



Merger Feasibility Committee

Pennsbury School District and Morrisville School District

PFM Group Consulting, LLC

September 19, 2022



Agenda

- ◆ Introductions
- ◆ Committee purpose and structure
- ◆ Project approach
- ◆ Overview of Pennsbury School District and Morrisville School District
 - Facilities
 - Enrollment
 - Budget
- ◆ Discussion
- ◆ Public comment



Committee structure



Committee purpose

- ◆ The Pennsbury School District received a state grant for an independent review of a potential merger or other tuition arrangement between Pennsbury and the Morrisville School District
- ◆ PFM Group Consulting LLC (PFM) was selected by Pennsbury to conduct the study
- ◆ PFM's work will provide the Boards of the two school districts with information to help determine if a merger or tuition relationship is in the best interest of both districts, including but not limited to whether instructional opportunities would be enhanced for all students at a similar or reduced cost to taxpayers
- ◆ Pennsbury's scope for the study included the formation of a Feasibility Committee comprised of stakeholders (parents, staff members, and others) will meet four times to discuss topics including curriculum and academics; school buildings and other facilities; workforce; and finances
- ◆ The Committee is a non-partisan advisory body and will not be voting or providing a recommendation to either Board



Committee structure

- ◆ Membership: 25 individuals
 - Membership is intended to include representatives from both school districts and affiliated groups, as well as member of the general public, in order to provide a variety of perspectives
- ◆ Some groups that are represented include:
 - The Pennsbury and Morrisville school boards
 - Parent teacher associations
 - Teachers and administrators
 - Residents without students currently in the schools
 - Businesses or non-profit organizations in the community
 - The County Intermediate Unit that serves both districts
- ◆ Residents, families, and others are welcomed and encouraged to join and ask questions at each meeting



Ground rules

- Feasibility Committee will provide input and guidance to the PFM study team to ensure that the focus areas provide analysis that will be helpful for both School Boards in making future decisions
- As noted, the Feasibility Committee is an advisory body, and it will not be voting on whether or not to proceed with a merger or tuition arrangement
- At each meeting, Committee members will be asked to provide comments, thoughts, and suggestions after a presentation by the study team
- Speakers from the public will be invited to make comments at the end of the meeting
 - A sign-up sheet will be available
 - Speakers will be limited to five minutes in order to provide an opportunity for everyone who wants to speak
 - Time kept by the study team
- After each meeting, the presentations and high-level meeting minutes will be posted to a dedicated page on the Pennsbury School District's website (*Pennsbury SD was able to arrange for video recording in lieu of meeting minutes*)
- In addition, the Pennsbury website will be used to collect comments and ideas outside of the scheduled meeting times



Proposed committee meeting dates and locations

Meeting	Date	Time	Location
First meeting	Monday, September 19	7pm	Fallsington Elementary School gymnasium
Second meeting	Monday, October 3	7pm	Morrisville Middle/Senior High School Auditorium
Third meeting	Monday, October 17	7pm	Fallsington Elementary School gymnasium
Fourth meeting	Monday, November 14	7pm	Morrisville Middle/Senior High School Auditorium
Final meeting	Schedule to be announced as the study comes to a close		



Expected meeting themes

◆ First meeting

- Introductions, general purpose and structure, and basic information about both school districts

◆ Second through fourth meetings

- Academic programs and curriculum
- School buildings and facilities
- Workforce and finances

◆ Final meeting

- Presentation of the consultant report delivered to the Pennsbury School Board



Project approach



Revised project timeline

Phase	Description
Pre-Work:	Develop document request, consult with school districts on the work plan, schedule and scheduling, Feasibility Committee meetings, etc.
Month 1 (July):	Document review, kickoff meetings; school district site visits and enhanced document request
Months 2-3 (August-September):	Finish baseline model; document financial condition; begin Feasibility Committee meetings; begin interviews with district staff
Months 2-4 (August-October):	Continue interviews with district staff, stakeholders; further document requests and follow up to refine overall initiatives for all areas, including opportunities for shared services and efficiencies, and potential challenges
Months 5-6 (November-December):	Complete list of initiatives and costing; integration into baseline and projected budget model; detailed consultation with school districts to vet accuracy and relevance of preliminary findings
Month 6 (December):	Deliver final report to School Board; public meetings to be scheduled



