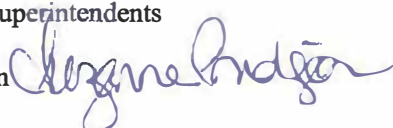




Ben Gibson, *Chair*
Ryan Petty, *Vice Chair*
Members
Monesia Brown
Esther Byrd
Grazie Pozo Christie
Kelly Garcia
MaryLynn Magar

CONTACT PERSONS:
NAME: Josh Bemis
Justin Tarin
PHONE: 850-245-0405
850-245-0411

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents
FROM: Suzanne Pridgeon 
DATE: December 22, 2023
SUBJECT: **Preliminary Eligibility for the 2023-24 Florida School Recognition Program**

Pursuant to [section \(s.\) 1008.36, Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#), attached is the preliminary list of schools determined to be eligible for the 2023-24 Florida School Recognition Program. All schools on this list are currently eligible for an award; however, schools listed as having incomplete grades will remain eligible only if the finalized grade does not invalidate eligibility.

The appeals window for this year's school grades closes on January 24, 2024. At this time, school award amounts cannot be calculated because additional schools may be added to the list of eligible schools, and the \$200 million appropriation is allocated based on the number of full-time equivalent students of all eligible schools. Schools can use the range between \$155 and \$175 per FTE for planning purposes; although, the final amount may still fall outside this range. Final grades will be released several weeks after the appeals process closes, and awards will be calculated and distributed shortly after that. Please note that, if a school's staff and school advisory council cannot reach an agreement on the use of a school's award by February 1, 2024, the award must be equally distributed to all classroom teachers currently teaching in the school, pursuant to s. 1008.36(4), F.S. Because awards will not be distributed prior to this date, eligible schools should be proactive in establishing an agreement on how future funds will be used.

An expenditures survey on how each school used its Florida School Recognition Program funds will be sent to school districts later this fiscal year to comply with the proviso requirements in specific appropriation 83 in the 2023 General Appropriations Act, codified in [Chapter 2023-239](#). Should you have any questions regarding school eligibility, please call Justin Tarin at 850-245-0411. If you have questions regarding the distribution or use of funds, please call Josh Bemis at 850-245-0405.

SP/jb

Attachment

cc: District Finance Officers
Juan Copa, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement
Mark Eggers, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Division of Finance and Operations
Li Liu, Bureau Chief, School Business Services
Josh Bemis, Educational Policy Director, Office of Funding and Financial Reporting
Justin Tarin, Bureau Chief, Accountability Reporting

Suzanne Pridgeon
Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations