



FINANCE COUNCIL UPDATE

November 16, 2017
Fall FSFOA Conference
Tampa, Florida

A LITTLE ABOUT THE FINANCE COUNCIL

- 21 member Council of Finance Officers
 - 5 small districts (up to 6,000 students)
 - 6 medium districts (6,001 to 30,000 students)
 - 7 large districts (> than 30,000 students)
 - 3 Ex-Officio Members
 - Linda Champion and Joy Frank
- Meet at least 4 times per year
- Sponsored by DOE

FINANCE COUNCIL PRIORITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-19

- **Maintain Required Local Effort (RLE)** – The Legislature has reduced the RLE school tax rate for the past two years creating a structural imbalance in the state budget.
- **Restore Local Capital Outlay Millage (LCOM) Authority to 2.00 Mills** - Authority must be restored to local school boards to levy up to 2.00 mills within their county to meet the capital needs of both traditional and charter public schools.
- **Increase Teacher Salaries** - in a meaningful sustainable manner that provides a livable wage commensurate with the role and responsibilities of this critical profession. Florida continues to trail the country in teacher salaries and will be severely challenged in the years ahead to adequately staff classrooms with qualified teachers given the expected national shortage.

COMMISSIONER'S BUDGET 2018-2019

- Proposed increase \$769.6 million
- Out of the \$769.6 million, \$534 million is from local funding and \$235.6 million is from the state
- \$200.00 per UWFTE
- An increase of 2.74%
- Tax roll increase projected at 6.15%

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET 2018-2019

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- Out of the \$769.6 million, \$534.3 million is from local funding and \$235.3 million is from the state
- \$200.00 per UWFTE
- An increase of 2.74%
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CURRENT CHALLENGES

- Hurricanes Irma, Maria and Nate:
 - Of the 67 school districts, only a handful of districts in the northwest region were spared
 - 73 percent of Florida school districts were closed a minimum of 4 additional days beyond the mandatory 2-day closing
 - FEMA Reimbursements
 - Displaced Students
 - Osceola 1,000 new students from Puerto Rico
 - Make sure you are familiar with the Guidance to School Districts for Enrolling Students Displaced by the Hurricanes

CURRENT CHALLENGES

- House Bill 7069
 - Schools Districts are required to distribute capital outlay funds to charter schools no later than February 1st
 - DOE memo requesting debt service obligation incurred as of March 1, 2017. Memo is due to DOE by Nov 17th. Use the budget amount
 - School of Hope Implementation
 - Florida Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Programs
 - \$6,000 based on ACT/SAT scores
 - \$1,200 highly effective
 - Up to \$800 effective
 - FICA/Social Security

PENDING ITEMS FOR COUNCIL

- Alternative submission dates for ESE 348 and ESE 145 of the AFR
- FTE Recalibration
- State funding for operating shelters
- Revision of Chapter 8 – Internal Accounts – Red Book

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Purpose

- Develop a comprehensive training program outlining school finance related topics for which participants receive a certificate after completion of the coursework and attain a successful demonstration of the course learning objectives.

Potential Benefits

- Career advancement for participants
- Enhance school district's ability to fill vacancies with qualified applicants
- Help school districts strategically develop talent
- Succession Plan

Time

- Two-Year Program
 - Meet at least quarterly

Program Structure

- Face-to-Face Training
- Online courses
- On-the-Job training
- Mentors

Tuition

- Annual Tuition per Participant



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION