P ublic

School Finance

Fac t Sheet

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Small Rural District

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Funding

**Explanation of Funding Calculation and Distribution**

HB15‐1321 provides $10 million in one‐time funding for small rural school districts. Small rural district

means a district that the Department of Education determines is rural based on the geographic size of the district and the distance of the district from the nearest large, urbanized area, and that enrolls fewer than one thousand students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. For this illustration, eligibility was based on FY2014‐15 K‐12 enrollment and may change for a district depending on actual FY2015‐16 K‐12 enrollment.

The final calculation and distribution of the $10 million will be based on a small rural district’s FY2015‐

16 funded pupil count.

Estimated per pupil funding is $256. Distribution will occur in late January or

early February once funded pupil counts are finalized.

These are one time funds for small rural districts and eligible institute charter schools. Per C.R.S. 22‐54‐

137, the funds may be spent only for nonrecurring expenses related to at least one of the following

purposes: (a) implementing accountable education reform; (b) implementing an accountable program to meet state academic standards; (c) reducing class sizes; (d) expanding technology education; (e) improving student safety; (f) expanding the availability of preschool and kindergarten programs; (g) providing performance incentives for teachers; (h) implementing accountability reporting; or (i) implementing public school building capital construction.

Any funds not expended during FY2015‐16 may be carried over into future years.

**The Colorado Department of Education**

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