

Ted Strickland, Governor Deborah S. Delisle, Superintendent of Public Instruction

TO: Superintendents and Treasurers of Joint Vocational School Districts **FROM**: Kim Murnieks, Executive Director, Center for School Options and Finance

RE: January 2009 Foundation Payment

DATE: January 21, 2009

This payment reflects the factors based on Am. Sub. H.B. 119

SPECIAL NOTES:

Withholding Penalties

This payment reflects EMIS withholding penalties for some districts. Payment withholdings have been implemented for districts that have not met data reporting requirements as of 12/30/08. The withholding will not be reflected on the statement of settlement, thus, if the check or EFT received by your district does not match the amount on the statement of settlement it is likely your district was subject to EMIS withholding. For posting purposes, each line of the statement of settlement should be reduced by the same percentage that the overall payment has been reduced due to withholding.

For more information regarding the status of your district's October data submission, please contact your EMIS coordinator. Information regarding the reporting requirements and penalties can be found on the ODE web site (please search for "EMIS Data Submission" and click on the link to "October (K) Data Submission Requirements FY09".)

IEP Check System

As you know, each special needs child that has an IEP must have this IEP updated annually. Also, in order for each such pupil to be listed for special education weighted funding in one of the 6 funding categories on the SF-3, the pupil must be documented through EMIS as having a current IEP in place. For the past year ODE has been working internally and with districts to put in place a reporting and check system so this requirement can be reflected in the SF-3 payment process.

In order to give ODE and the districts an idea of the magnitude of the impact of this requirement, the IEP check system was implemented in this January payment based on October EMIS data checking for IEPs updated as of December 1, 2008. As reflected in many of the JVS districts' special education weighted calculations, it was found that approximately 602 pupils statewide were not reported as having an updated IEP and thus were counted among the "All other pupils" and not in one of the special education categories on the SF-3, resulting in a drop in the calculated special education weighted funding amount of about \$1.4 million statewide for FY09.



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This check system was implemented for this payment so that each JVS can see the impact of failing to document through EMIS that each student with disabilities has an updated IEP in place. This check system will not be used for the next SF-3 payment and the 602 pupils will be restored to their respective special education categories so that districts receive weighted funding for each student. It is important that all districts recognize the impact of not reporting proper documentation of updated IEPs and make every effort to update the required EMIS data for the submissions based on the February child count because this check system will be implemented for the February count data and beyond causing potential losses in special education weighted funding for pupils who are not documented through EMIS as having a current IEP in place. It is suggested that you consult with your EMIS coordinator concerning this issue.

JVS SF-3

- 1) This payment uses October count JVS ADM data submitted to EMIS as of 1/9/09. The October count data will be used as a proxy for the February count data until the actual February data become available.
- 2) Open enrollment and Other Adjustments calculations are based on data that was submitted to EMIS as of 12.19/08 (information comes from the traditional school SF-3 for January #1 payment)
- 3) This payment uses October CTE FTE data that was submitted to EMIS as of 1/9/09 and will be used as a proxy for the February data become available.
- 4) In this payment the check to see if an IEP is in place for each handicapped pupil is being implemented. Those students without a valid IEP were designated as "non-disabled" and will be counted in with "All other students" and not with the Special Ed.Categories for ADM. Therefore, they will not be paid for weighted special education funding until proper IEPs documented.
- 5) Some districts may notice slight changes in their recognized valuation due to corrections in carryover valuation data and changes in public utility valuation dispute settlements of member districts.

JVS Settlement

In this payment there were two EMIS withholding penalties made. See special note above.