

**To:** Superintendents, School Leaders, School Business Managers and Treasurers

**From:** Dr. John Keller, Chief Technology Officer, Indiana Department of Education

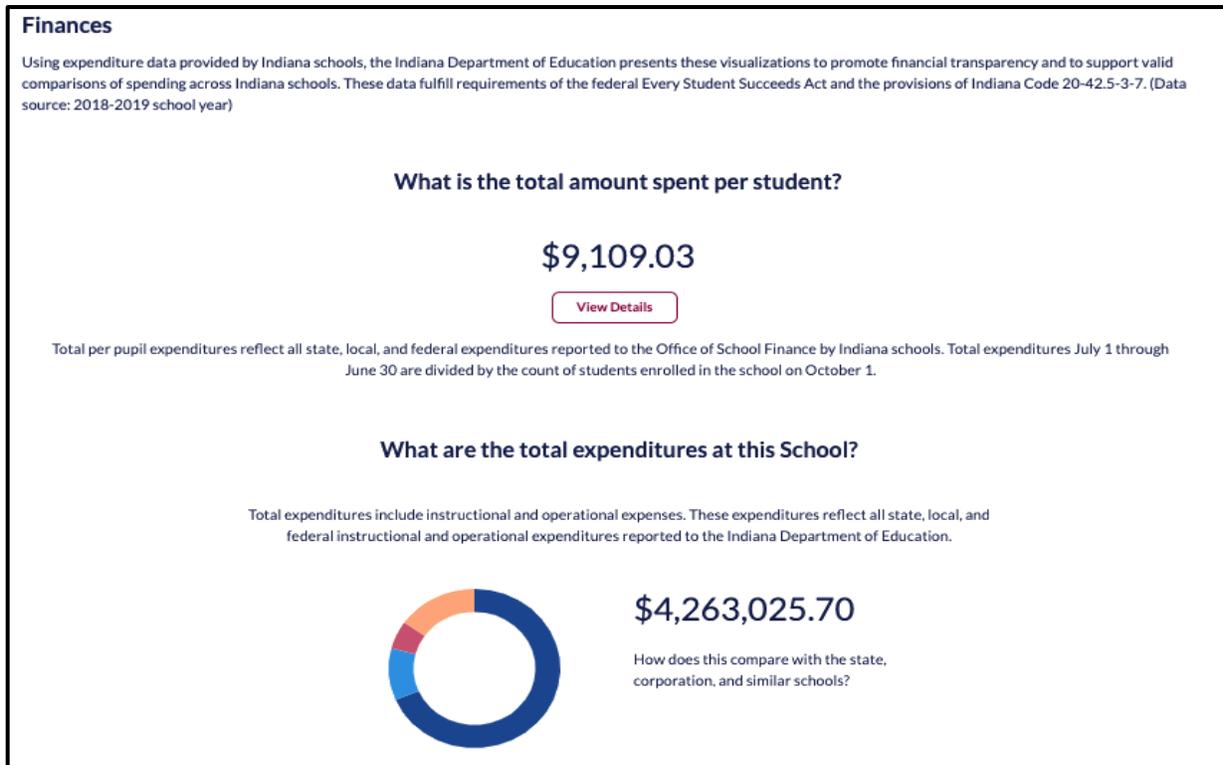
**Date:** January 3, 2020

**Subject:** Student Level Financial Data Released on 12/31/19

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) has released the detailed school level financial reports under School Financial Reports on the Finance page of the public web site on December 31, 2019. Summary data for all schools is also available on the IDOE web site. Please be aware of the following additional efforts to support the use and interpretation of these financial data:

