

Implementing Transportation Funding Formula Advisory Group Recommendations, AQ

Agency: 350 Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Budget Period: 2009-11

Recommendation Summary Text (Short Description):

In 2006, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) issued a report that estimated the underfunding of school districts' pupil transportation programs to be over \$100 million. In response to this finding, the Legislature and Governor enacted SB 5114 in 2007 to require development of two options for a new pupil transportation funding system. The options will be delivered to the Governor and Legislature prior to December 1, 2008 for consideration in the 2009 Legislative session.

Due to changes in the accounting of pupil transportation expenditures, OSPI will be able to develop a more accurate estimate of actual underfunding related to to/from transportation costs. This data will be available December 2008.

This data is needed to evaluate which funding model will allow the Legislature to distribute funding for pupil transportation that more accurately reflects actual school transportation expenditures than the current system. Superintendent Bergeson's request will be based on the funding model recommended by the advisory group.

In addition, any changes made to the current allocation system for transportation operations costs will require an update of that system, which currently resides on VAX. A separate request titled "Transportation Allocation System" has been included in anticipation of a new funding formula.

Contact person

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