

**Emergent Design & Development Inc.**  
**Legislative Update**  
**April 28, 2008**

It may be hard to believe, but there is only 5 days left in the regular Legislative Session.

Usually we wait until the Governor has signed the budget before we send out information. This year however, there is so much confusing information that we felt it would be better to address the issue early. At the same time, I believe that we can clarify the issue and help everyone understand the conflicting budget information.

Generally, when we compare budgets, we compare the budget that passed last May with the budget that will pass this May. Some media articles do exactly that.

Other people like to compare the budget that will pass to the budget that passed during this year's special session. Some media articles do that.

Some people like to compare the budget that will pass in May with the budget information from the 4<sup>th</sup> calculation of the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). Many media articles do that.

The percentage of change reported in each of these articles is vastly different and confuses voters across Florida. We will use all three comparisons for the **Base Student Allocation** (BSA) and the **unweighted dollars per student**. We will also itemize some specific items in order to demonstrate the difference in the budgets.

**BASE STUDENT ALLOCATION**

Budget May 2007	\$4163.47	
Budget Special Session	\$4134.95	loss of \$28.52, compared to 5/07
Budget 4 <sup>th</sup> Calculation	\$4079.74	loss of \$83.73, compared to 5/07
Budget May 2008	\$3958.95	loss of \$204.52, compared to 5/07

**FUNDS PER UNWEIGHTED FTE**

Budget May 2007	\$7,305.79	
Budget Special Session	\$7,205.81	loss of \$99.98 compared to 5/07
Budget 4 <sup>th</sup> Calculation	\$7,128.22	loss of \$177.57 compared to 5/07
Budget May 2008	\$6,985.96	loss of \$319.83 compared to 5/07

**TOTAL STATE FUNDING**

2007-2008	\$9,703,762,012	
2008-2009	\$8,981,444,603	loss of <u>\$722,317,409</u>

**TOTAL LOCAL FUNDING**

2007-2008	\$9,041,332,645	
2008-2009	\$9,401,320,181	increase of <u>\$359,987,536</u>

**This the first time since implementation of the FEFP that local funds have exceeded state funds for education k-12.**

**COMPARISON OF SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS (5/07 VS 5/08)**  
**COMPARISON AS OF MAY 25, 2008**

<b><u>BUDGET ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>MAY 07</u></b>	<b><u>4<sup>TH</sup> CALC.</u></b>	<b><u>MAY 08</u></b>
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS	\$271,944,498	\$266,449,169	\$258,722,987
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION	\$493,566,586	\$483,592,820	\$469,575,242
CLASS SIZE REDUCTION	\$2,708,412,008	\$2,640,719,730	\$2,809,079,054
TEACHER LEAD	\$48,021,406	\$48,021,406	\$36,639,506
MERIT AWARD PROGRAM	\$47,800,977	0	\$32,072,461
READING ALLOCATION	\$116,909,260	\$114,546,811	\$111,155,392
SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION	\$736,402,596	\$721,521,711	\$699,877,022
SAFE SCHOOLS	\$77,150,000	\$75,590,988	\$73,352,945
SCHOOL RECOGNITION	\$263,449,842	\$258,126,169	\$217,406,176

**The reason that the Merit Award Program was funded at zero in the 4<sup>th</sup> calculation is that the item was taken as a budget cut with the understanding that the budget item would be funded in July 2008 for the teachers that were eligible in 2007-08.**