Study areas

Study Area	Description
Instructional Programs	Alignment of curricula and programs; evaluation of staffing needs; impact of emerging hybrid/online options and trends
Financial Impact	10-year financial projections; state funding and real estate tax impacts; methodologies and alternatives for inter-district tuition
Governance	Policies, procedures, and reporting; transition to consolidation and redistricting
Personnel	Staffing levels and certifications; salary schedules and collective bargaining provisions; impacts of administrative standards and policies
Enrollment	Enrollment trends (district and charter school); evaluation of PSD and MSD student bodies; potential boundary changes for enrollment zones and related impacts
Facilities	Summary of capital plans and needs (current and potential near-term); evaluation of facility capacities; review of potential building alignments; custodial and maintenance
Transportation	Review potential operational impacts from the consolidation
Others	Co-Curricular Offerings: alignment of sports and after school programs Technical school: analysis of enrollment or cost impacts, if any Food Service: review operations and/or contracts for service; potential funding impacts External Partners: agreements/programs with higher education or other institutions Locally Developed Assurances/Guarantees: developed in tandem with PSD and MSD

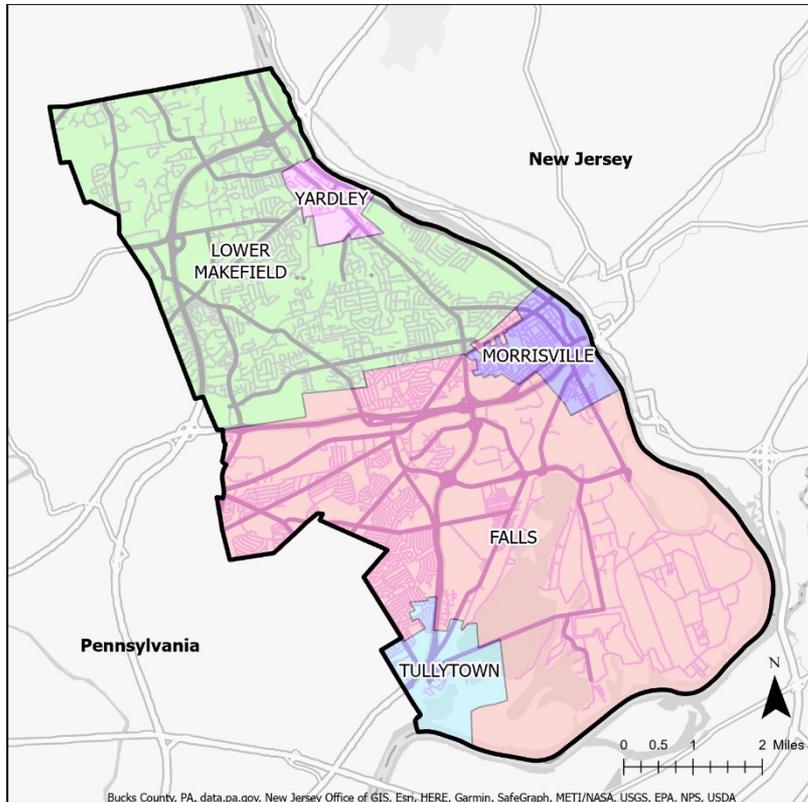


Overview of school districts

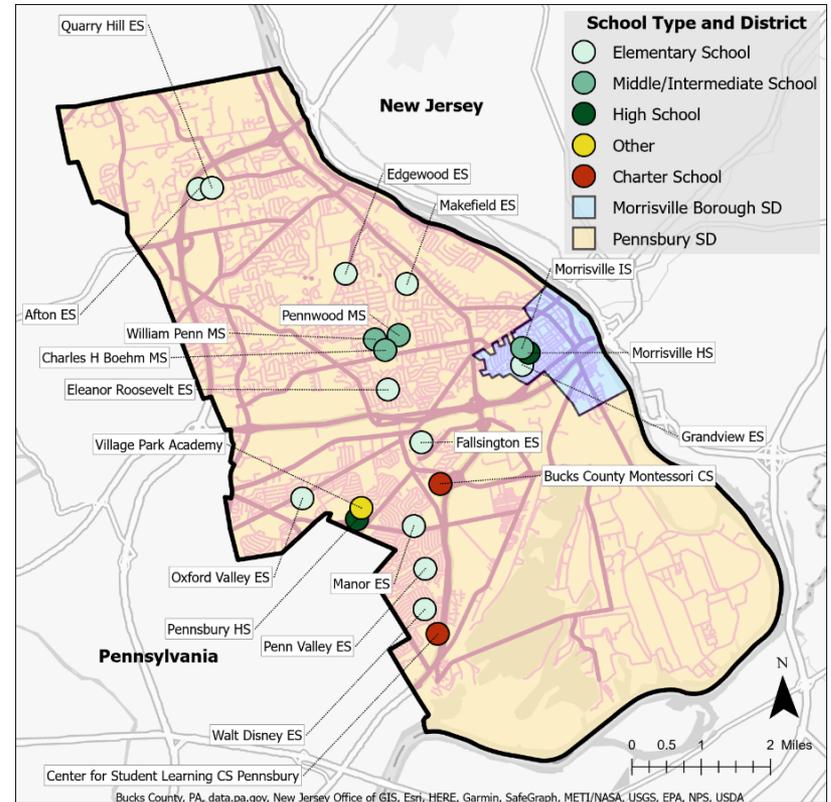


Map of Pennsbury SD and Morrisville SD

Townships and Boroughs



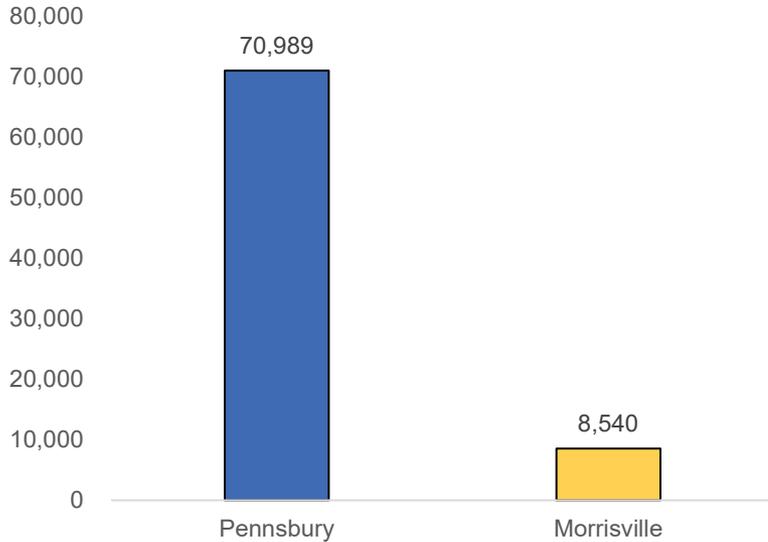
School Buildings



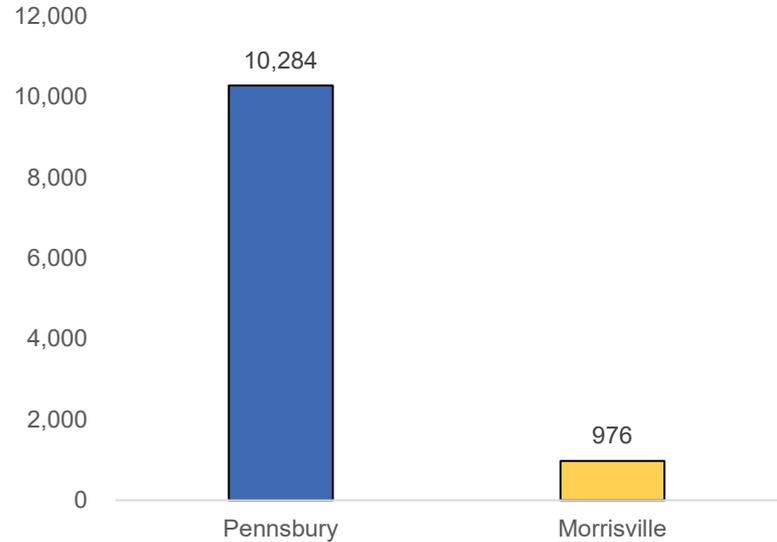


Population and average daily membership

Population



Average daily membership (ADM) Enrollment in all schools



- Pennsbury SD's population is more than 8.3 times greater than Morrisville SD's population
- Pennsbury SD's average daily membership is over 10.5 times greater than Morrisville SD's ADM
 - Average daily membership includes students enrolled in the district schools, charter schools, and those enrolled in specialized programs not operated by the school districts



