STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
POST OFFICE BOX 94064, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9064
Toll Free #: 1-877-453-2721
http://www.louisianaschools.net

DATE: July 24, 2008

CIRCULAR: 1111

TO: Superintendent, Recovery School District, Orleans Parish Administrators and Board Presidents, Type 5 Charter Schools, Orleans Parish

FROM: Paul G. Pastorek
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: FY2008-09 MFP Funding

The FY2008-09 MFP Formula adopted by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education was adopted by the Legislature in the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature. The MFP Resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 207, prescribes how the Recovery School District (RSD), both Operated Schools and Charter Schools, is funded in partnership with the Orleans Parish School District (OPSB), the district of prior jurisdiction.

Student Count

In order to calculate the MFP allocation amounts for the RSD, the student counts for the RSD and OPSB are combined. A projected student count of 32,904 is provided for in the formula, with 9,594 students being in Orleans and 23,310 in the RSD. The 23,310 students projected for the RSD are divided among the RSD Operated Schools and the RSD Charter Schools. Due to the expected increase in student counts, the OPSB, RSD Operated Schools and RSD Charter Schools will be provided initial funding based on the anticipated Fall 2008 student count. Funding will be adjusted based on October 1, 2008 student counts as reported in the Student Information System (SIS) database.

As the registration process progresses and actual student enrollment numbers are available, the MFP Resolution provides that the RSD and the OPSB have the option to ask the State Superintendent to increase the number of students on which monthly payments are made if it is determined that the actual student enrollment will exceed the projected enrollment prior to October 1, 2008.

State and Local Per Pupil Amount

The total MFP State Share and Local Revenue Allocation to RSD Operated and Chartered Schools is $7,390 per pupil. This includes $3,204 per pupil from the MFP State Share and $4,186 from the Local Revenue Allocation.

The RSD State Share is based on the Orleans Parish School Board's Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) State Share per pupil amount from Levels 1, 2, and 3, prior to the continuation of the FY2007-08 pay raise, from the most recent, legislatively approved MFP formula. The MFP formula calculation for FY2008-09 was finalized with the issuance of Circular 1110 on June 30, 2008; therefore, the state per pupil amount is final.

The RSD Local Revenue Allocation is calculated utilizing estimated FY2007-08 total ad valorem and sales tax revenue amounts, excluding those taxes dedicated to debt, tax collection fees, and expenditures for facility acquisition and construction. The local per pupil amount of $4,186 is determined by dividing the

FY2007-08 estimated local revenues by the projected number of students. The local per pupil amount for FY2008-09 will be adjusted by dividing the estimated FY2007-08 local revenues by actual October 1, 2008 students. **The local per pupil amount may increase or decrease, depending on the actual number of students in Orleans Parish on October 1, 2008.**

RSD Charter School Administrative Fee

The administrative fee charged by the RSD to cover district-level expenditures such as business services, facilities management, and communications is 2% ($148) of the state and local allocation amount.

Special Education Reserve

In FY2008-09, funding for students with disabilities continues to be distributed using a differentiated funding formula. The exceptionalities are divided by level exactly as they were in FY2006-07 and FY2007-08. (See Attachment A) For the first four months of the school year, schools will be paid on an average of the three per pupil amounts, at $8,241 per pupil. Once the October special education count is available, these payments will be adjusted upward or downward, as is applicable per the official student data, and three levels of funding will be provided per actual student characteristics.

The Special Education Reserve amount is $711 per pupil. This reserve, per pupil amount is based on the average percentage of students with disabilities from the February 1, 2008 student count for the RSD.

Payments

The per pupil calculation is as follows:

$3,204	State Share
$4,186	Local Revenue Allocation
$7,390	Total State and Local Per Pupil Amount
($711)	Special Education Reserve
($148)	RSD Administrative Fee

Note: The State per pupil amount in the allocation schedule reflects the $3,204 State per pupil amount minus the special education reserve amount. ($3,204 – $711 = $2,493) The payments will be broken out between the RSD-Operated Schools in one payment and individual payments to each RSD Charter School. (See the attached Allocation Schedule – July 2008)

If you have any questions, you may contact Paula Matherne at 225.342.3590 or via email at paula.matherne@la.gov. You may also use the Department's toll-free number, 877.453.2721.

c: Ollie S. Tyler, Deputy Superintendent of Education
Type 5 Charter School Board Presidents
Type 5 Charter School Board Business Managers
Cedric Lewis, RSD
Kelvin Adams, RSD
Charlotte Stevens, LDOE
Paula Matherne, LDOE

Attachment A

Differentiated Funding Formula for the Recovery School District

Regular Education Student	Special Education Student Level 1 Weight	Special Education Student Level 2 Weight	Special Education Student Level 3 Weight
1.0	**.25**	**1.5**	**2.75**
	Speech only	Mild/Moderate Mentally Handicapped	Severe/Profound Mentally Handicapped
		Learning Disabled	Deaf-Blindness
		Other Health Impaired	Visually Impaired
		Orthopedically Handicapped	Autism
		Developmentally Delayed	Emotionally Disturbed
			Multiple Handicapped
			Hearing Impaired
			Traumatic Brain Injury
			Community-Based Instruction