

From: Thomas R. Luna [trluna@sde.idaho.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2012 7:22 AM
Subject: Pay for Performance update

Dear Superintendents and Charter School Administrators,

As the State Department of Education is working to finalize the calculations for pay-for-performance, we have received many inquiries from educators, legislators, media and others as to the progress of these calculations and what happens if Proposition 2 is repealed on November 6. I want to ensure all schools have the most up-to-date information around this issue.

On Monday, October 29, 2012, the State Department of Education finalized calculations for the state share of pay-for-performance. This information was made available to all school districts. Now, the Department is working with local school districts to calculate local share data. We expect to finalize these calculations by November 9. At that time, the Department will release information publicly on which schools have qualified to receive pay-for-performance bonuses. We will not release data publicly before that time since teachers must reach goals set at both the state and local level within their school in order to receive a bonus.

As we have said in the past, the State Department of Education can and therefore will distribute pay-for-performance funding to districts on November 15, even if Proposition 2 is repealed, because the law will not officially be repealed until November 21. However, uncertainty remains if teachers who have earned bonuses will receive this funding. The question is whether or not districts would then have legal authority to distribute this funding to teachers after November 21. The State Department of Education has been working with the Attorney General's office on this issue for several months. The answer to this question remains uncertain as of today; however, we have asked the Attorney General's office for further guidance and will forward their official opinion on the matter to you as soon as we receive it.

I hope this helps to clarify some of the questions you may have about pay-for-performance now and going forward. If you have additional questions, please let us know.

Thanks,

Tom



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