

Weighted Student Formula

Part I: What is a Weighted Student Formula?

What is Weighted Student Formula?

The Weighted Student Formula (WSF) is a way to give out resources to schools based on student educational needs.

It is sometimes called student based budgeting or weighted student funding.

What is Weighted Student Formula?

- In WSF, most of a school's resources are given in one allocation that can be used to fund a school's overall plan to increase student performance.
- The size of the allocation is based on the number of students and the challenges faced by the students in achieving proficiency in the standards.

Weighted Student Formula

Part II: Why do we want a
Weighted Student Formula?

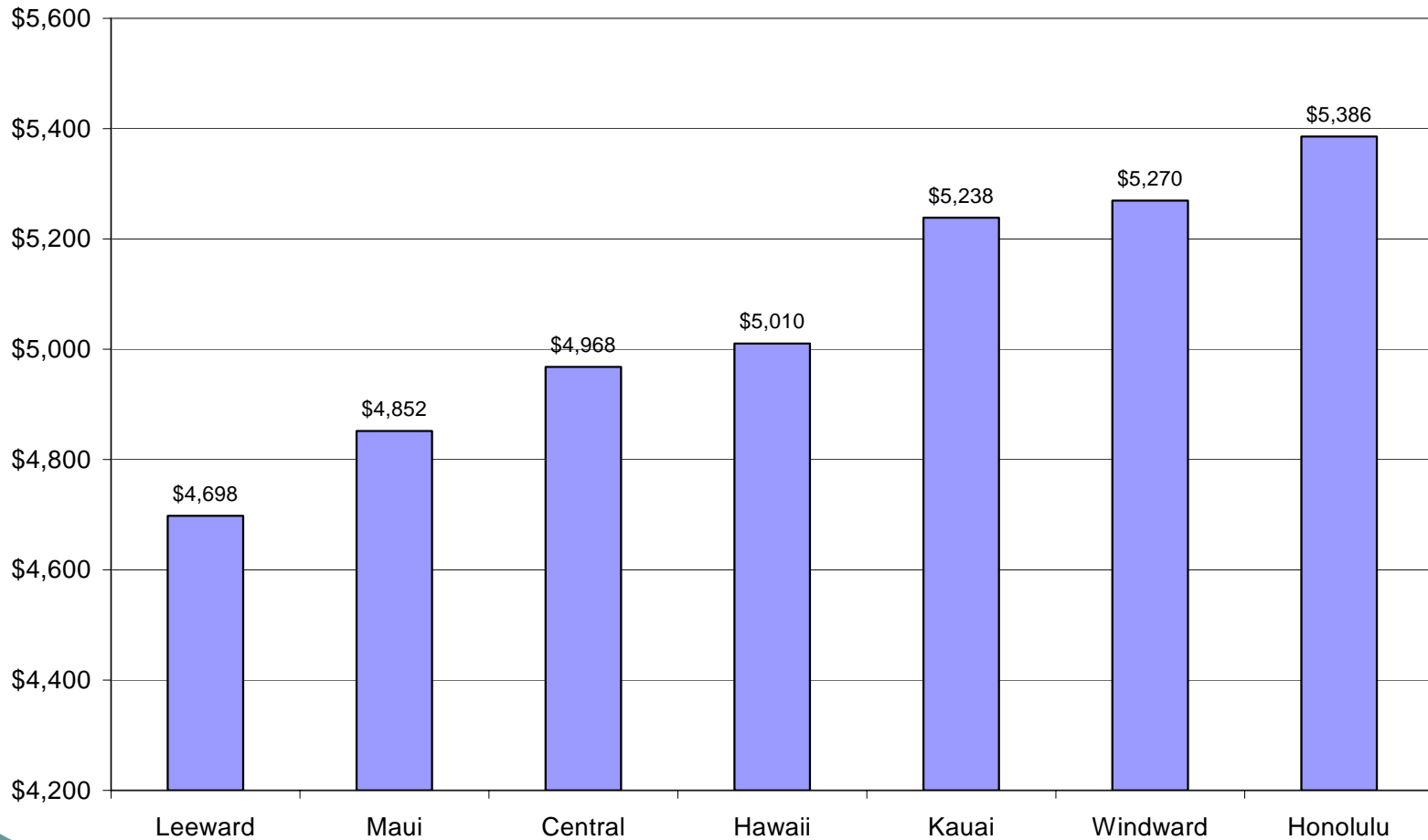
Why do we want WSF?

Beliefs:

1. Schools with similar students should get similar a similar amount of resources.
2. Schools with students who have a harder time becoming proficient should get more resources to support their efforts.

Why do we want WSF?

Average Elementary Per Pupil Allocation*



Why do we want WSF?

High Schools

School	Students	\$/Student	Stud/Tchr	Stud/Staff
Kaiser	1,025	\$5,135	24.8	26.4
Lahaina	1,033	\$4,579	25.2	34.6
Baldwin	1,574	\$4,329	24.6	40.8
Hilo	1,558	\$4,080	28.7	37.1

Why do we want WSF?

High Schools

● Kaiser

- 1,025 Students
- 8.5% F&R
- 3.2% ESLL
- 4.1% Transient

- \$5,135 / Student
- \$5,263,348

● Lahainaluna

- 1,033 Students
- 20.1% F&R
- 6.8% ESLL
- 4.3% Transient

- \$4,579 / student
- \$4,730,255*

Why have a new resource allocation system?

- Current access to student services coord:
 - Maunaloa EL– 1 SSC for 8 SpEd students
 - Waianae H.S. – 1 SSC for 224 students
- Current access to a counselor:
 - Molokai HS – 1 counselor per 136 students
 - Waipahu HS – 1 counselor per 283 students

Why have a new resource allocation system?

- **Current administrator workload:**
 - Hana (K-12) –
 - 1 administrator per 92 students
 - 1 administrator per 18 employees
 - Farrington –
 - 1 administrator per 516 students
 - 1 administrator per 68 employees

Weighted Student Formula

Part III: What characteristics need a “weight?”

Weighting Characteristics

- Schools with higher % of economically disadvantaged students have lower % of proficient readers
- Schools with higher % of ESLL students have lower % of proficient readers
- Schools with higher % of transient students have lower % of proficient readers

Weighted Student Formula

Part IV: What funds go into a
Weighted Student Formula

Funds not in WSF

- Categorical programs targeted to specific needs or limited schools (JROTC or SpEd)
- Centralized costs that make school operations easier (ASD, Food Services)
- Program funds that meet state requirements that schools cannot do (NCLB)

Funds in WSF

- Total of \$854M
 - Programs with funds at every school (basic needs instruction)
 - Program funds at every school at a school level (SAC)
 - Programs with funds that can be distributed evenly based on a formula (ESLL)

Weighted Student Formula

Part V: What is the current status of
WSF

WSF now

- BOE adopted a WSF last year
- Schools are implementing plans based on WSF budgets this year
- The Budget and Fiscal Accountability Committee has made a recommendation to the BOE for SY2007-08

Weighted Student Formula

Part VI: What is the recommendation?

The recommendation proposes ...

- Continuing the implementation of the current BOE-adopted WSF at the 15% implementation level for SY07-08
- *Applying the 2006 Legislature funds appropriated through Act 160, Section 47 to assist schools whose budgets are adversely affected by WSF*

The recommendation proposes ...

- To develop a formula based on
 - Level of funding at successful schools of various sizes
 - Level of funding necessary to provide adequate educational opportunities
 - Appropriate adjustments for small, rural, and unique schools

The recommendation proposes ...

- To increase the level of principal and teacher input to discussions regarding WSF
- Present the new formula to the 2007 Committee on Weights in Spring 2007
- Provide the Board of Education with the recommended formula by Summer 2007

The recommendation recognizes ...

- The need for focused sustained attention to analyze and evaluate WSF implementation data on
 - Staffing and school operations
 - Student access to programs and supports
 - Unique school circumstances
- The need for additional funding for weighted student characteristics
- The need for a supportable request for additional funds

The recommendation recognizes ...

- The students' need for “getting it right”
- The schools' need for
 - Predictability
 - Stability
 - Logical Allocations
 - Time to adjust
- The need for transparent resource allocations

The goal or the recommendation is to ...

- Ensure that recommended changes to the WSF are based on analysis and evaluation of local data and sound research
- Implement changes in a purposeful, mindful, and deliberate manner so as to not needlessly disrupt school operations
- Verify changes improve system quality and student achievement

How will this help improve student achievement?

- If the school programs do not meet the student needs, working harder will not help.
- Working differently is the answer but there are no funds to develop different activities.

How will this help improve student achievement?

- Can't schools stop one program and start a different program that will meet student needs?
- Yes, but the funds from one categorical program cannot be used for different programs.
- That is why WSF is so beneficial. It allows schools to use existing school funds in a way that will help the current students

Why have a new resource allocation system?

- Greater equity based on student learning and support needs (characteristics)
- +
- Dollars instead of fixed positions
- =
- Greater flexibility to meet student needs