September 28, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Thomas R. Bice
State Superintendent of Education

RE: 2015-2016 School District Review Program

The U.S. Census Bureau creates special tabulations of decennial census data by school district geography. These tabulations provide detailed demographic characteristics of the nation's public school systems and offer one of the largest single sources of children's demographic characteristics currently available. Information is distributed through the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

The School District Review Program (SDRP), conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau every two years, is of vital importance for each state's allocation under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law (P.L.) 107-110. The school district information obtained through this program, along with the Census 2012 population and income data, current population estimates, and tabulations of administrative records data, are used in forming the Census Bureau's estimates of the number of children aged 5 through 17 in low-income families for each school district. These estimates of the number of children in low-income families residing within each school district are the basis of the Title I allocation for each school district.

The SDRP consists of two phases – the Annotation Phase and the Verification Phase. In the Annotation Phase, the Census Bureau provides state officials with materials containing the most current school district boundaries and information for their state. This data is reviewed and any changes in the school district boundaries or attributes are reported to the Census Bureau. The Verification Phase is when state officials review the results of any changes submitted, after the Census Bureau has incorporated those changes into the Master Address Files (MAF)/Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing (TIGER) System (MAF/TIGER) database.

The scope of the 2015-2016 SDRP is for state officials to review the Census Bureau's 2013-2014 school district information and to provide the Census Bureau with updates and corrections to the school district names and Federal Local Education Agency (LEA) identification numbers, school district boundaries, and the grade ranges for which a school district is financially responsible. In an effort to improve the school district mapping update process, the Census Bureau has asked that each State Education Agency contact all local education agencies (LEAs) regarding changes in school district boundaries since January 1, 2014. Due to the implementation of a process every two years, the State Department of Education is asking each LEA to also select a Mapping Coordinator for your
district in advance of the program. In addition, it would be helpful if you would submit any changes in your LEA’s boundaries since January 1, 2014, by filling out the attached form and mailing it to Dr. Marcus Vandiver at the following address:

Alabama State Department of Education  
Research and Development Section  
5239 Gordon Persons Building  
P.O. Box 302101  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101

Forms also may be emailed to mvandiver@alsde.edu or faxed to 334-353-4737.

Please return this form for the Alabama School District Review Program (ALSDRP) as soon as possible, but no later than Friday, October 9, 2015. If you need clarification or have questions regarding this process, please contact Dr. Marcus Vandiver at telephone number (334) 242-9742 or e-mail at mvandiver@alsde.edu.

TRB/MEV/RH

Attachment

FY15-3059
LEA Information Summary

☐ Local Education Agency (LEA)
☐ Mapping Coordinator

☐ Telephone
☐ E-Mail Address

☐ No changes have been made to the LEA’s district boundaries

☐ Boundary Changes – The situation where an LEA loses or gains the area of another LEA. No LEAs are created or dissolved.

☐ New LEA – The process of transferring areas from one or more existing LEAs to form a completely new LEA. The existing LEAs are not deleted and their names and LEA codes are not altered.

☐ Complex Consolidation – The situation where two or more LEAs merge to create a new LEA with a new name and new LEA code, along with additional boundary changes/corrections. This type of consolidation also contains boundary corrections and/or changes that modify the outer edge of the new LEA. Therefore, if you delineate a complex consolidation, we will expect accompanying boundary corrections or changes for the new LEA.

☐ Simple Consolidation – The situation where two or more LEAs merge to create a new LEA with a new name and new LEA code, with no additional boundary changes/corrections. There is no change in the overall boundaries of the former LEAs.

☐ Complex Dissolution – The situation where a single LEA is dissolved and its area is split between two or more other existing LEAs, with or without additional boundary changes/corrections. A new LEA is not created and the names and LEA codes of the receiving LEAs are retained.

☐ Simple Dissolution – The situation where one or more existing LEAs are entirely absorbed by one other existing LEA. A new LEA is not created. The name and LEA code of the receiving LEAs are retained.

☐ Grade Range Change – The situation when an LEA changes the grades it covers, for example, changing from covering 9-12 to 7-12.

☐ Level Change – The situation when an LEA changes classification, for example, changing from elementary to unified.

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