

UPDATE ON THE IDAHO SCHOOL FUNDING STUDY

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October 25, 2018



EDUCATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATES

Your education policy team.



Presentation Overview

- Beta testing the funding model
- Updates to funding model
- Review of the funding model
- Decisions needed to move forward
- Dissemination communication strategy

Beta Testing the Funding Model

Beta Testing the Funding Model: Timeline

- **September 5:** Presented 1st draft of funding model to Committee
- **September 14:** Sent beta testing letter to participants
- **September 21:** Sent 2nd draft of funding model to beta testing group
- **September 24:** Presented 2nd draft of funding model to Committee
- **September 24 – October 25:** Collected feedback from beta testing group
- **October 19:** Sent 3rd draft of funding model to beta testing group
- **October 25:** Presented 3rd draft of funding model to Committee

Beta Testing the Funding Model: Participants

- We sent the model to 71 beta testers, including:
 - ◆ Seven School Business Officials
 - ◆ Sixteen District Superintendents
 - ◆ Five School Board Members
 - ◆ One Human Resource Officer
 - ◆ Three Charter School Operators
 - ◆ Eleven people from state-level advocacy organizations
 - ◆ Three members of the legislature (not members of the Public School Funding Formula Committee)
 - ◆ Committee Staff, LSO Staff, and Members of the Public School Funding Formula Interim Committee

Open and Inclusive

- Public meetings
- Online survey
- Meeting with individuals and groups in Idaho
- Decisions made in public
- Beta testing the model

Updates to the Funding Model

Updates to the Funding Model

- Small building adjustment: There is now a "small school building adjustment" for those schools that qualify for the current adjustment.
- Large district adjustment:
 - ◆ We've included a large district adjustment for districts with over 20,000 students
 - ◆ The weight provided to these districts can be adjusted in the model.

Updates to the Funding Model

- District wealth adjustment:
 - ◆ The adjustment is based off of the current "Facilities wealth measure".
 - ◆ You can adjust the maximum amount of funding that this adjustment can provide to districts in the model.
- Changed G&T funding from a dollar amount to a weight.

Review of the Model

Decisions Needed to Move Forward

Questions for the Committee

- Include Wealth Adjustment?
- Final Decision on Weights?

ECS Recommended Weights

- At-Risk Students: *0.1 moving to 0.25*
- English Language Learners: *0.1 moving to 0.35*
- Special Education: *0.4 moving to 1.0*
- Gifted and Talented: *0.02 (for 10% of students)*
- Small district adjustment: 330 elementary and 840 secondary

BREAK

Dissemination Communication Strategy

Dissemination Communication Strategy

- Education Commission of the States will produce two products for the Committee:
 1. Two-Minute Video
 2. Accompanying Explainer

Dissemination Communication Strategy

- Who is the **audience** for these products?
 - ◆ Legislature
 - ◆ District Staff
 - ◆ General Public
- **How** will the video/explainer be distributed?
 - ◆ Shown during legislative proceedings
 - ◆ Posted on the committee's website
 - ◆ Emailed to districts

Dissemination Communication Strategy

- **When** will it be distributed?
 - ◆ Now?
 - ◆ During the legislative session?
 - ◆ After the legislation is passed?

- Do we want the video to use ECS **branding** or make it branding-neutral?

Dissemination Communication Strategy

What is the *primary purpose* of the video? (Please select one)

- After watching the video:
 - ◆ I have a good understanding of the new funding formula and why Idaho needs it.
 - ◆ I believe the new funding formula is necessary for Idaho students and am excited about this new approach.
 - ◆ My curiosity was peaked and now I want to learn more about this work ASAP.

Final Report and Potential Draft Legislation

Final Report

- Overview of Public Input
- Designing a New Funding Formula
- Structure of the New Formula
- Releasing the Idaho School Funding Model
- Resources
 - ◆ Proposal
 - ◆ Survey Results
 - ◆ Press Mentions