



AUGENBLICK,
PALAICH AND
ASSOCIATES



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Follow-up on Base and Weighted Student Count Approaches

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Overview

- **Recap of Last CSF Meeting**
- **Feedback from LEA CFOs**
- **Recommendations**

Recap: April CSF Meeting

- APA/WestEd provided additional analysis of practical implications and modeling of October 1 count approach
- Commission repealed recommendation from March meeting to move to current year October 1 count
- Commission recommended that APA/WestEd meet with LEA CFOs to gather input on the current quarterly ADE approach and a potential shift to a single-day enrollment count
 - Convened two focus groups: one for district CFOs and one for charter CFOs
- Commission also requested APA/WestEd model enrollment differences between quarterly ADE and single-day enrollment count options



Feedback from Focus Groups with LEA CFOs

- Overall, LEA CFOs favored keeping the current quarterly ADE approach:
 - They appreciate that it is responsive to changes in enrollment throughout the year
 - They did not express concerns about the true-up process
 - Many CFOs were newer to the position, still learning current funding structures, and reluctant to make changes
- CFOs expressed concern that single-day enrollment counts (either October 1 or March/April 1) would not accurately reflect their enrollment due to growth and decline during the school year



Feedback from Focus Groups with LEA CFOs, continued

- Districts with declining student enrollment felt that moving to a 3% hold harmless would be beneficial and address their needs
- Growing LEAs (specifically charters) supported changes to the Extraordinary Enrollment Growth Adjustment (EEGA) to address increases in enrollment
- Some discussion of weighted counts, but no consensus on how to approach counts
 - CFOs reported challenges related to at-risk volatility and inability to predict counts

Recommendation

- Recommendation given the feedback from the field:
 - Maintaining current quarterly ADE approach for base enrollment
 - Adjusting hold harmless provision to 3% instead of 5%
 - Adjusting EEGA rules
 - Reducing threshold to 15%, and allowing for adjustment if opening a new campus or multisite charter school, or adding a grade level
 - Continuing to use prior year October 1 counts for weighted student funding