

Small Schools Support

November 19, 2021

Current Law

Currently, the following grants are available for small schools support:

- Small Schools
 - Qualify
 - Quantitative: Small class size AND
 - Qualitative: State Board determines based
 - broadly on inhospitable travel routes
 - academic excellence and operating efficiency
- Voluntarily Merged Schools
 - Voluntarily merged districts: small schools grant converted to merger support grant (Act 46)
- Other
 - any district, including involuntarily merged schools, that received a small schools grant in FY2020 shall continue to receive that grant (Act 73)

Options for Future

Assuming either new weights or cost equity payments

1. Keep all current small schools and merger support grants
2. Eliminate all small schools and merger support grants
3. Hybrid
 - a. Eliminate small schools grant and replace with weight or cost equity payment
 - b. Keep all support grants for merged schools
4. Smaller Hybrid
 - a. Eliminate small schools grant and replace with weight or cost equity payment
 - b. Keep support grants for merged schools **ONLY** for districts that do not otherwise qualify for small school weight or cost equity payment