Enrollment by building: 2021-22 school year

	Grade Configuration	2021-22 Enrollment
Pennsbury School District		
Afton Elementary School	K - 5	542
Edgewood Elementary School	K - 5	516
Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School	K - 5	555
Fallsington Elementary School	K - 5	268
Makefield Elementary School	K - 5	373
Manor Elementary School	K - 5	445
Oxford Valley Elementary School	K - 5	382
Penn Valley Elementary School	K - 5	411
Quarry Hill Elementary School	K - 5	472
Walt Disney Elementary School	K - 5	384
Elementary School Subtotal		4,348
Charles H Boehm Middle School	6 - 8	715
Pennwood Middle School	6 - 8	757
William Penn Middle School	6 - 8	928
Middle School Subtotal		2,400
Village Park Academy	4 - 8	10
Pennsbury High School (West and East)	9 - 12	2,910
Total PSD		9,668

Morrisville School District

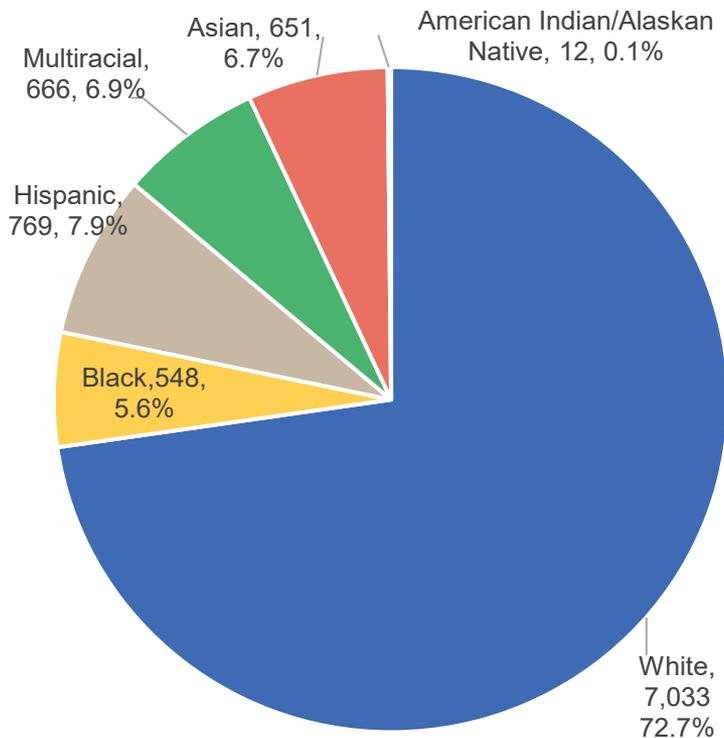
Grandview Elementary School	K - 2	216
Morrisville Intermediate School	3 - 5	206
Morrisville Middle/High School	6 - 8	192
Morrisville Middle/High School	9 - 12	216
Total MSD		830

- ◆ Pennsbury SD has three building types:
 - Elementary schools: K to 5
 - Middle schools: 6 to 8
 - High school: 9 to 12
- ◆ Morrisville SD has two buildings with different grade bands:
 - Grandview ES: K to 2
 - Morrisville Middle/High School
 - Intermediate school: 3 to 5
 - Middle school: 6 to 8
 - High school: 9 to 12
- ◆ Enrollment in Pennsbury SD's schools is over 11.6 times greater than enrollment in Morrisville SD's schools

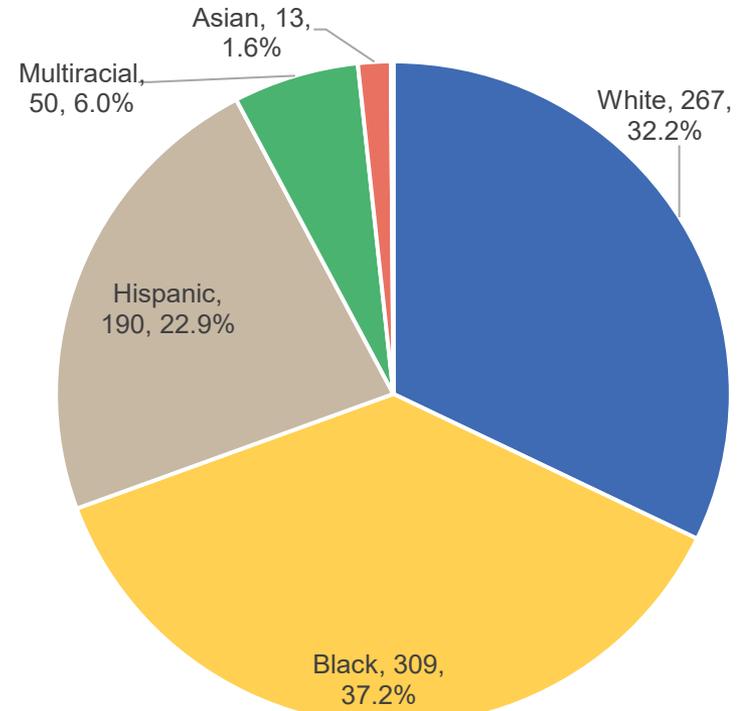


Student demographics: 2021-22 school year

Pennsbury School District



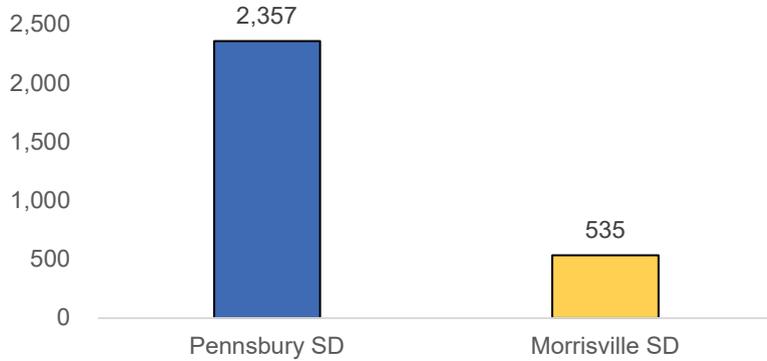
Morrisville School District



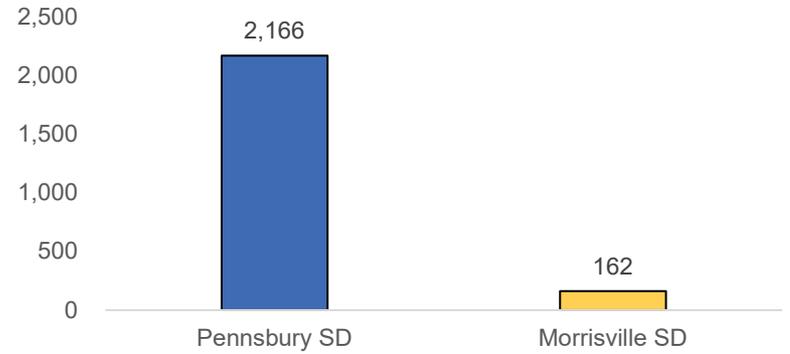


Student groups: 2020-21

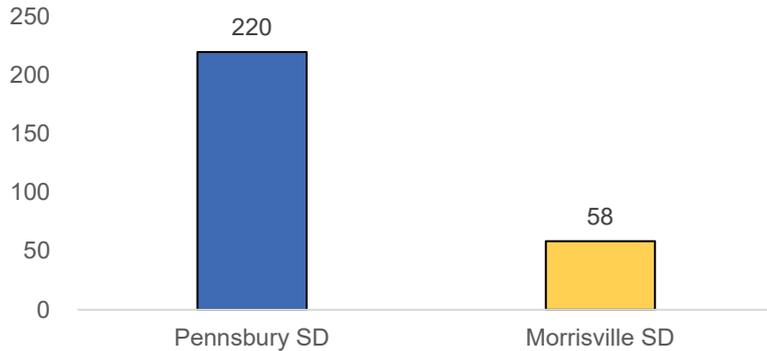
Economically Disadvantaged Students



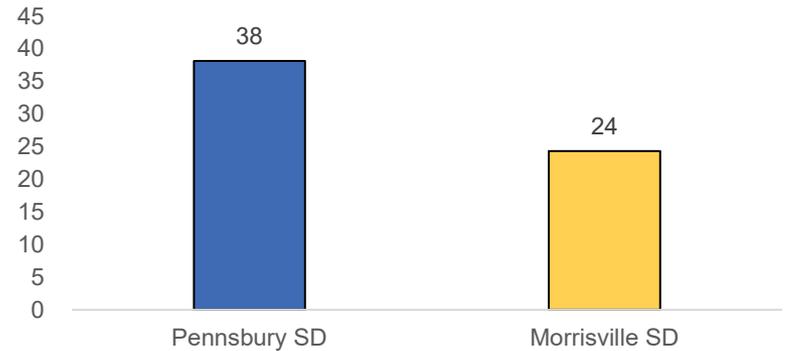
Special Education Students



English Learners



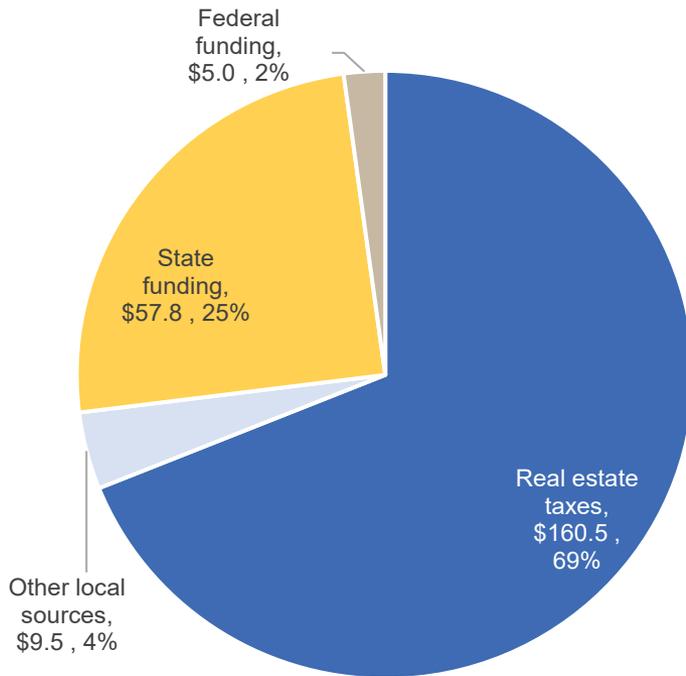
Homeless Students



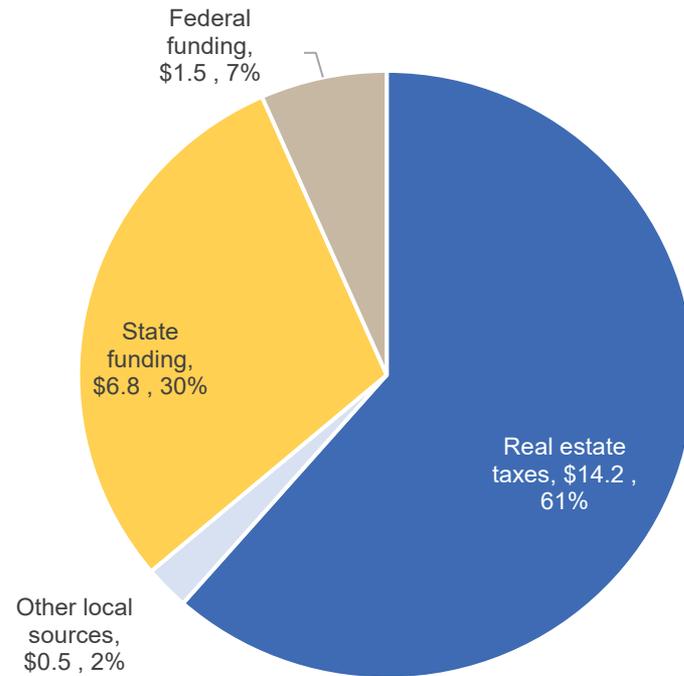


2022-23 budget: revenues

Pennsbury School District
\$232.8 million



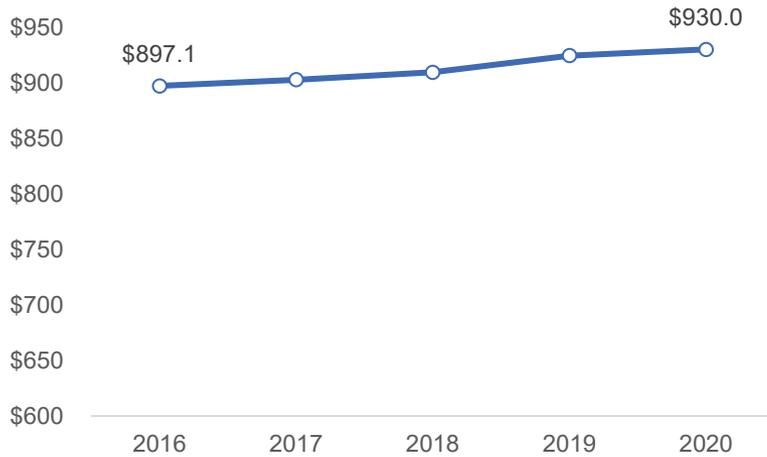
Morrisville School District
\$23.1 million



