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TO: Linus J. Guillory, Jr. PhD, Superintendent of Schools, Samuel Rippin, Deputy Superintendent for Administration and Finance, Casey Ngo-Miller, Deputy Superintendent for the Office of Student Services

FROM: Michael D'Onofrio, Finance Manager, Office of Student Services

RE: 1st Quarter Out of District Tuition Projection

DATE: October 11, 2021

The memo serves as the first quarter FY2022 Projection for Out of District Tuitions. The 1st Quarter report shows projected expenditures of \$6,596,577 against a budget of \$7,144,727, leaving a surplus of \$548,150. We have 5 fewer students than upon our projection from which the budget was built.

9000 Series	Programs with Other School Districts	FY2021 Budgeted Head Count	FY2021 Budget	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Budgeted Head Count	FY2022 Budget*	Q1FY2022 Projected Head Count	Q1FY2022 Projected	Variance (Head Count)	Variance \$
9100	Tuition to Mass. Schools	1	\$ 48,034	\$ 62,414	1	\$ 57,184	1	\$ 58,716	-	\$ (1,532)
9200	Tuition to Out-of-State Schools	4	\$ 306,642	\$ 174,753	1	\$ 92,006	-	\$ -	(1)	\$ 92,006
9300	Tuition to Non-Public Schools	62	\$ 6,425,136	\$ 6,703,676	73	\$ 6,744,862	69	\$ 6,162,310	(4)	\$ 582,552
9400	Tuition to Collaboratives	3	\$ 141,188	\$ 338,113	5	\$ 250,675	5	\$ 375,551	-	\$ (124,876)
Total		70	\$ 6,921,000	\$ 7,278,956	80	\$ 7,144,727	75	\$ 6,596,577	(5)	\$ 548,150

The first quarter projection includes all students currently at out of district placements. While we continue to monitor potential additional outplacements (i.e.: 'The Watchlist'), the number of students currently placed out is stable.

Our contracted services projection is on target as of 10/11/2021, but this expense is highly variable based on the predictability of services provided, particularly in regards to 45-day placements and the need for evaluations in other languages.

Additionally, we have not used any of the \$475,000 in the Special Education Reserve Fund budgeted in the Operating Budget.

We will continue to monitor the impact that new, unanticipated placements will have on the FY2022 Budget.

Other Factors/Concerns:

- There are students who are placed unilaterally by their parents out of district without the Districts approval. That number currently sits at 14 as of October 11th.
- The financial impact of new placements have a diminishing effect on the current years' budget as we move through the school year, but do result in a negative way on FY2023's budget projection as they will most likely attend that school for the entirety of next year.
- We currently have no students in 45-day placements. Often, these lead to additional placements out of district, which has financial implications not only in the current year, but against next years' budget and, cumulatively, ones going forward.
- FY2022's projection includes anticipated Program Reconstruction costs for students identified in those schools/programs. While these applications have not been approved yet by DESE, it is expected that they will cause future projections to rise depending on when and if they are approved and the effective date of the increased rate. We have 11 students who are currently in schools that were approved for Program Reconstruction this year.
- The FY2022 Initial Circuit Breaker Reimbursement Listing, is usually posted by DESE in mid to late October. Our net claim was \$4,147,387. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education announced on September 28th that circuit breaker would be reimbursed at 75% for last year's claim for both tuition and transportation costs, which makes our reimbursement amount \$3,124,541.
- FY2023's budget will factor in the Program Reconstruction costs we anticipate will happen next year. Currently, there are 17 programs that have applied for increases above the annual percentage increases that occur from year to year, as approved by the Operational Services Division of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As we get closer to development of the FY2023 budget, this memo will have a projected impact on our Out of District Tuition budget.