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MEMORANDUM

May 2000

TO: Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Kathleen Shea, Manager
Agency Finance & Management Assistance

SUBJECT: CORRECTIONS FOR SCHOOL BUSINESS BULLETIN NO. 14

Two changes have been made to the following item in School Business Bulletin No. 14. Please share this information with your business office or anyone in your district that would have received the newsletter.

3. Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Funding Change – Page 2

The advanced LEP allocation will be based on the number of LEP students reported through the Electronic Data Reporting System (EDRS). All Average Daily Membership (ADM) and LEP projections will be reported through this system. In previous years, districts reported their projections on form ED-00035, Enrollment Projections Report.

The Department will seed the EDRS with LEP and ADM counts at the district and site level. Projected data for Fiscal Years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 will be based upon estimates reported by school districts during the summer of 1999 and any updates made throughout the year. Projected data for 2002-2003 will be based upon 2001-2002 estimates and applying a grade progression ratio of 1 for grades 1-12. Early Childhood, kindergarten handicapped and kindergarten counts will be held to the numbers estimated for the 2001-2002 school year. Site data will be estimated by pro-rating the percent of students enrolled at a school site as of October 1, 1999.

District level data will be used to determine advanced payments. The site level data will be used to compute the initial allocation of general education revenue for the January and June reporting periods as required by M.S. § 126C.23, subd.5.

LEP payments beginning July 15, 2000 will reflect the LEP numbers reported during the summer of 1999 and any updates made during the year. Payments beginning in late September will reflect changes in LEP estimates if districts amend their data through EDRS. For example, a district which moves from no LEP enrollment to one LEP student at any time during the school year can begin receiving funds if the district's LEP pupil projection is changed from 0 to 1. The final payment made for the school year (the clean-up payment) will balance any discrepancies between the district's LEP pupil projections and the actual LEP enrollment as reported in MARSS.

Detailed instructions on how to use the system, the methodology used to seed the system and reporting deadlines will be included in the levy materials that will be mailed out in mid-June. Also included will be a copy of the projected district and site level data that will be posted to the EDRS. It is expected that the EDRS will be available to districts by mid-June.

Please note that the LEP aid calculation for F.Y. 2001 has been changed by the 2000 education bill. For F.Y. 2001 and later, marginal cost pupil units are equal to the greater of the current year count or 77% of the current year count plus 23% of the prior year count. This change applies to the regular LEP formula (\$584 times "marginal cost" count of LEP pupils). The LEP concentration aid formula is not affected. LEP concentration aid continues to be computed using the current year count for all districts.