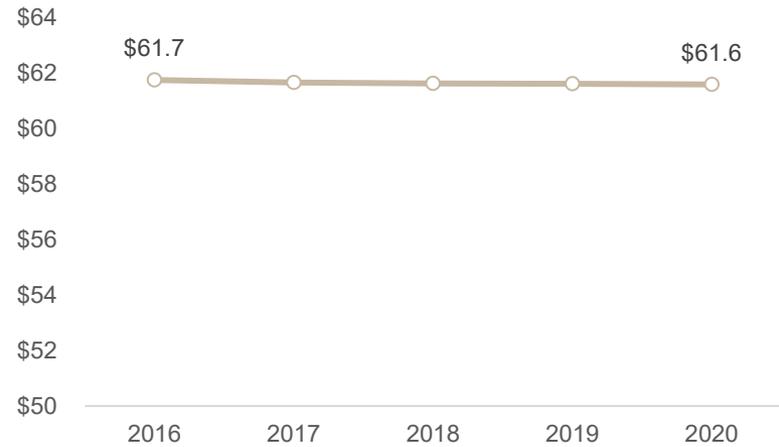


Assessed value trends

Pennsbury School District



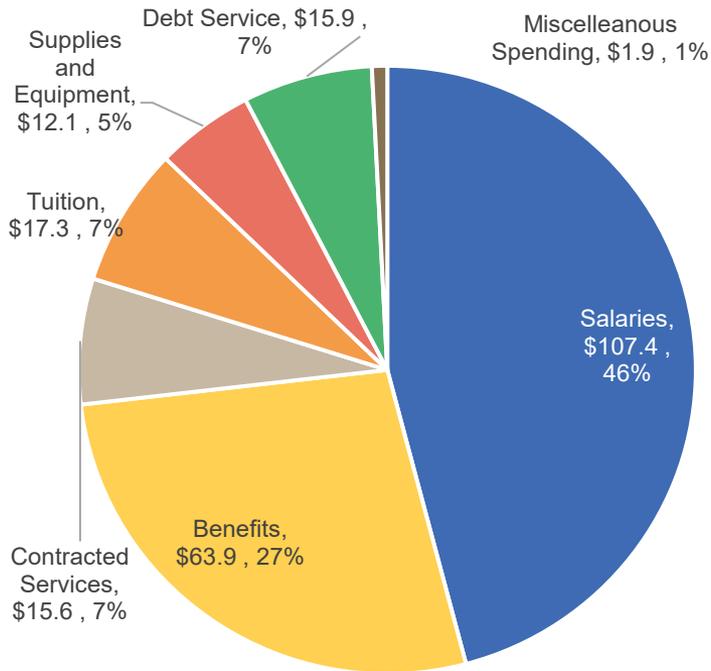
Morrisville School District



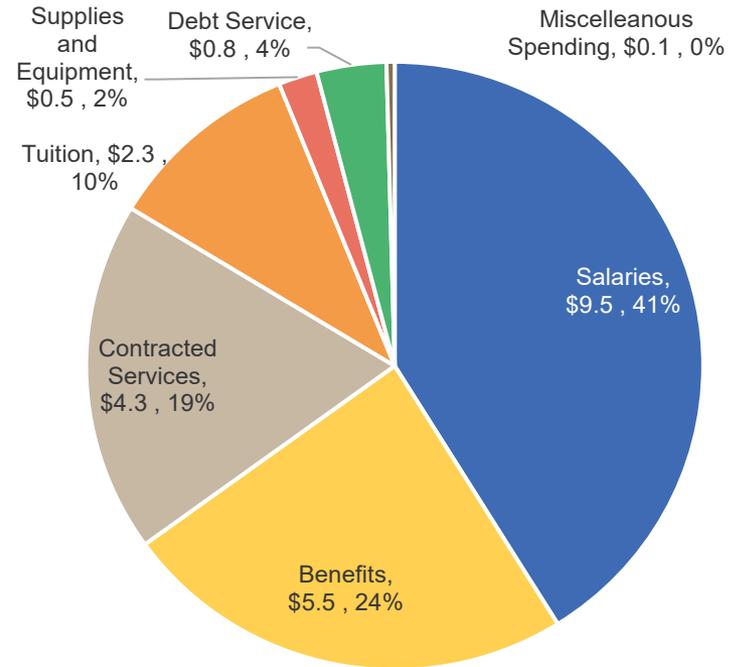


2022-23 budget: expenditures

Pennsbury School District \$234.1 million



Morrisville School District \$23.0 million





Discussion



Discussion

- ◆ What questions do you have about the information presented today?
- ◆ What did you find significant about the information that was presented today?
- ◆ What additional information about general enrollment, demographics and the two districts' budgets should the study team be aware of or focused on?
- ◆ How should the information presented today be taken into account in considering the feasibility of a merger of the two districts or tuitioning Morrisville students to Pennsbury?
- ◆ Is there any specific information you would like presented in our subsequent sessions covering academic programs and curriculum, school buildings and facilities, workforce and finances?



Public comment