
Informal District Collection Process – December 1 letter

Education Spending & Weighted Pupils

In early November a request is made, via email, to business managers for a single data point. The ask is for an estimated percent increase in current year education spending.

Considerations for moving this forward:

- Are districts going to be far enough along to give an estimated increase before mid-November?
- This process is informal, how many responses is enough to then make a projection
- Districts are still submitting pupil data into the agency, any attempt at a pupil projection is hindered by moving up the date.
 - o The census period is the 11 – 30 day of school, which for many districts extends into October
 - o Collecting data in October/early November does not allow time for quality assurance that pupil estimates are accurate
- Estimates for merger support grants and ELL categorical aid rely on weighted pupils and enrollment data

Special Education

Special education extraordinary budget data is due to the agency in the fall. The current deadline is December 15th which is a formal request to support 16 V.S.A. § 2967. December 1 letter, an inflation factor is applied to the prior year actuals to provide a special education projection. That projection is updated using district data in late December for more accurate ed fund outlook modelling.

Considerations for moving special education data collection forward:

- When do districts perform their projections to budget for the ensuing year?

The field would be the best source to answer when a data element could earliest be requested for the upcoming year.

