

# **Appendix D**

## **Aid to Schools**



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# Education Aid to Local Units of Government

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## Education Aid to Local Governments

Education Aid to Local Governments totals \$910.4 million in FY 2009, a \$25.7 million increase in total state funding relative to the FY 2008 revised budget, and a 2.9 percent increase in the state's commitment to financing public education within Rhode Island. Total Education Aid is defined to include local public schools, the School for the Deaf, Davies Career and Technical School, the Charter Schools, the Central Falls School District and the Metropolitan Career and Technical School, as well as support for teacher retirement and school housing aid. The following sections summarize changes to the various aid categories that comprise total FY 2009 Education Aid.

### ***Distributed Aid- Maintenance of the State's Effort with Continued Support for Central Falls***

In the extremely distressed fiscal environment surrounding the formulation of the FY 2009 Budget, the Governor has again reaffirmed his commitment to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) by proposing level funding of distributed education aid for each community. The single exception to this policy relates to those six communities that have experienced declines in the number of certified (aid-eligible) group home beds between March 14, 2007 and December 31, 2007. Per statutory changes enacted by the 2007 General Assembly, group home aid to these six districts (Cranston, Johnston, Providence, Woonsocket, Bristol/Warren, and Exeter/W. Greenwich) will be reduced by a total of \$885,000, corresponding to a total statewide bed decrease of 59 certified, aid-eligible beds. Further, to continue financing essential district operations while leveraging municipal fiscal participation, state support of the Central Falls school district increases by 3.9 percent, or \$1.7 million, relative to the revised FY 2008 level. Combining these two changes yields total FY 2009 distributed aid appropriations of \$691.7 million, a \$.8 million increase from the revised FY 2008 level.

### ***State Schools***

The State Schools- Davies Career and Technical School, Metropolitan Career and Technical School, and the Rhode Island School for the Deaf are collectively financed at \$33.5 million in general revenue, which constitutes a \$1.4 million increase from the revised FY 2008 Budget. This reflects financing of current services at each school, and continued support of the expansion of the Metropolitan School to an East Bay campus on Aquidneck Island. This campus commenced operations during the 2006-2007 school year and maintains a current enrollment of approximately 60 students.

### ***Non-Distributed Aid***

Several significant adjustments for the non-distributed categories of state education aid are also recommended for FY 2009. Notable among these are the elimination of both the Hasbro Children's Hospital educational grant and the School Breakfast subsidy, and a significant reduction in financing for SALT (On-Site) Visits. These modifications to the education aid program were determined following intensive deliberations on departmental priorities conducted by the Governor during the summer of 2007. The general revenue match for federal support of telecommunications access for public schools and libraries (the so-called E-Rate program) was likewise removed, to be funded exclusively through receipts of the Rhode Island Telecommunications Education Access Fund (RITEAF) beginning in FY 2009. The Progressive Support and Intervention (PS&I) Fund, which finances corrective intervention activities in the State's underperforming districts, is financed at \$2.7 million. The single largest component of non-distributed aid, direct aid to charter schools, increases \$2.9 million from the FY 2008 revised level to a total of \$29.8 million in FY 2009.

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# Education Aid to Local Units of Government

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## *Other Aid*

The FY 2009 budget also includes increases in other aid of \$21.9 million; \$7.3 million in school housing aid reimbursements and \$14.6 million in state contributions for teachers' retirement.

## *FY 2009 Education Aid Increases (Decreases) From the Revised FY 2008 Budget*

- Group Home Funding: (\$885,000)
- Central Falls School District: \$1,693,051
- Professional Development: \$2,960
- Hasbro Children's Hospital: (\$97,300)
- School Breakfast: (\$600,000)
- Telecommunications Access: (\$270,460)
- On-Site Visits (SALT):(\$251,057)
- Direct Charter School Aid: \$2,931,910
- Progressive Support and Intervention: (\$105,183)
- Metropolitan Career and Technical School: \$814,812
- School for the Deaf: \$53,805
- Davies Career and Technical School: \$490,118
- Teachers' Retirement: \$14,560,467
- School Housing Aid: \$7,332,272

## *Explanation of LEA Table*

The following table displays the FY 2008 and FY 2009 education aid budgets and their corresponding apportionment among the state's local and regional education agencies (LEAs). "Distributed LEA Aid" consists of the various categories of aid that are directly distributed to school districts on a regular (usually monthly) basis, such as General Aid, Targeted Aid, and funds for Student Equity. For completeness, general revenue financing of the Central Falls School District (including an allocation for indirect Charter School Aid) is also displayed in this section. "State Schools" include the Metropolitan School, Davies, and School for the Deaf. "Non-Distributed Aid" includes several categories of aid that are either utilized at the departmental level or are not distributed regularly to school districts. "Other Aid" consists of allocations for School Housing Aid and state contributions to the Teachers' Retirement Fund. For the purposes of this table, direct aid to charter schools is categorized as non-distributed.

