

HB 0115

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to the Florida School Recognition Program;  
amending s. 1008.36, F.S.; revising provisions relating to  
the distribution of financial awards; providing an  
effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 1008.36, Florida Statutes, is amended  
to read:

1008.36 Florida School Recognition Program.--

(1) The Legislature finds that there is a need for a  
performance incentive program for outstanding faculty and staff  
in highly productive schools. The Legislature further finds that  
performance-based incentives are commonplace in the private  
sector and should be infused into the public sector as a reward  
for productivity.

(2) The Florida School Recognition Program is created to  
provide financial awards to public schools that:

(a) Sustain high performance by receiving a school grade  
of "A," making excellent progress; or

(b) Demonstrate exemplary improvement due to innovation  
and effort by improving a letter grade.

(3) All public schools, including charter schools, that  
receive a school grade pursuant to s. 1008.34 are eligible to  
participate in the program.

(4) All selected schools shall receive financial awards  
depending on the availability of funds appropriated and the  
number and size of schools selected to receive an award. Funds  
must be distributed to the school's fiscal agent and placed in

HB 0115

2004

31 the school's account and must be used for purposes listed in  
 32 subsection (5) as determined jointly by the school's staff and  
 33 school advisory council. If school staff and the school advisory  
 34 council cannot reach agreement by November 1, the awards must be  
 35 ~~equally~~ distributed in the following manner:

36 (a) Forty percent of the funds must be divided equally  
 37 among all school employees who are currently employed at the  
 38 school.

39 (b) Sixty percent of the funds must be used as the school  
 40 advisory council deems appropriate for the purposes listed in  
 41 paragraph (5)(b) or paragraph (5)(c) ~~to all classroom teachers~~  
 42 ~~currently teaching in the school.~~

43 (5) School recognition awards must be used for the  
 44 following:

45 (a) Nonrecurring bonuses to the faculty and staff;

46 (b) Nonrecurring expenditures for educational equipment or  
 47 materials to assist in maintaining and improving student  
 48 performance; or

49 (c) Temporary personnel for the school to assist in  
 50 maintaining and improving student performance.

51  
 52 Notwithstanding statutory provisions to the contrary, incentive  
 53 awards are not subject to collective bargaining.

54 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.