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MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents
Charter School Directors

FROM: Pam Stewart

DATE: January 18, 2018

SUBJECT: 2017-18 Calculations of Reductions to Class Size Operating Funds (Prior to Appeals)

Attached are the calculations of reductions to class size operating funds based on the compliance summaries that were provided to you in the January 5, 2018, memorandum. Section 1003.03(4)(a), Florida Statutes (F.S.), requires a reduction in class size categorical funding for districts and charter schools that are not in compliance with the class size requirements established by the Florida Constitution. The attachments list the reduction calculations, prior to appeals, for traditional public schools, charter schools and district-operated schools of choice.

Section 1003.03(4)(c), F.S., authorizes the Commissioner of Education to recommend to the Legislative Budget Commission, by February 15, 2018, an alternate reduction amount if there is evidence that class size requirements were not met despite appropriate efforts to do so or because of an extreme emergency. As noted in the January 5, 2018, memorandum, the deadline for submitting appeals was January 12, 2018.

After review of the appeals and completion of the appeals process, up to 5 percent of the Base Student Allocation, not to exceed 25 percent of the reduction amount, will be reallocated to traditional public schools, charter schools and district-operated schools of choice that are in compliance with class size requirements. A school district's traditional public schools and district-operated schools of choice all must be in compliance with class size requirements for the school district to be eligible for a reallocation in either category; however, charter schools are eligible for a reallocation regardless of the sponsoring district's compliance status. The remaining balance will be restored to traditional public schools, charter schools and district-operated schools of choice that are not in compliance with class size requirements, but have submitted a certified plan by February 1, 2018, explaining the actions the school will take to ensure compliance by October 2018. Please note that the reduction amount for each category of schools (i.e., traditional public schools, charter schools and district-operated schools of choice)

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is independent of the reduction amounts for the other categories of schools and will be reallocated and restored only to that category of schools. No school shall have an amount restored that is greater than the amount reduced.

Attachment 4 is the compliance plan template that accompanied the January 5, 2018, memorandum. Completed plans should be sent to K12Verify@fldoe.org. Compliance plans for traditional public schools or district-operated schools of choice must be certified by the school board. Compliance plans for charter schools must be certified by the charter school's board of directors. Traditional public schools, charter schools and district-operated schools of choice that submit a compliance plan after the February 1, 2018, deadline will not be eligible to participate in the restoration calculation.

If you have questions regarding the implementation of class size requirements, please call Linda Champion at 850-245-0406.

PS/jb

Attachment 1 – Preliminary Reduction Calculation for Traditional Public Schools
Attachment 2 – Preliminary Reduction Calculation for Charter Schools
Attachment 3 – Preliminary Reduction Calculation for District-Operated Schools of Choice
Attachment 4 – Compliance Plan Template

cc: District Finance Officers