Using Story Maps to help Legislators understand School Funding

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Iowa Legislative Services Agency
Legislative Services Agency (LSA) – What we do:

• Non-partisan staff serving all members of the General Assembly
• Provide bill drafting and fiscal analysis
• Appropriation tracking and analysis
• Beginning in June of 2012 began publishing a Map of the Week
• Have been incorporating more interacting mapping applications to enhance Map of the Week and Factbook publications.
School Finance Analysis

- 62 various documents relating to school aid finance
  - One detailed presentation is 85 pages long
- No analysis document includes a map
- 8 page document outlines how approximately $4.2 billion is calculated and distributed to all 338 school districts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMBINED DISTRICT COST SUMMARY</th>
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<td>EQ 4,169,371,217</td>
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Legislator: Show me how School Finance works using something like this:
Goal: Explain School Finance in one document or application that incorporates Analysis and Maps so a legislator can understand the formula and the impact on their district.

Solution: Esri Story Map
Story Maps value to Legislators: Graphics, Text, and links to other resources/pages

School Finance in Iowa

The Iowa school finance formula is a mechanism that determines K-12 educational funding levels and generated over $4.2 billion in funding for school districts and area education agencies (AEA)s in FY 2015. The formula for distribution of funds, including state aid and local property taxes, is based on calculations made by the Department of Management (DOM) Aid and Levy Worksheet. Displayed on the right. This interactive mapping application will provide a detailed look at the aid and levy worksheet, including a review of Sections 1 through 9, to demonstrate how school aid formula funding is determined each fiscal year.

The program areas and funding amounts for FY 2015:

- **State Categorical Supplements - Districts, $321.3, 7.6%**
- **AOA Funding, $203.3, 4.9%**
- **Misc., $0.2, 0.0%**
- **Dropout, Prevention, $103.5, 2.5%**
- **Supplementary Weighting, $756, 1.8%**
- **Budget Guarantee, $32.1, 0.1%**

FY 2015 Combined District Cost = $4.169 Billion.
Pop-ups to provide more information and analysis

- Des Moines Independent
  - Resident Students: 30,741.9
  - Open Enrollment Out: 1,523.9
  - Tuition Out: 132.0
  - Nonpublic Shared Time: 3.7
  - Public High School Competent: 11.7
  - Private Instruction: 11.7
  - Budget Enrollment: 32,413.2

- Southeast Polk
  - Special Education Weighting: 2.74
  - Special Ed Weighting: 171.25

- Waukee
  - The five year change in budget enrollment for Waukee is 2,039, or 32.63%.

- East Marshall
  - The District Cost Per Pupil for East Marshall is $6,450. The State Cost Per Pupil (SCPP) is $6,366 for Fiscal Year 2015.
Display more information and different maps with Main Stage Actions

Click here to see the five year change in budget enrollment or click here to see the percent change.
Location awareness for Legislators
Analysis + Pictures + Graphics + Interactive + Location = Better content delivery, engagement, understanding, and increase in audience engagement
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https://www.legis.iowa.gov/resources/mappingResources/mapGallery