

New law (R.S. 17:1968.1) provides with respect to the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts as follows:

1. Requires the board of directors of the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts to annually prepare and adopt a recommended formula to adequately fund the school's educational programs. The goal of such formula is to provide state funding for the schools which is not less than the average per student funding at peer institutions in other states having similar programs and enrollments and may provide for achieving its goal over a multi-year period. The recommended formula shall be submitted to the div. of administration as the total budget request for the school.
2. Specifies that funding for the school shall be achieved through appropriations made directly to the school from the state general fund and through funds appropriated for the minimum foundation program and allocated to the school by the Dept. of Education.
3. For purposes of new law, the school will be considered a public secondary school and included by BESE in the MFP. MFP funds allocated to the school will be based upon the school's enrollment, which shall be determined in the same manner as for other public schools. Each student shall be funded at 100% of the base per pupil amount as contained in the MFP budget letter approved by BESE.
4. The amount of funding for the school's budget request not provided through the MFP shall be determined by the legislature.

Prior law (R.S. 17:1969) required the board of directors of the La. School for Math, Science, and the Arts to annually prepare and adopt a recommended formula to adequately fund the school's educational programs. The goal of this formula is to provide state funding for the school which is not less than the average per student funding at peer institutions in other states having similar programs and enrollments and may provide for achieving its goal over a multi-year period. These provisions of prior law were incorporated into new law.

Prior law provided that, prior to approval, BESE may return the formula adopted by the board of directors and may recommend an amended formula for consideration by the board for submission to BESE for approval.

Provided that if BESE fails to approve the formula most recently adopted by the board of directors, the last formula adopted by the board and approved by BESE shall be used to adequately fund the educational programs at the school.

Required the board of directors of the school to annually request sufficient monies to fully fund the cost to the state for the school based on the adopted and approved formula and to submit their budget request to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

Provided that if the BESE fails to approve the formula developed by the school's board of directors, the board shall prepare its annual budget request as otherwise provided by law.

Provided that the amount of funding for any budget request submitted by the board shall be determined by the legislature.

New law repeals prior law.

Effective June 29, 2010.

(Adds R.S. 17:1968.1; repeals R.S. 17:1969)