On July 19, 2004, a school district enrollment estimating conference was held for the purpose of reviewing the 2004-05 legislative impact on school district FTE student enrollment. The following people were in attendance at the conference:

**Governor’s Office:**
- Wendy Dugan
- Kurt Hamon

**Legislative Office of Economic and Demographic Research:**
- Carolyn DuBard
- Beth Lines

**House Education Appropriations:**
- Chad Aldis
- Mark Eggers
- Ann Gordon
- Amy Hammock
- Marie LaCap
- Betty Tilton

**Department of Education:**
- Jeanine Blomberg
- Linda Champion
- Lavan Dukes
- Shan Goff
- Kirk Hudson
- Link Jarrett

**Senate Appropriations:**
- Mark Armstrong
- John Newman
- Ray Monteleone
- David Montford
- Jennifer Seifert

The conference began with a review by David Montford of the 2004 Legislative impact on PK-12 Enrollment. Eight legislative bills were reviewed. They were:

1. **SB 354 Middle Grades Reform Act**
2. **SB 364 Accelerated High School Graduation Option and Public School Student Progression; remedial instruction; reporting requirements**
3. **SB 1604 Military Education**
4. **SB 2184 Florida Partnership for Minority and Underrepresented Students**
5. **HB1867 Education Funding Corporate Income Tax Scholarships Audit Adjustments**
6. **HB 1989 Juvenile Justice**

**SB 354** may have an indeterminate effect on enrollment. The middle grades reform provided by this bill may eventually increase the graduation rate and lower the dropout rate, thus, increasing the enrollment. However, it would be several years before such effects may be realized. This bill may have a short-term effect of increasing the nonpromotion rates for the middle grades.

**SB 364** revises and strengthens the academic requirements necessary for the accelerated high school graduation option. In addition, this bill allows mid-year
promotion of retained grade 3 students, who can demonstrate that they are successful and independent readers. This provision will require the State Board of Education to implement a new rule to define the testing and acceleration methods to be used.

SB 2184 creates a partnership to prepare, inspire, and connect students to postsecondary success and opportunity, with focus on minority students and students who are underrepresented in postsecondary education as part of the College Board’s reach-out program. These are economically disadvantaged students who would not have the opportunity to participate in advanced placement classes. This bill does not increase the number of students taking classes, but changes the type of classes being taken by students. This bill may have a slight impact on weighted FTE.

SB 1604 waives prior year public school attendance requirements for McKay Scholarships for dependent children of members of the military who have transferred to a Florida school from out-of-state or from a foreign country. Other eligibility requirements must be met. This bill is expected to have minimal to no impact on districts if the future patterns of military migration are close to historical patterns. However, if the number of military family relocations to Florida increases as a result of this waiver, then there may be a significant impact for selected districts. There are eleven districts with Department of Defense installations where this option would apply.

HB 1867 sets a $50 million cap on corporate income tax credits and carryforward tax credits for contributions to Scholarship Funding Organizations (SFO) in FY 2004-05. This bill does not address the FY 2005-06 cap which is currently set in statute at $88 million. The conference did not have information sufficient to determine the linkages between the cap amount and the number of scholarships eventually given to students by the SFOs. Staff from the Office of the Governor requested information on the current carryforward amount. Staff from Economic and Demographic Research will provide additional information at the next meeting.

HB 1989 grants access to Florida Virtual School courses for students in juvenile justice education programs. Juvenile justice student participation is not required.

Overall, the above mentioned bills seem to have no significant immediate measurable effect on PK-12 FTE enrollment.

HB 769 relating to Career and Technical Education may have an impact on vocational students. SB 3000, relating to Charter Schools, may also have effect have an impact on future FTE because it allows the use of new construction impact fees to build a charter school in the area of new residential development.
Carolyn DuBard provided a quick overview of Guidelines and Assumptions for FTE Student Enrollment Forecasts for the Next Five Years. The five-year forecast will be based on the latest historical data, under current law, including the 2004 Legislative session.

A draft of the post-conference report including the suggested revisions will be sent to the Conference Principals for review and then finalized. [A copy of the final post conference report is attached.]

The next Enrollment Estimating Conference will be held Monday, August 9, 2004, in 1724 Turlington to review and reach consensus of the 2005-06 FTE estimate to be used by the Department of Education in its 2005-06 Legislative Budget Request.
FTE Student Enrollment Forecasts

Guidelines and Assumptions

Post-Conference Report July 19, 2004

Guidelines for the Five-Year Forecast

- The 2004-05 forecast = Appropriated FTE;
- Latest historical data = 2003-04 4th calc FTE;
- Includes estimated effects of 2004 Legislative action;
- Based on “current law, current practice”.

Assumptions For the Five-Year Forecast

- Include estimated effects of:
  - 18 credit hour graduation option;
  - Increases in McKay & Opportunity scholarship and Charter School FTE;
  - Accountability;
  - New School Construction;
  - Voluntary Universal PK

18-Credit Hour Graduation Option Requirements

- 2004-05 and 2005-06
  Requirements prior to June 2004.
- 2006-07 and Beyond
  Requirements in place on June 2004.
  These are more rigorous than previous requirements.

18-Credit Hour Graduation Option Effect

Accountability Effects

NCLB and state accountability at all grades, but specifically at grade 3 and at middle grades should continue to increase ESOL and ESE FTE enrollment.

Grade 3 accountability affects the promotion of students to grade 4.
Grade Three Non-Promotion Assumption

Charter Schools and McKay and Opportunity Scholarships

FTE for McKay and Opportunity Scholarship and for Charter Schools will increase as in the past.

Increases in McKay and Opportunity Scholarships and Charter Schools increase the difference (“Gap”) between the FEFP FTE and the CO FTE.

“Gap” FTE

Consists of FEFP FTE enrollment receiving services in settings not applicable for Capital Outlay Funds, which include:
- BDU FTE;
- Non-conversion charter FTE (except FSU lab);
- McKay Scholarship students;
- Some ESE students.

“Gap” FTE is expected to increase

New School Construction Effects

- Increase total FTE a little by increasing transfers from private schools;
- Increase vocational FTE by creating additional vocational student stations in high schools.

Voluntary Universal PreK

“Current Law, Current Practice” guideline implies that forecasted FEFP PK includes only ESE students and children of teenage parents.

Under this guideline, the total ESE PK and program category 111 are expected to increase slightly as more four-year-olds are identified as mildly handicapped.