

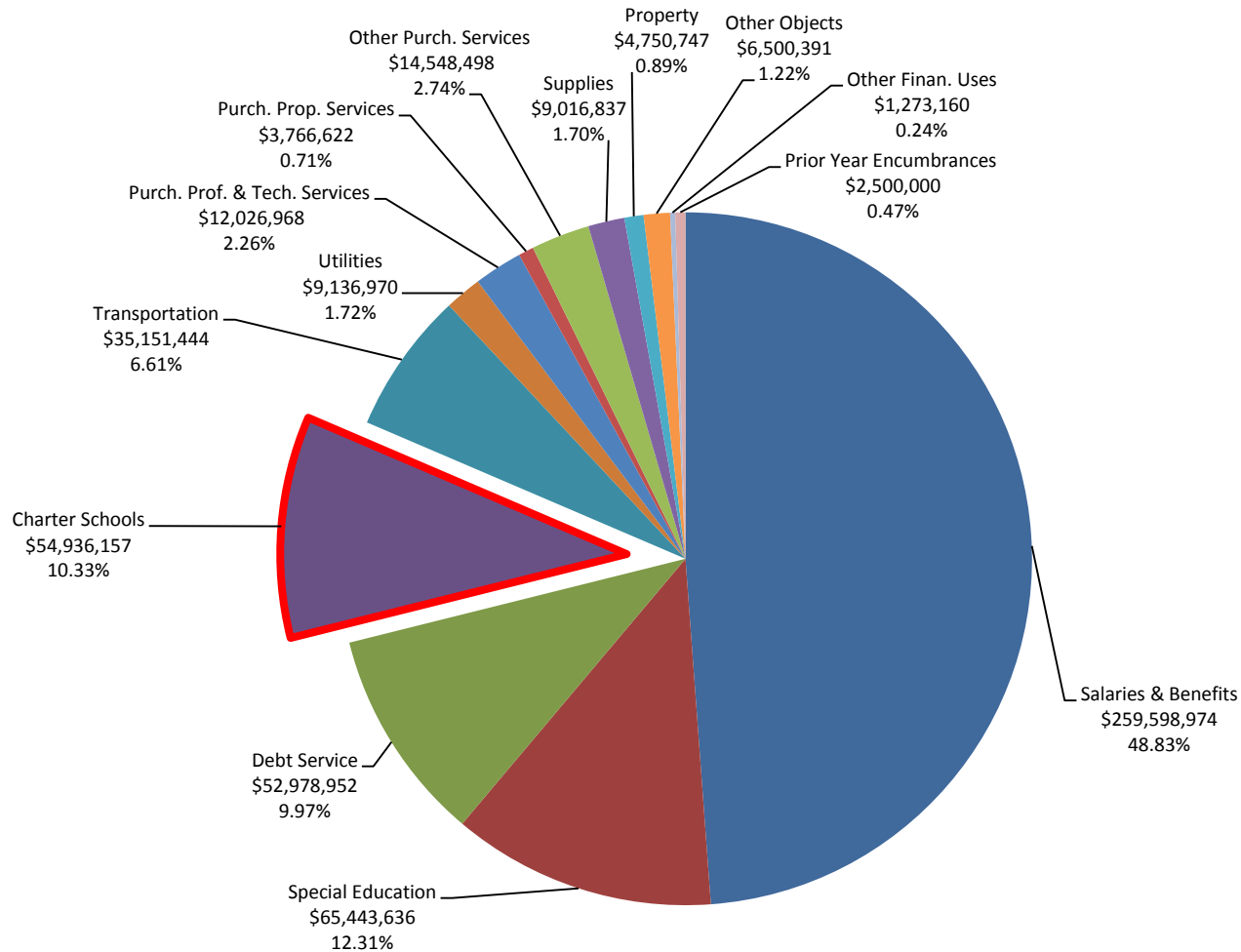
# Charter School Funding Formula

**Business/Finance Committee Meeting  
January 8, 2014**



# Charter School Expenditures

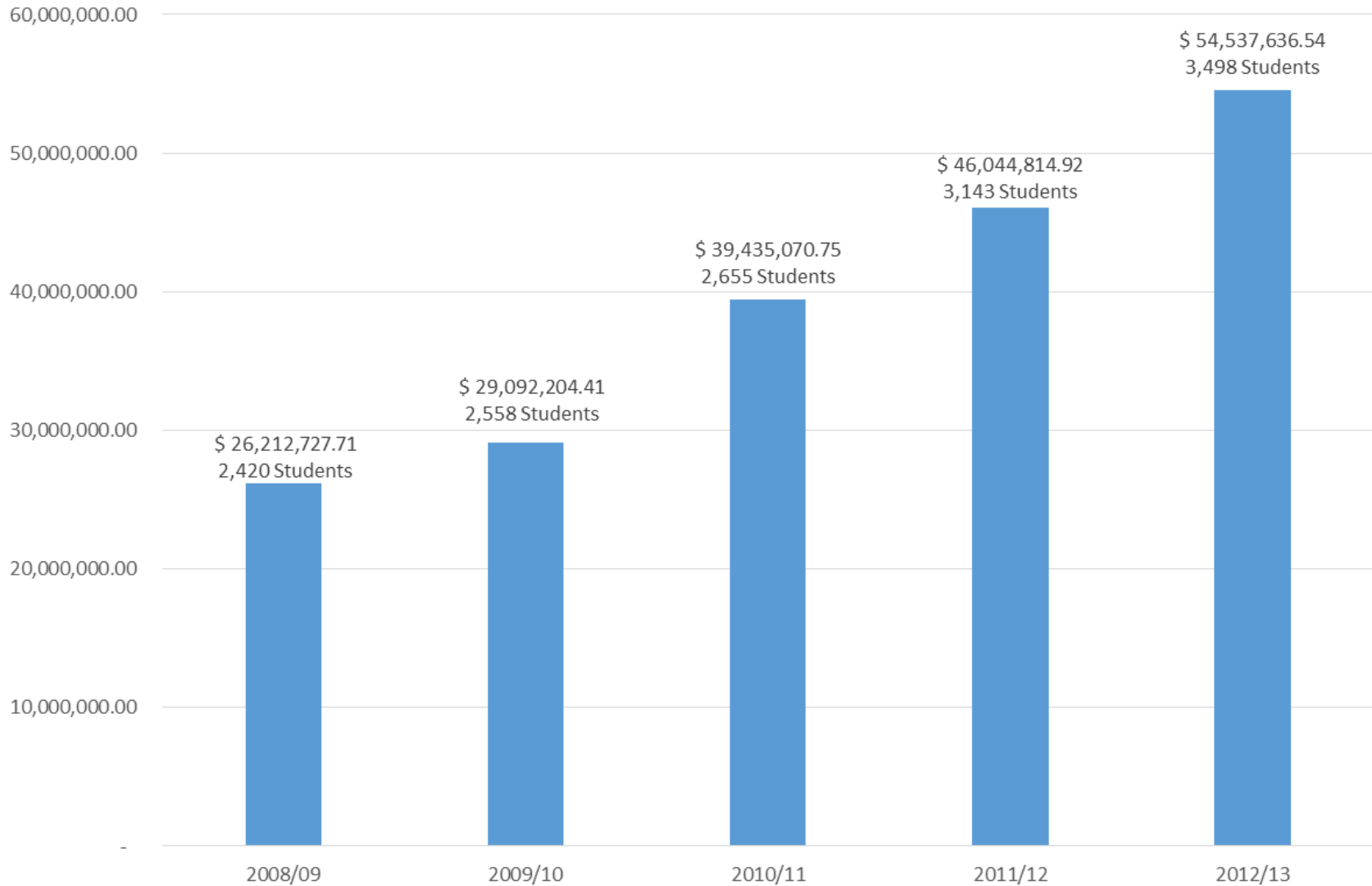
## School District of Pittsburgh 2014 Appropriations by Major Object



**Total Appropriations \$529,129,356**  
**Prior Encumbrances \$ 2,500,000**

# Charter School Expenditures (continued)

## 5-Year Annual Charter School Expenditures



# Charter School Law

- **On June 12, 1997, Senate Bill No. 123** bill allows for the establishment of charter schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Section 17-1725-A details how charter schools are funded.

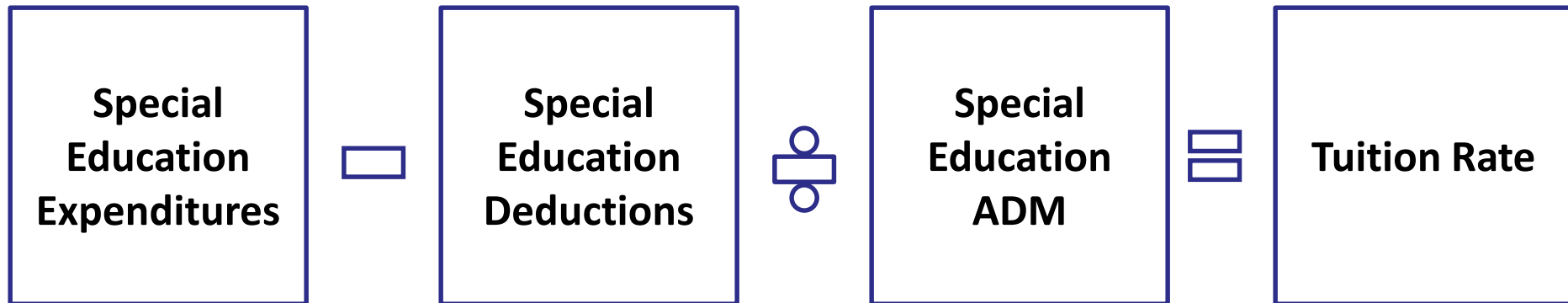
# How Charter Schools Are Funded

- Tuition Rate is based on prior year expenditures less deductions
- Deductions include student transportation, pre-kindergarten, federal programs, and debt service
- Expenditures are then divided by the average daily membership to determine the Charter School Tuition Rate

# Regular Education Funding



# Special Education Funding



# Issues with the funding formula

- **Foundation Funding**
- **Special Education Funding**
- **Double Dipping**
- **Cyber Charter School Funding**



# Other Charter School Funding

- **IDEA 611 Pass-Through Funding:** Federal Funding for Special Education expenses. It is passed through the School District to the Charter School. The district made \$471,485.00 in IDEA payments to charter schools in 2012-13
- **Grant Funding:** Charter schools are eligible to apply for grants

# Charter School Funding Reform and Challenges

- **A Charter School Reform Amendment is being considered by the State Senate. It includes:**
  - Eliminating the pension double dip for Charter Schools
  - Universities and Colleges can become authorizers of charter schools instead of local school districts
  - 10-year renewals instead of 5-year renewals
  - Eliminating enrollment limits on charter schools
- **Charter Schools are challenging the funding formula**