

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Natalie Grange, CPA CFE
Director of School Finance

DATE: January 6-7, 2016

INFORMATION: Fiscal Year 2016 Student Population Under-Projection

Background:

In November 2014 the Common Data Committee (CDC) established student count projections for the 2015-2016 school year, which were used to formulate the FY2016 Minimum School Program (MSP) appropriations.

Key Points:

The student projection established by the CDC in November 2014 was 630,104. October 1, 2015 headcounts totaled 633,895, resulting in an under-projection of 3,791 students. Headcounts are translated into growth percentages and ultimately WPU's. The WPU's are part of the allocation formulas that then quantify the total cost of each MSP program and formulate the amounts sent to each LEA.

The under-projection resulted in a current year deficit of approximately \$17 million amongst the various MSP programs. The memo that follows provides details of the current year deficit by program, provides information regarding carryover balances from FY2015, the process by which the final basic levy revenue is determined, and options for funding the FY2016 MSP program. The memo also discusses the FY2017 CDC process, student estimates, and information regarding using carryover balances.

Anticipated Action:

Informational Only.

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