## Education Aid to Local Units of Government

|                            | FY 2008<br>Revised   | FY 2009<br>Recommend | Difference*      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| <b>Distributed LEA Aid</b> |                      |                      |                  |
| Barrington                 | \$2,599,526          | \$2,599,526          | -                |
| Burrillville               | 13,854,743           | 13,854,743           | -                |
| Charlestown                | 2,002,838            | 2,002,838            | -                |
| Coventry                   | 20,075,081           | 20,075,081           | -                |
| Cranston                   | 35,580,911           | 35,475,911           | (105,000)        |
| Cumberland                 | 13,257,009           | 13,257,009           | -                |
| East Greenwich             | 1,949,761            | 1,949,761            | -                |
| East Providence            | 26,888,254           | 26,888,254           | -                |
| Foster                     | 1,416,463            | 1,416,463            | -                |
| Glocester                  | 3,213,847            | 3,213,847            | -                |
| Hopkinton                  | 6,241,352            | 6,241,352            | -                |
| Jamestown                  | 531,908              | 531,908              | -                |
| Johnston                   | 10,915,364           | 10,750,364           | (165,000)        |
| Lincoln                    | 7,403,268            | 7,403,268            | -                |
| Little Compton             | 368,810              | 368,810              | -                |
| Middletown                 | 10,497,116           | 10,497,116           | -                |
| Narragansett               | 1,897,159            | 1,897,159            | -                |
| Newport                    | 11,871,080           | 11,871,080           | -                |
| New Shoreham               | 106,345              | 106,345              | -                |
| North Kingstown            | 11,986,005           | 11,986,005           | -                |
| North Providence           | 13,382,872           | 13,382,872           | -                |
| North Smithfield           | 4,834,237            | 4,834,237            | -                |
| Pawtucket                  | 67,023,559           | 67,023,559           | -                |
| Portsmouth                 | 6,700,042            | 6,700,042            | -                |
| Providence                 | 194,109,756          | 193,869,756          | (240,000)        |
| Richmond                   | 6,188,615            | 6,188,615            | -                |
| Scituate                   | 3,407,183            | 3,407,183            | -                |
| Smithfield                 | 5,743,568            | 5,743,568            | -                |
| South Kingstown            | 10,548,698           | 10,548,698           | -                |
| Tiverton                   | 5,932,058            | 5,932,058            | -                |
| Warwick                    | 37,626,000           | 37,626,000           | -                |
| Westerly                   | 6,843,077            | 6,843,077            | -                |
| West Warwick               | 20,440,547           | 20,440,547           | -                |
| Woonsocket                 | 47,661,613           | 47,421,613           | (240,000)        |
| Bristol/Warren             | 20,498,190           | 20,438,190           | (60,000)         |
| Exeter/W Greenwich         | 7,661,019            | 7,586,019            | (75,000)         |
| Chariho District           | 398,334              | 398,334              | -                |
| Foster/Glocester           | 5,729,861            | 5,729,861            | -                |
| Central Falls              | 43,494,684           | 45,187,735           | 1,693,051        |
| <b>Subtotal</b>            | <b>\$690,880,753</b> | <b>\$691,688,804</b> | <b>\$808,051</b> |

*\*For all communities, decreases from FY 2008 Revised to FY 2009 represent drops in certified group home bed counts.*

## Education Aid to Local Units of Government

|                                     | FY 2008<br>Revised   | FY 2009<br>Recommend | Difference          |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Non-Distributed Aid</b>          |                      |                      |                     |
| On-Site Visits                      | \$396,921            | \$145,864            | (\$251,057)         |
| Textbook Expansion                  | 240,000              | 240,000              | -                   |
| Hasbro Children's Hospital          | 97,300               | -                    | (\$97,300)          |
| School Breakfast                    | 600,000              | -                    | (\$600,000)         |
| Professional Development            | 592,040              | 595,000              | 2,960               |
| Charter School-Direct Aid           | 26,844,840           | 29,776,750           | 2,931,910           |
| Progressive Support & Intervention  | 2,801,050            | 2,695,867            | (105,183)           |
| Speech Pathologist Salary Supplemer | -                    | -                    | -                   |
| Telecommunications Access           | 270,460              | -                    | (270,460)           |
| Subtotal                            | \$31,842,611         | \$33,453,481         | 1,610,870           |
| <b>State Schools</b>                |                      |                      |                     |
| Metropolitan School                 | \$11,487,734         | \$12,302,546         | \$814,812           |
| School for the Deaf                 | 6,570,993            | 6,624,798            | 53,805              |
| Davies School                       | 14,047,723           | 14,537,841           | 490,118             |
| Subtotal                            | \$32,106,450         | \$33,465,185         | \$1,358,735         |
| <b>Other Aid</b>                    |                      |                      |                     |
| Teachers' Retirement                | \$80,225,355         | \$94,785,822         | \$14,560,467        |
| School Housing Aid                  | 49,663,976           | 56,996,248           | 7,332,272           |
| Subtotal                            | \$129,889,331        | \$151,782,070        | \$21,892,739        |
| LEA Subtotal                        | \$690,880,753        | \$691,688,804        | \$808,051           |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>\$884,719,145</b> | <b>\$910,389,540</b> | <b>\$25,670,395</b> |

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Performance Measures