

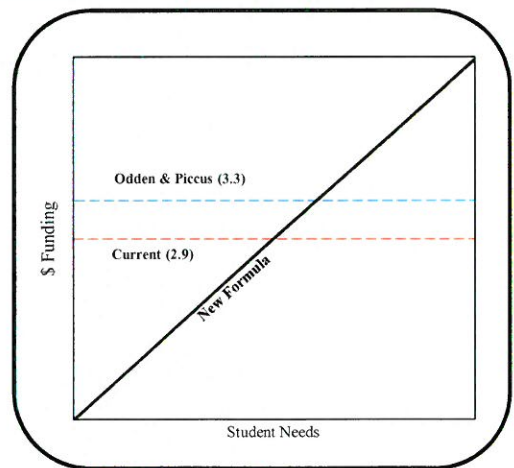
Student-Based Allocation of Special Education Funding

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Current Funding

- ❖ 2.9 Special Educators per 500 students
- ❖ Equally allocated across all districts
- ❖ Most recent recommendation to increase to 3.3 Special Educators and 3.3 Paraprofessionals per 500 students
- ❖ Assumption that all districts have the same needs



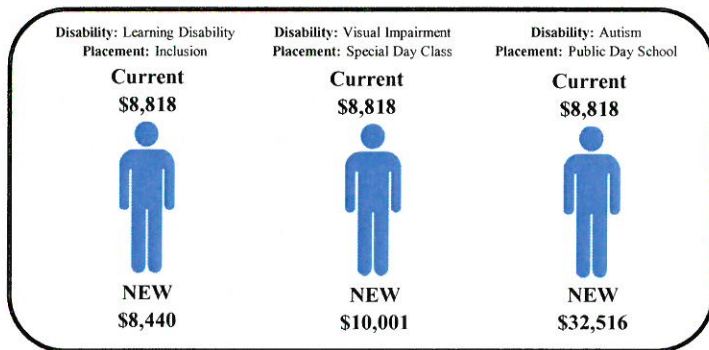
Why Change?

- ❖ This is a diverse state with a variety of needs
- ❖ Individualized education programs need individualized funding
- ❖ Districts with greater than average special education needs don't get enough funding and districts with fewer special education needs are receiving too much
- ❖ Funding to the students who need it



Recommendation

- ❖ Student-based allocation (SBA)
- ❖ Variable funding using disability & placement
- ❖ Additional funding for small districts



This type of formula should:

- ❖ Provide funding based on **individual student needs**
- ❖ Meet the financial needs of schools that serve **students with higher needs**
- ❖ Compensate schools and districts **without economies of scale** to support specialized programs
- ❖ Be relatively **cost neutral**
- ❖ Reduce the need for catastrophic aid

	Tier 1				Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
	Inclusion	Resource	SDC	Corrections	Public/Private Day	Public/Private Residential	Home/Hospital
SLD							
OHI		1.2			2.0	3.8	2.0
SLI							
ED							
TBI		1.2			2.9	5.5	5.5
HI		1.3			2.9	4.1	4.1
OI		1.3			2.4	4.1	4.1
MR		1.4			2.2	5.5	5.5
VI		1.5			3.2	4.1	4.1
DB		1.6			3.9	5.5	5.5
MD		2.0			3.9	5.5	5.5
AUT		2.0			3.9	5.5	5.5

Additional weights	
District Enrollment under 1000	1.40
District Enrollment between 1001 and 2000	1.15

Dollars and Cents

		Proposed	Current
Per Pupil (All)		\$ 6,544	\$ 6,521
Per Pupil (SPED)		\$ 9,017	\$ 8,816
SPED	Small Districts	\$11,262	\$6,907
	Medium Districts	\$10,349	\$6,754
	Large Districts	\$8,196	\$6,425

Small districts receive funds to compensate for small economies of scale.

Conclusion

- ❖ Meet individual student needs through **student-based allocation**
- ❖ **Reduce reliance** on catastrophic aid
- ❖ **Limit incentives** for mislabeling or restrictive placements
- ❖ Recognize needs of **small districts**
- ❖ Little increase, more precise **allocation**



Questions?

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