## EDUCATIONAL FUNDING GAP

### <u>Unequal Distribution of Property</u> <u>Taxes</u>

Property taxes are the primary source of funding for public schools in the United States. This means that schools in low-income areas have fewer resources and less funding to offer a quality education.

#### **Lack of Resources**

Low-income community schools often lack access to textbooks, modern technology, and highly qualified teachers. This lack of resources puts students at a disadvantage, making it difficult to receive a quality education and reach their full potential.

# UNFAIR DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL FUNDS IN THE U.S

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#### WHAT IT LEADS TO

Public schools in low-income communities receive \$1,000 less per student in funding than schools in wealthier areas!

The school funding gap is a significant issue that needs to be addressed urgently. Every child deserves equal access to quality education, regardless of their socioeconomic status. Here are some of the impacts caused by the school funding gap on education, the reasons behind it, and the potential solutions that can help bridge the gap and ensure that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

#### **Racial and Economic Segregation**

When people are segregated by race and income, their children attend schools that reflect the same demographic makeup. Low-income and predominantly minority areas receive less funding, resulting in a lack of resources and lower quality education.

#### **Long Term Consequences**

Research has shown that students who attend well-funded schools have better outcomes later in life, including higher incomes and better health. On the other hand, students who attend underfunded schools are more likely to dropout of high school, and earn lower wages.

#### **Reasons Why**

- Racial and economic segregation: Residential segregation by race and economic status leads to unequal school funding and perpetuates the cycle of inequality.
- Schools in low-income communities of color lack access to resources that are standard in wealthier schools.

• The existing system of 16,000 school districts was created to concentrate resources in majority-white areas, contributing

to educational funding inequity.



#### **Possible Solutions**

- Increase funding for schools in low-income communities, which can be achieved through policies such as increased state funding, redistributing property taxes, and increasing federal funding for schools in high-poverty areas.
- Changing funding formulas, such as weighting low-income students' needs more heavily, can also help reduce the funding gap.

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