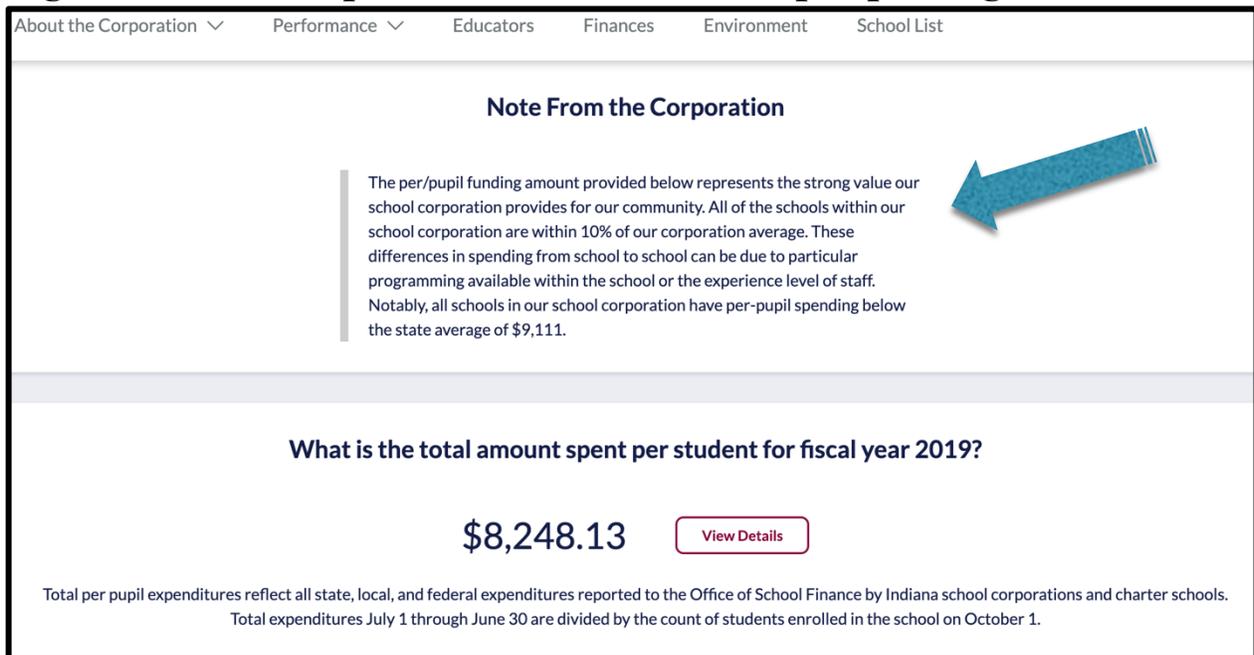
1. IDOE is currently working on the INview pages which will present elements of the detailed School Building Level Reports mentioned above. An example of how these data will be displayed is provided below. The anticipated release of the INview finance pages is slated for mid-January 2020. INview will facilitate school-to-school comparisons of per-pupil spending.

**Figure 1. INview student level spending data mock-up.**



2. The Office of School Finance recorded an informational webinar earlier this week to support school principals and the administrative team who will likely be asked questions regarding student level spending in their schools once the data is released—particularly after the data is released on INview. The link to the recorded webinar was e-mailed to Superintendents, Charter Directors and School Treasurers on 12/18/19.
3. To support the interpretation and consumption of the school-level spending data posted on INview, IDOE will be providing school corporations with the ability to write corporation and school-level explanations of their per-pupil spending data. The graphic below shows an example of how this functionality would work for a school corporation. The arrow points to the text a school corporation would enter to provide context to the per-pupil spending number in the frame below.

**Figure 2. School Corporation Note about Per-Pupil Spending.**



The screenshot shows a navigation bar with links: About the Corporation, Performance, Educators, Finances, Environment, and School List. Below the navigation bar is a section titled "Note From the Corporation" containing a text box with the following text: "The per/pupil funding amount provided below represents the strong value our school corporation provides for our community. All of the schools within our school corporation are within 10% of our corporation average. These differences in spending from school to school can be due to particular programming available within the school or the experience level of staff. Notably, all schools in our school corporation have per-pupil spending below the state average of \$9,111." A blue arrow points to this text box. Below the note is a question: "What is the total amount spent per student for fiscal year 2019?" followed by the answer "\$8,248.13" and a "View Details" button. At the bottom, there is a disclaimer: "Total per pupil expenditures reflect all state, local, and federal expenditures reported to the Office of School Finance by Indiana school corporations and charter schools. Total expenditures July 1 through June 30 are divided by the count of students enrolled in the school on October 1."

We are encouraging school corporations to review their school-level spending figures and begin working on any narrative you may want to include on the INview site (there is a 1,500 word limit per school building). Some corporations may want to issue a single statement that applies to the corporation level as well as all of the schools. Other corporations may find it useful to have individual statements prepared for each school. This functionality is entirely optional—if no additional context is provided, the first piece of information on the INview Finances page will be the per-pupil spending amount as shown in Figure 1.

If you have questions about the detailed report, please contact [Form9@doe.in.gov](mailto:Form9@doe.in.gov). If you have questions about INview, please contact [link@doe.in.gov](mailto:link@doe.in.gov).

115 W. Washington Street ■ South Tower, Suite 600 ■ Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

317.232.6610 ■ [www.doe.in.gov](http://www.doe.in.gov)