

FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION

October 24, 2002

SUBJECT: Academic Improvement Trust Fund Use Approval

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Approval item: Request for Use Approval for Academic Improvement Trust Fund.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The proposals for use of funds from the Academic Improvement Trust Fund were formerly approved by the State Board of Community Colleges (SBCC) as required by Section 1011.85 (formerly 240.36(6)(c)), Florida Statutes. Several years ago, the members of the SBCC delegated this approval to the Executive Director.

Chapter 2001-170, Laws of Florida, abolished the State Board of Community Colleges. The duties and responsibilities of the Board were transferred to the Florida Board of Education by a Type Two Transfer.

Therefore, the board of trustees of each community college and the Florida Board of Education are responsible for determining the uses for the proceeds of their respective trust funds. Such uses of the proceeds shall be limited to expenditure of the funds for:

- (1) Scientific and Technical Equipment;
- (2) Other activities that will benefit future students as well as students currently enrolled at the community college and that will improve the quality of education at the community or in the community college system;
- (3) Scholarships, loans, or need-based grants.

The following colleges have submitted requests for use of these funds:

-Lake-Sumter Community College - \$133,000 (\$98,000 will be used to purchase computers, laptops and educational equipment for faculty and staff, and \$35,000 will be used to enhance student participation in the performing arts and theatre productions through the performing arts series.)

-Pensacola Junior College - \$6,600 will be used to purchase a Roland Teacher Lab System, Roland Digital Piano for use in the Music program.

-St. Johns River Community College - \$4,163.34 will be used to fund scholarships for the following: Sherertz Scholarship, Faculty Scholarship, Hudson Scholarship, Olivia Lay Scholarship, Emily Tanner/Florida Furniture Scholarship, and Phil Sargent Memorial Scholarship.

The community college boards of trustees have approved the uses of these funds and have certified that the uses meet the criteria stated in law. It is the opinion of the staff of the Division of Community Colleges that the colleges have complied with the requirements stated in statute and recommend Board approval of these uses from the Academic Improvement Trust Fund.

Supporting Documentation Included: Request for Use Approval Forms submitted by the above colleges.

Facilitators/Presenters: Ed Cisek