Education Estimating Conference Public Schools Capital Outlay Full-Time Equivalent Membership Executive Summary July 18, 2024

The Education Estimating Conference met on July 18, 2024, to adopt the final forecast for Capital Outlay Full-Time Equivalent Membership (COFTE) through the 2034-35 school year. A preliminary forecast was previously adopted on June 26, 2024. That forecast was based on a cohort survival method which incorporated both recent and long-term trends, as well as 2023-24 COFTE actual enrollment. On July 2nd, the preliminary forecast was shared with all school districts that have COFTE enrollment for their review and input. The only school district to submit an alternative COFTE enrollment forecast during the appeal window was Flagler.

Flagler Schools requested an alternative forecast that resulted in a level increase ranging from 130.25 FTE to 1,030.41 FTE throughout the forecast horizon (2024-25 through 2034-35). The rationale for the district's request was to incorporate growth rates which reflected more recent local activity. The Conference reviewed the request and adopted the requested revision. All other districts remained as they were in the preliminary forecast.

The following table provides the state-level COFTE enrollment forecast as adopted by the Conference on July 18th. The "Annual Change" column represents the statewide change in enrollment from the prior year. Variations in annual change are due to different-sized grade cohorts moving through the public school system. Used for the purpose of facility planning, COFTE growth is calculated at the individual district level as the difference between the current year and the maximum of the prior three years.

COFTE Enrollment Forecast						
				PreK-12		
						Annual
					Annual	Percent
	PreK-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12	Total	Change	Change
Actual 2018-19	1,142,426.42	560,420.03	740,841.21	2,443,687.66		
Actual 2019-20	1,126,472.35	570,485.19	737,233.46	2,434,191.00	(9,496.66)	(0.4%)
Actual 2020-21	1,036,929.65	538,004.82	710,442.22	2,285,376.69	(148,814.31)	(6.1%)
Actual 2021-22	1,066,969.11	543,221.52	735,339.41	2,345,530.04	60,153.35	2.6%
Actual 2022-23	1,080,768.53	544,289.05	753,371.29	2,378,428.87	32,898.83	1.4%
Actual 2023-24	1,079,143.61	531,435.96	756,214.71	2,366,794.28	(11,634.59)	(0.5%)
Proj. 2024-25	1,076,293.83	527,619.85	750,501.74	2,354,415.42	(12,378.86)	(0.5%)
Proj. 2025-26	1,061,618.42	526,379.33	747,204.25	2,335,202.00	(19,213.42)	(0.8%)
Proj. 2026-27	1,051,018.28	528,947.14	730,700.39	2,310,665.81	(24,536.19)	(1.1%)
Proj. 2027-28	1,047,497.69	535,599.00	716,309.23	2,299,405.92	(11,259.89)	(0.5%)
Proj. 2028-29	1,051,101.72	529,215.96	719,884.14	2,300,201.82	795.90	0.0%
Proj. 2029-30	1,060,897.35	524,684.24	713,767.73	2,299,349.32	(852.50)	(0.0%)
Proj. 2030-31	1,075,255.26	515,700.12	717,316.22	2,308,271.60	8,922.28	0.4%
Proj. 2031-32	1,095,248.76	507,466.90	717,669.72	2,320,385.38	12,113.78	0.5%
Proj. 2032-33	1,119,599.06	500,265.52	707,461.80	2,327,326.38	6,941.00	0.3%
Proj. 2033-34	1,135,669.25	504,742.52	699,060.91	2,339,472.68	12,146.30	0.5%
Proj. 2034-35	1,148,811.26	513,366.80	689,527.28	2,351,705.34	12,232.66	0.5%

Note: 'PreK' figures include only pre-school age children with disabilities (ESE) and pre-school age children whose parents are in the Teenage Parent Program. It does not include children participating exclusively in the Voluntary Prekindergarten Program who receive those services through the public school system.