

# The Formula

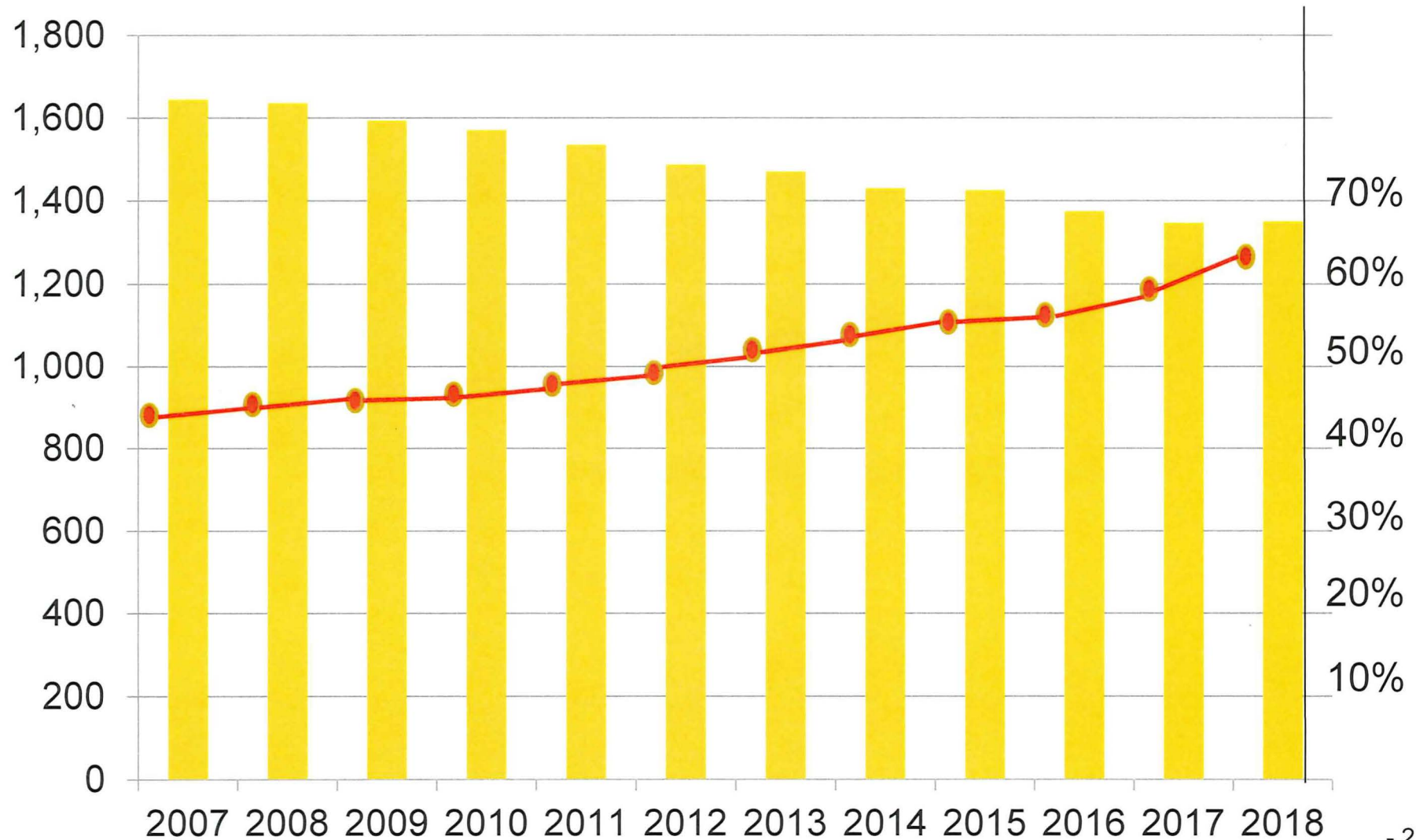
---

Wayne Drescher, CPA  
Business Manager  
Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD  
Wdrescher@cheektowagasloan.org  
(716 897-7800 Ext. 2405)

## **Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD Free & Reduced Price Applications ("FRPA")**

- One significant factor that determine the Foundation Aid per pupil is the Pupil Need Index ("PNI").
- The most significant factor in this equation is FRPA.
- There is a significant issue with this count due to the District implementing Community Eligibility for student meals. Applications are no longer required to receive a free or reduced priced meals; thus, the number of applications has decrease dramatically.
- The application count is used to measure pupil need or poverty. Therefore, our District's poverty level is "hidden" by having such high poverty that we are allowed to provide meals to children that otherwise may not be fed.

# Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD Enrollment Compared to Free/Reduced Meals



# Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD

## Free & Reduced Price Applications (“FRPA”)

This poverty factor is measured by taking an average of the prior three-year period. The below table shows how “Community Eligibility” effected the District

Aid Year	FRPA Percentage	Percentage Change
2014-2015	0.5233	
2015-2016	0.5528	2.95%
2016-2017	0.5664	1.36%
2017-2018	0.5756	0.92%
2018-2019	0.5910	1.54%
2019-2020	0.6072	1.62%
2020-2021	0.5655	-4.17%
2021-2022	0.5197	-4.58%
2022-2023	0.4758	-4.39%
2023-2024	0.5081	3.23%
2024-2025	0.5161	0.80%

The District went Community Eligible in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The first effect on FRPA was in the 2020-2021 fiscal year.



# Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD

## Free & Reduced Price Applications (“FRPA”)

Poverty in the District has continues to grow. What would FRPA be if the District had not gone Community Eligible? Below we attempt to project this factor:

Aid Year	FRPA Percentage	Percentage Change
2014-2015	0.5233	
2015-2016	0.5528	2.95%
2016-2017	0.5664	1.36%
2017-2018	0.5756	0.92%
2018-2019	0.5910	1.54%
2019-2020	0.6072	1.62%
2020-2021	0.6222	1.50%
2021-2022	0.6372	1.50%
2022-2023	0.6518	1.47%
2023-2024	0.6668	1.50%
2024-2025	0.6815	1.47%

# Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD

## Free & Reduced Price Applications (“FRPA”)

What effect did this have on the District?

Below is an actual comparison to a neighboring district:

Wealth Factor	Cheektowaga- Sloan	Neighboring District	Percentage Difference
Adjusted Gross Income	\$ 253,581,712	\$ 277,895,339	9.6%
Adjusted Gross Income Per Pupil	\$ 163,390	\$ 171,012	4.7%
Adjusted Gross Income Per Pupil (TWFPU)	\$ 191,816	\$ 203,735	6.2%

# Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD

## Free & Reduced Price Applications (“FRPA”)

What effect did this have on the District?

Below is an actual comparison to a neighboring district:

	<b>Cheektowaga- Sloan</b>	<b>Neighboring District</b>	<b>Percentage Difference</b>
Section II of Foundation Aid Calculation Line 7 - Adjusted Foundation per Pupil	\$ 12,082.31	\$ 12,722.27	5.3%

# Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD

## Free & Reduced Price Applications ("FRPA")

What effect did this have on the District?

Despite having lower wealth, what would the District's aid be if the District had this same aid per pupil?

Section II of Foundation Aid	
Calculation Line 7 - Adjusted	\$ 12,722.27
Foundation per Pupil	
Line 3 - Expected Minimum Local	
Contribution	<u>3,334.72</u>
Foundation Aid per Pupil	\$ 9,388
Section IV - Line 24 - Selected	
TAFPU for Foundation Aid	<u>1,605</u>
Projected Foundation Aid	<u>\$ 15,067,018</u>



# Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD

## Free & Reduced Price Applications (“FRPA”)

What effect did this have on the District?

Projected Foundation Aid	\$ 15,067,018.00
District's Actual 2024-2025 Foundation Aid	<u>14,284,677.00</u>
Foundation Aid per Pupil	<u>\$ 782,341</u>

We believe this projected to be very conservative as the District wealth is lower than this neighboring District and their FRPA for 2024-2025 was .6166; whereas, the District’s is projected to be .6815.

## **Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD Free & Reduced Price Applications (“FRPA”)**

- The District has attempted exhausted methods to have families file FRPA applications with only minor success.
  - ✓ Information in newsletters and texts to parents / guardians
  - ✓ Flyers sent home with students
  - ✓ Tables set up at open houses and information session held
  - ✓ Applications provided as part of registration package
  - ✓ Portions of applications pre-completed
  - ✓ Chances for prize drawings for completing an application
- The District has been and continues to be harmed by this factor in the Foundation Aid formula.

**Cheektowaga-Sloan UFSD**  
**Free & Reduced Price Applications (“FRPA”)**

**Feeding children that  
otherwise may not eat  
should not reduce the  
amount of Foundation Aid a  
school district receives –  
it is wrong!**