

Education Law Center
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Attorneys for Amicus Curiae

BACON, ET AL.,

Petitioner-Appellants,

v.

NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION,

Respondents

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
APPELLATE DIVISION

DOCKET NO. A:2460-05T1

CIVIL ACTION

**CERTIFICATION OF DANIELLE
FARRIE, PH.D.**

Dr. Danielle Farrie, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am Director of Research at the Education Law Center ("ELC"), and have served in that capacity since September 2008. As Director of Research, I am responsible for the collection and analysis of data, and for conducting research, on a wide variety of educational issues, including school funding, preschool, assessments and academic performance, school reform and improvement, and student and school demographics.

2. I submit this Certification to provide the Court with data about the impact of the underfunding of the School Funding

Reform Act of 2008 ("SFRA") on the poor rural, or Bacon, districts. Specifically, I have used publicly available data to compile two data charts for the Bacon districts to show: 1) the amount of the underfunding of the SFRA for those districts for FY 2012; and 2) the number of full day pre-school slots that the Bacon districts would add if the preschool expansion provisions of the SFRA were fully funded.

3. Using the amount of full funding under the SFRA calculated by New Jersey's Office of Legislative Services, as well as data from the New Jersey Department of Education's ("DOE") 2011-12 State Aid Summaries, I determined that the underfunding for fourteen of the sixteen Bacon districts for FY 2012 totals \$19.2 million. This total excludes funding for preschool expansion, and also excludes Lawrence Township and Maurice River Township since those districts are not due additional funding under the SFRA formula, other than for preschool expansion. Attached as Exhibit A to this Certification is a true and correct copy of the chart I compiled: "FY12 SFRA Underfunding in Bacon Districts."

4. Using data from the DOE's Fall Survey of Enrollment to estimate the numbers of preschool eligible students in the Bacon districts and data from the Division of Early Childhood Education on actual preschool enrollment, I also calculated the numbers of additional full day preschool seats needed for the Bacon districts to serve 100% of their preschool eligible students under the SFRA. The current total preschool enrollment for the Bacon districts is

1,315 of 3,040 eligible students. Since only 66% of those currently enrolled are served in full day programs, there are 2,167 additional full day seats needed to serve all eligible preschoolers. Attached as Exhibit B to my certification is a true and correct copy of the chart I compiled: "Estimated Unmet Pre-K Need in Bacon Districts."

5. I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Danielle Farrie".

Dated: October 10, 2011

Danielle Farrie, Ph.D.

FY12 SFRA Underfunding in Bacon Districts

District	Above/Below Adequacy*	Amount Underfunded**
BUENA REGIONAL	Below	-\$1,559,805
CLAYTON BORO	Below	-\$2,790,724
COMMERCIAL TWP	Below	-\$47,909
EGG HARBOR CITY	Above	-\$174,613
FAIRFIELD TWP	Below	-\$213,708
HAMMONTON TOWN	Below	-\$6,234,396
LAKEHURST BORO	Below	-\$278,393
LAKEWOOD TWP	Below	-\$4,598,659
LAWRENCE TWP	Above	\$266,444
LITTLE EGG HARBOR TWP	Below	-\$666,118
MAURICE RIVER TWP	Below	\$57,474
OCEAN TWP	Above	-\$530,577
QUINTON TWP	Below	-\$160,401
UPPER DEERFIELD TWP	Above	-\$89,174
WALLINGTON BORO	Below	-\$1,800,109
WOODBINE BORO	Above	-\$82,003
TOTAL		-\$19,226,589

Source: Office of Legislative Services; NJDOE 2011-12 State Aid Summaries

* Adequacy as defined under SFRA, according to the Office of Legislative Services.

** Amount represents the difference between full funding of SFRA, as calculated by the Office of Legislative Services, and the final state aid figures published by NJDOE.

Estimated Unmet Pre-K Need in Bacon Districts

District	Estimated PreK Eligible*	2010-11 PreK Enrollment	Percent in Full Day	Additional Full Day Seats Needed
BUENA REGIONAL	292	92	0%	292
CLAYTON BORO	79	88	0%	79
COMMERCIAL TWP	136	47	100%	89
EGG HARBOR CITY	86	51	100%	35
FAIRFIELD TWP	120	99	100%	21
HAMMONTON TOWN	366	140	0%	366
LAKEHURST BORO	88	38	100%	50
LAKEWOOD TWP	797	195	100%	602
LAWRENCE TWP	86	34	100%	52
LITTLE EGG HARBOR TWP	394	337	100%	57
MAURICE RIVER TWP	76	29	0%	76
OCEAN TWP	38	34	0%	38
QUINTON TWP	74	26	100%	48
UPPER DEERFIELD TWP	186	61	3%	184
WALLINGTON BORO	172	0		172
WOODBINE BORO	50	44	100%	6
TOTAL	3,040	1,315	66%	2,167

Source: NJDOE Division of Early Childhood Education; NJDOE Fall Survey 2009-10.

* Eligibility determined using SFRA guidelines. For universal districts it is equal to two times the district's 2009-10 first grade enrollment. For targeted districts it is equal to two times the district's first grade enrollment multiplied by the district's free and reduced lunch percentage.