



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMO

Date: June 18, 2013

To: All Superintendents and Charter School Leaders

From: John White
State Superintendent of Education

RE: **Additional school funding in House Bill 1 of the 2013 Regular Session**

During the 2013 Regular Session, the legislature and the governor agreed to a budget that provided an allocation of \$69 million for public schools, which is roughly equivalent to a 2.75% increase in the Minimum Foundation Program. This funding was provided outside of the MFP as part of House Bill 1, the general appropriations bill. The governor has committed to continue this funding in his FY15 executive budget. The law requires that 50% of these funds be used to provide a "pay raise" to certificated classroom teachers. We have received numerous inquiries as to what constitutes a pay raise, given that this is a line item allocation for the 13-14 fiscal year. Because these funds are outside of the MFP and because local compensation plans for teachers include a mix of one-time and recurring funds, we urge school districts to use these funds as they deem appropriate for the 13-14 school year in giving either one-time salary supplements or base-building pay raises to certificated classroom teachers. We believe this additional funding is one of the greatest accomplishments of this legislative session and are happy to see teachers recognized for their outstanding service.

JW/eb

Louisiana Believes