Implementation of the New Student Transportation Funding System

Summary

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is required to provide the Washington State Legislature with quarterly updates on the progress of the implementation of the new student transportation funding system referred to as STARS (Student Transportation Allocation Reporting System). Prior status reports are available on OSPI’s Web site: http://www.k12.wa.us/LegisGov/Reports.aspx.

Background

The 2010 Washington State Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 2776, which set the implementation date for STARS as September 1, 2011. The General Instructions for Data Collection and the Detailed Guidance for Data Collection are available on OSPI’s Web site, under “STARS Reference Material”: http://www.k12.wa.us/Transportation/STARS. The STARS system requires school districts to submit three reports per school year with the first due at the end of October, the second due February 1 and the third due May 1. The results of the reports are available at http://www.k12.wa.us/Transportation/STARS, under “Quarterly Reports.”

Status Update

The spring data collection period of the 2012–13 school year ended on May 1, 2013. This data set will be used for calculating the 2013–14 school year allocation, but does not impact current year funding. Funding estimates for the 2013–14 school year can be found at: http://www.k12.wa.us/SAFS/Misc/BudPrep13/2013-14_Pivot_Table_97-2002_Excel.PreFinal.Version2.xls

The regional transportation coordinator review process for those school districts with efficiency ratings less than 90% (required by Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 28A.160.117) is underway. For additional discussion of the review process, see the March 2013 Status Update. Initial meetings with school district staff have been held in most of the required districts.