous years, through both the Superintendent's proposed budget and the School Board's approved budget presentations. On February 12th, the School Board chair and vice chair presented the demographic changes SCPS has been experiencing over the last decade.
- We are not aware of "non-disabled, English-Speaking or financially stable" students leaving the school division.
  - Our home school population has not increased over the past 6 years.
  - Demographic shifts occur in other counties, cities and throughout the state.
- We can offer the following statistics derived from the Fall Membership data collection by VDOE:

### Student Population

- Statewide student population has increased by 54,114 students or 4.4% since FY09.
- Spotsylvania County's student population has decreased by 448 students or 1.9% since FY09.
- Stafford County's student population has increased by 2,420 students or 9.0% since FY09.
- Despite an overall increase in the State's student population, student count has declined in 88 of 132 localities in the State since FY09.

### Autism Students

- State wide the Autism population has increased by 13,591 students or 163.9% since FY09.
- Spotsylvania County's Autism population has increased by 255 students or 150.0% since FY09.
- Stafford County's Autism population has increased by 243 students or 118.0% since FY09.

## **FY 2020 Recommended Budget**

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#### **ELL**

- State wide the ELL population has increased by 65,523 student or 62.6% since FY09.
- Spotsylvania County's ELL population has increased by 615 students or 67.4% since FY09.
- Stafford County's ELL population has increased by 1,462 students or 125.1% since FY09.

#### **Disadvantaged Students**

- State wide the Disadvantaged population has increased by 121,891 students or 30.6% since FY09.
- Spotsylvania County's Disadvantaged population has increased by 2,685 students or 41.5% since FY09.

Stafford County's Disadvantaged population has increased by 5,472 students or 110.2% since FY09.

**ESTIMATE OF STAFF TIME SPENT ON RESPONSE:**