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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS RELEASE
TO: Superintendents, Charter Administrators,
Business Managers, Safe & Drug Free Schools
Coordinators

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www.sde.idaho.gov

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**NOTICE: INFORMATION REGARDING SAFE AND DRUG FREE
SCHOOLS FUNDING DISTRIBUTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016**

(BOISE) -- This correspondence is intended to clarify expectations regarding the payment of Safe and Drug Free Schools (SDFS) funding to districts and public charter schools in FY16 per Senate Bill 1186. The formula for SDFS calls for a base amount of \$2,000 for every district and public charter school plus a pro-rated amount based on the prior year ADA (approximately \$13.00 per student).

The revenue for SDFS is generated from taxes on tobacco products and on lottery winnings. Historically, the annual revenue associated with SDFS has ranged from \$4.7 million to \$7 million. The FY16 appropriation (\$4,031,400.00) was based on this history.

As of October 19, 2015 revenues available for SDFS distributions total \$1,098,734.34. As of the same date, requests from 60 districts and public charter schools total \$2,421,924.00. Given the requests are greater than the account balance at present, the following is a description of the State Department of Education's plan to initiate the distribution of funds so schools can begin implementing SDFS plans and activities. It is anticipated the entire appropriation amount will be generated in the current school year.

The SDE will total all requests for SDFS funds after the published deadline of October 30, 2015 and compare actual requests with available revenue to determine a percentage. If done today, the calculation would be as follows:

- $\$1,098,734$ (current revenue) / $\$2,421,924$ (total requests) = .45 (45%)

The SDE will then pro-rate SDFS requests by distributing 45% (in this example) of the allocations shortly after October 30, 2015. As revenue is generated throughout the year, the SDE will distribute the remainder of the allocations.

Although October 30, 2015 is published as the deadline for SDFS requests, the SDE will allow and support applicants to submit requests after this date as the funds are statutorily dedicated for local substance abuse prevention and school safety improvements.

Districts and public charter schools that submit applications from November 1, 2015 through December 15, 2015 will be paid in the same manner as the first payment. Revenues available from November 1, 2015 through December 15, 2015 will be divided by total new requests and a pro-rated percentage will be determined. This percentage will not exceed the percentage paid to the initial applicants. After December 15, 2015, all revenues will be applied equally to all applicants until full allocations are paid.

Again, the SDE anticipates receiving the full appropriation of \$4,031,400 during the 2015/2016 school year. Patience and understanding is appreciated as the SDE's goal is to distribute available funds in an equitable and timely manner. A communique regarding the variability of



SDFS funds was disseminated to districts and public charter schools on September 8, 2015 and can be accessed here:

http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/media_center/current_releases_docs/Safe%20and%20Drug%20Free%20Schools%20Application%20Now%20Available%20-%209.8.2015.pdf

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The FY16 SDFS application for funding can be accessed here:

http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/safe_drugfree/

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Please contact Matt McCarter, Director Student Engagement, Career & Technical Readiness Division at (208) 332-6961 or by email at mamccarter@sde.idaho.gov if you have questions or would like to discuss the FY16 SDFS funding plan further.

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