

SCHOOL FUNDING PROJECT

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA COMMITTEE
BOISE, IDAHO

Michael Griffith, Emily Parker & Julie Woods

April 17, 2018



EDUCATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATES

Your education policy team.



Presentation Overview

- Project goals
- Deliverables
- Regional focus group meetings
- Committee decisions
- Project timeline

Project Goals

- Create a new student-based funding formula for Idaho.
- The new formula will be created with:
 - ◆ Input from the public.
 - ◆ Direction from the committee.

Deliverables

- New student-based formula.
- Interactive school funding model.
- Dissemination plan.

Deliverables

New Student Based Formula

- Idaho currently has a resource allocation system.
 - ◆ ECS will help design a student-based funding system for Idaho.

Deliverables

New Student Based Formula

- Goals of the new formula:
 - ◆ Increased flexibility.
 - ◆ Be more adaptable to future changes.
 - ◆ Be functional under Idaho's current spending levels.
 - ◆ Ability to be phased in over a period of time.
 - ◆ Hold districts harmless during the transition.

Deliverables

New Student Based Formula

- ECS will deliver a preliminary formula to the committee in late August to early September.
- This preliminary formula will be used to help develop the interactive model.
- The final formula will be produced by ECS in October.

Deliverables

Interactive School Funding Model

- ECS will work with third-party contractors to create a working model of the new proposed formula.
- New model will be designed in an Excel spreadsheet.
- Model will be interactive so the committee (or public) can see how changes in policy would impact funding to local schools.

Deliverables

Dissemination Program

- ECS will work with the committee to create a dissemination program for the new formula, including materials such as:
 - ◆ Briefing papers.
 - ◆ Press releases.
 - ◆ Videos.
 - ◆ Public meetings.

Regional Focus Group Meetings

- Primary goal is to gain input from the public about what they would like to see in a new school funding formula.
- Secondary goal is to provide the public with an understanding of what a new formula may look like.

Regional Focus Group Meetings

- Taking place in up to 5 different locations around the state.
- Each focus group will consist of 2 sessions with approximately 12 participants each.
- Participants will include a range of occupations (teachers, admin, other) from various size schools.

Regional Focus Group Meetings

- ECS will work with the committee and legislative staff to identify the location of the meetings.
- ECS will work with state education organizations to identify meeting participants.

Other Public Input

- Would the committee like ECS to gain additional input from:
 - ◆ State level groups?
 - ◆ Business community?
 - ◆ Parents (or parent organizations)?
 - ◆ Others?

Committee Decisions

- ECS will provide research and the public will provide their input but it is the committee that will make decisions about the state's new funding formula.
- After receiving this input from the committee, ECS will move forward and create a new school funding formula.

Project Time-Line

Project begins:	April
Research:	April to Aug.
Regional meetings:	June to Aug.
Preliminary report:	Aug. to Sept.
Design of model:	Aug. to Sept.
Final report:	Late Oct.
Dissemination:	Oct. to Nov.

Ongoing communication with committee & staff.

Prior to the Work Beginning

- What questions do you have for us?
- Are there any issues you think should be addressed prior to the work beginning?

Questions?



Michael Griffith
School Finance
Strategist
mgriffith@ecs.org

Emily Parker
Policy Analyst
eparker@ecs.org