

2009-10 Pre-K-12 Education
Budget Recommendations

A. Issues related to funding;

Capital Outlay

- a. Continue the policy that permits school districts to use up to \$65 per student for the purpose of paying property insurance premiums;
- b. Permit the purchase and upgrading of analytical and operational software;
- c. Permit the purchase of maintenance vehicles and equipment;
- d. Restore the .25 to the full 2 mills;
- e. Oppose any additional shifting of capital millage to the general operating fund.

Operational

- f. Increase to \$150 per student from the current \$100 cap the amount districts are allowed to generate from the local .25 discretionary millage they currently are authorized to levy;
- g. Merge the 0.25 Discretionary Millage Equalization Supplement and the 0.51 Discretionary Millage Compression Allocation policies into a unified 0.75 Discretionary Millage Compression Allocation;
- h. Recommit to Florida's full participation in the "Streamlined Sales Tax Project" – tax on internet sales and remote sales;
- i. Any categorical that does not need a separate calculation should be granted full flexibility;
- j. Restrict the allocation of district School Advisory Council lottery funds to an amount equal to or less than \$5 per student.
- k. Cap the growth of Corporate Tax or McKay Scholarship at current level.

B. Hold in abeyance or eliminate all state required bonus payment programs. Included in this provision are the following:

- a. School Recognition Funds
- b. Merit Award Program / Funds
- c. The Excellent Teacher Program
- d. Differentiated Salary Programs
- e. Advance Placement / International Baccalaureate / Advanced International Certificate of Education
- f. Reduce Teacher Lead Stipend to no more than \$100

C. Class Size Reduction Requirements:

- a. Delay implementation of the class-by-class
- b. Hold class size reduction penalties in abeyance until 2010-2011
- c. Maximize flexibility in statute for practical implementation

D. The Legislature should hold in abeyance the implementation of current requirements that are not specifically funded including:

- a. Elementary and middle school physical education requirements
- b. Reading Coaches / Career Academies / Ready to work
- c. Eighth grades declaration of major and minor fields of study and career involvement
- d. New high school grading system.
- e. Elimination of summer FCAT retakes.
- f. New district operated or contacted virtual instruction programs

E. Reduce requirements that increase administrative overhead including:

- a. Reduce requirements for audits to once every three years, when the audit is conducted by the Auditor General's Office
- b. Reduce the administrative overhead required by Differentiated Accountability and Response to Intervention
- c. Reduce the reporting requirements for FCAT