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NAME: Josh Bemis
Justin Tarin
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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents
FROM: Suzanne Pridgeon 
DATE: October 2, 2026
SUBJECT: Florida School Recognition Program Awards for 2026-27

Pursuant to section (s.) [1008.36, Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#), attached are the 2026-27 Florida School Recognition Program award amounts by district and by school. Program award amounts are calculated based on each school's full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrollment in comparison to other eligible schools. The distribution includes awards for all schools currently eligible. The distribution of lottery funds appropriated for the Florida School Recognition Program in specific appropriation 91 of [chapter 2026-232, Laws of Florida \(L.O.F.\)](#), is based on the school grades earned in 2025-26 and the number of FTE students in the fourth calculation of the 2025-26 Florida Education Finance Program. Funds will be distributed to districts on October 16, 2026.

Please note that, if a school's staff and school advisory council do not reach agreement on the use of the award by February 1, 2027, that school's award must be equally distributed to all classroom teachers currently teaching in the school, pursuant to s. 1008.36(4), F.S.

To meet the requirement in specific appropriation 91, chapter 2026-232, L.O.F., for a report to the governor and legislature about how schools used their program funds, a survey will be sent to school districts later this year. Please retain records on the use of these funds in advance of this survey. Should you have questions regarding a school's eligibility, please call Justin Tarin at 850-245-0411. If you have questions regarding the distribution or use of funds, please call Josh Bemis at 850-245-0405.

SP/jr

Attachment 1 – 2026-27 Florida School Recognition Awards Summary
Attachment 2 – 2026-27 Florida School Recognition Program Awards by School

cc: School District Finance Officers
Juan Copa, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement
Li Liu, Bureau Chief, School Business Services, Division of Finance and Operations
Josh Bemis, Bureau of School Business Services, Division of Finance and Operations
Justin Tarin, Bureau of Accountability Reporting, Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement

Suzanne Pridgeon
Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Operations