



AUGENBLICK,
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Necessarily Small Schools Adjustment

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Presentation Overview

- Share stakeholder feedback
- Review updated list of necessarily small schools
 - Number of eligible schools
- Review recommended tiered implementation model
 - Including minimum threshold
 - Estimated impact of adjustment
- Additional considerations

Stakeholder Survey Questions

- What cost pressures do the small schools in your district face?
- Are there minimum staffing resources that are needed in your smallest schools? Do these staffing needs vary by school level (elementary, secondary or K-8/K-12 schools)?
- What other concerns, if any, do you have related to funding for necessarily small schools in the formula?

Survey Responses:

Cost Pressures/Challenges in Small Schools

- They require all the same components of the large schools, but at a much greater cost due to the small number of students
- Providing high quality education for all students in all grade levels is difficult in small schools and districts
 - Expectation to provide the same number of programs and types of programs to these students
- Distance increases costs of all resources significantly
 - Travel between schools

Survey Responses:

Cost Pressures/Challenges in Small Schools, continued

- Often compounded with issues of poverty
- Difficult to support students with special needs
- Attracting and retaining staff is difficult in isolated schools, particularly due to limited access to amenities, housing
- Enrollment is difficult to predict, which makes staffing challenging
- Funding capital and transportation

Survey Responses: Minimum Resources

- There are minimum staffing needs in smaller schools
 - Need to have much lower teacher/staff to student ratios in smaller schools
 - Even higher for high schools to have staffing to provide advanced coursework and electives
 - Distance too far to have shared positions
- Even in the small schools, need to have administrative assistant supports, food services, special educational services, counseling, technology, transportation, maintenance, and custodial services

Survey Responses:

Minimum Resources, continued

- Specific examples of minimum staffing:
 - In a school of 8 students, it still required a teacher, an aide, a custodian, a bus driver, and a part time grounds/maintenance person. (Estimated per student cost of \$49,000)
 - In a school of 13 students, 2 staff members were sufficient - a teacher and one instructional aide
 - When this school grew to 27 students, 2 staff members were not enough to ensure safety and staff rest periods

Survey Responses:

Other Concerns with NSS Funding

- Threshold of 50 students is too low, still face higher costs in larger small schools
 - Example: spend \$11,000 per student in a school of between 75 to 100 students
 - Not fully funding small schools will reduce base funding for other schools in a district
- Consider if the NSS adjustment should be different for elementary schools and secondary schools
- Difficult to evaluate without seeing full model and the impact compared to current expenditures
- Would like to gather cost/staffing information on necessarily small schools in Nevada and determine staffing ratios and adjustments based upon this analysis

Updated List of Necessarily Small Schools

- Updated list to exclude:
 - Charter
 - Virtual
 - STEM
 - Academy Schools
 - Magnet
 - Special Education
 - Achievement School District
 - Correctional/Detention Center/Treatment Facility
 - University
 - Adult education
 - Early childhood education

Necessarily Small Schools Identified by Size

Size Threshold	Number of Schools	Number of Districts
Less than 25 students	34	9
Less than 50 students	46	11
Less than 100 students	69	11
Less than 125 students	77	13
Less than 150 students	83	13

Recommended Necessarily Small Schools (NSS) Adjustment

- APA recommends tiered implementation of the NSS adjustment, and implementing a minimum threshold
 - Less than 7 students, minimum of 1 teacher and 1 assistant principal
 - Between 7-49 students, 1 teacher per 7 students and 1 assistant principal
 - Between 50-74 students, 1 teacher per 9 students and 1 assistant principal
 - Between 75-99 students, 1 teacher per 11 students and 1 assistant principal
 - Between 100-124 students, 1 teacher per 13 students and 1 assistant principal
 - Between 125-149 students, 1 teacher per 15 students and 1 assistant principal
- Generated per student funding is net a given district's size adjusted base funding amount

Generated Amounts from NSS Adjustment

Enrollment	Small School Total	Per Pupil
5	\$191,164	\$38,233
15	\$280,798	\$18,720
25	\$392,841	\$15,714
50	\$548,456	\$10,969
75	\$647,484	\$8,633
100	\$716,042	\$7,160
125	\$766,317	\$6,131
149	\$891,805	\$5,985

- Assuming the successful schools base of \$6,197 from APA study, tiering the adjustment would intersect with the base amount at around 125 students
 - With a higher base or in a district that receives a district size adjustment, this intersection would be at a lower enrollment point

Estimated Impact of NSS Adjustment

- Two different base amounts are shown for illustrative purposes, would vary by final base funding amount
 - Assumes APA district size adjustment in place in both scenarios
 - As noted, the higher the base amount, the less funding is generated through the NSS adjustment and the lower the school size that receives additional funding

	Up to 50	Up to 100	Up to 125	Up to 150
2018 Successful Schools base (\$6,197)	\$8,077,099	\$11,711,146	\$11,824,092	No additional cost
Higher base (\$7,500)	\$6,673,437	\$8,643,088	No additional cost	No additional cost

Additional Considerations

- Following implementation of the recommended tiered NSS adjustment:
 - Consider collecting detailed staffing and expenditure information for the schools on the necessarily small schools list, up to 150 students, to ensure generated funding from the NSS adjustment is sufficient to address minimum needs
 - Explore staffing needs to offer high quality education opportunities in smallest schools as part of the optimal funding discussion
 - Continue to engage stakeholders once full model is available



Questions?