

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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CONTACT PERSON:

NAME: Linda Champion

PHONE: (850) 245-0406

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 17, 2012

TO: District School Superintendents
Charter School Directors

FROM: Pam Stewart

SUBJECT: 2012-13 Calculations of Reductions to Class Size Operating Funds (Prior to Appeals)

Attached are the calculations of reductions to class size operating funds based on the compliance summaries that were provided to you on November 29, 2012. Section 1003.03(4)(a), Florida Statutes (F.S.), requires a reduction in class size categorical funding for districts and charter schools that are not in compliance with the class size requirements established by the Florida Constitution. Attachment 1 is the reduction calculation, prior to appeals, for traditional public schools, and Attachment 2 is the reduction calculation, prior to appeals, for charter schools.

Section 1003.03(4)(c), F.S., authorizes the Commissioner to recommend to the Legislative Budget Commission by February 15, 2013, an alternate reduction amount if there is evidence that class size requirements were not met despite appropriate efforts to do so or because of an extreme emergency. Appeals have been received and documentation of each school's extenuating circumstances will be reviewed.

After completion of the appeals process, up to 25 percent of the reduction will be reallocated to districts and charter schools that are in compliance with class size requirements. The remaining

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balance will be restored to districts and charter schools that are not in compliance with class size requirements, but have submitted a certified plan by February 1, 2013, explaining the actions the school will take to ensure compliance by October 2013. Please note that the charter schools' reduction amount is independent of the traditional public schools' reduction amount and will be reallocated and restored only to charter schools. No school shall have an amount restored that is greater than the amount reduced.

Attachment 3 is the compliance plan template that accompanied the November 29, 2012, memorandum. Completed plans should be e-mailed to Linda Champion at Linda.Champion@fldoe.org. Districts and charter schools that submit a compliance plan after February 1, 2013, will not be eligible to participate in the restoration calculation.

If you have questions regarding the implementation of class size requirements, please call Linda Champion at (850) 245-0406.

PS/kt

Attachment 1 - District Preliminary Reduction Calculation
Attachment 2 - Charter School Preliminary Reduction Calculation
Attachment 3 - Compliance Plan Template

cc: District Finance Officers