



Legislation Text

File #: 19-1363, **Version:** 1

MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PEMBROKE PINES ELEMENTARY, ACADEMIC VILLAGE AND FSU ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARDS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THE A+ RECOGNITION FUNDS.

SUMMARY EXPLANATION AND BACKGROUND:

1. The Florida School Recognition Program is an incentive program created by the State to provide financial awards to public/ charter schools that demonstrate outstanding achievement by receiving an "A" grade, and to schools that improve at least one letter grade.

2. In July 2019, the State finalized the 2019 School Recognition Award Grades for the Elementary, Academic Village and FSU Elementary Charter Schools and awarded the Charter Elementary, Academic Village and FSU Elementary each with an "A" grade.

3. As such, the Charter Schools will receive funds from the State through the 2020 Florida School "A+" Recognition Program. This year's program award amount calculation is \$100 per full-time equivalent (FTE), based on the Final FY2018-19 FTE count (Exhibit 1- FY2019-20 Florida Recognition Awards Memo). The funds allocation for the City of Pembroke Pines are as follows:

School Site	FTE Count	A+ Allocation
Location 5051- Charter Elementary	1,918.13	\$ 191,813
Location 5081- Charter High (AVCS)	2,101.47	\$ 210,147
Location 0351- FSU Elementary	697.78	\$ 69,778
Total	4,717.38	\$ 471,738

4. The process for distribution of the A+ Recognition Funds is that only the teachers and non-instructional staff that remained employed from the previous school year can vote one method for disbursing the funds to employees. Each recognized school forms a committee that consists of instructional staff, non-instructional staff, and advisory board members. This committee then surveys all employees and determines who is eligible to receive the award based on their employment status and what percentage each eligible employee receives. The committee then prepares a ballot that consists of several fund disbursement options wherein the eligible employees vote on through secret ballot. Once the votes at each site have been tabulated, the results are forwarded to the Advisory Boards for approval and then forwarded to the City Commission for final approval.

5. The State requires that all recognized schools have their distribution agreement approved by their governing board by February 1st. The following was established as a result of this deadline:

a) The Pembroke Pines/ FSU Elementary Advisory Board met on Thursday, June 6, 2019 and approved the percentage allocation for the distribution of the A+ recognition funds for the Pembroke

Pines/FSU Elementary School as voted on by the teachers and non-instructional staff at the Pembroke Pines/FSU Elementary School (See Exhibit 2- June 2019 FSU Elementary Meeting Summary and Exhibit 3- Approved FSU Elementary Distribution Plan).

b) The Academic Village Advisory Board met on Monday, November 4, 2019 and approved the percentage allocation for the distribution of the A+ recognition funds for the AVCS as voted on by the teachers and non-instructional staff at the Academic Village Charter School (See Exhibit 4- November 2018 AVCS Meeting Summary and Exhibit 5- Approved AVCS School Distribution Plan).

c) The Charter Elementary/ Middle Advisory Board met on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 and approved the percentage allocation for the distribution of the A+ recognition funds for the Pembroke Pines Charter Elementary Schools as voted on by the teachers and non-instructional staff at the Pembroke Pines Elementary Schools. (See Exhibit 6- November 2019 Elementary/Middle Meeting Summary and Exhibit 7- Approved Elementary School Distribution Plan).

6. Recommend City Commission to approve the recommendations of the Elementary, Academic Village, and FSU Elementary Charter School Advisory Boards for the distribution methods of the A+ Recognition Funds.

FINANCIAL IMPACT DETAIL:

a) Initial Cost: The City of Pembroke Pines is responsible for the FICA component of the A+ Recognition total award amount. This equates to \$36,087.96:

School Site	FICA Amount
Location 5051- Charter Elementary	\$ 14,673.69
Location 5081- Charter High (AVCS)	\$ 16,076.25
Location 0351- FSU Elementary	\$ 5,338.02
	\$ 36,087.96

Total

b) Amount budgeted for this item in Account No: A budget will be created to distribute these funds once the allocation amounts are provided by the State, utilizing the 335975- Governor's A+ Fund revenue accounts for Elementary, AVCS and FSU Elementary charter schools, and the applicable FICA and personnel expenditure accounts. In aggregate, the charter school budget will increase by \$471,738.

c) Source of funding for difference, if not fully budgeted: The FICA component will be funded from existing appropriations.

d) 5 year projection of the operational cost of the project: Not Applicable

e) Detail of additional staff requirements: Not Applicable