

From: Longfellow Chuck [<mailto:Chuck.Longfellow@appo.k12.de.us>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 4:48 PM
To: Cunningham Emily W. (Lt Governor)
Cc: Marchio Tony (K12)
Subject: RE: Report on School District Spending

Emily - there are at least three differences that need to be considered for Appoquinimink School District:

(1) The amount that the figures your study is based on includes a \$14,844 legal settlement that represents wages/benefits that would be paid for instruction, not administration.

(2) Our district has smaller schools for early childhood education (called Early Childhood Centers, or ECCs) - these schools only serve Kindergarten and serve preschool special education programs. Denn's report will show us as "not serving kids" when serving kids, especially special ed preschool kids, is what motivated us to build a better early childhood transition to school. Small schools have overhead, true - but it is wrong to say that larger schools are a better answer for young kids. The report encourages larger schools.

(3) The report counts principals and assistant principals as "non-instructional," which makes no sense whatsoever. Principals are one of the key factors for academic success of students. If you want a clearer picture, then exclude the salaries and OECs (other employment costs) of the instructional leaders of the schools - the principals.

Thanks,
Chuck Longfellow
Director of Finance
Appoquinimink School District

From: Cunningham Emily W. (Lt Governor)

[<mailto:emily.cunningham@state.de.us>]

Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2011 9:16 AM

To: Marchio Tony; Holodick Mark; 'kevin.fitzgerald@cr.k12.de.us'; Robinson David; Thomas Michael; LYLES MARCIA V.; Linn Dorothy; Ring David C; Bunting Susan; 'ddcurry@lf.k12.de.us'; McCoy John; 'skanter@mail.milford.k12.de.us'; Godowsky Steven; Sole Dianne G; Daugherty Mervin B; Knorr Russ; Wicks Deborah; Lathbury Aj; Carson Kevin (K12)

Subject: Report on School District Spending

Dear School Superintendent:

This year, the Lieutenant Governor's office will again be issuing a report on school district spending that is based upon National Center for Education Statistics reporting categories. Following the issuance of last year's report, some superintendents indicated that they believed their districts had unique spending or reporting requirements that should be noted when comparing district spending using NCES statistics. We would like to consider such information when issuing this year's report.

To that end, if you believe that your district has any specific spending or reporting requirements relating to NCES statistics which are not shared by other districts, please me know in writing at this e-mail address by the close of business on Thursday, April 21, 2011.

Thank you!

Emily

Emily W. Cunningham

Chief of Staff

Lt. Governor Matt Denn

302-744-4312

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