

**ARCHULETA COUNTY**  
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To: Archuleta County Commissioners  
From: Larry Walton, Finance Director  
Re: Consideration and Approval to Allocate Secure Rural School Funding to Public Schools

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### **Background**

On April 22, 2020, the State of Colorado disbursed \$270,042.38 to Archuleta County, being the allocated County share of 2020 Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funding. The funding has two potential uses; distribution to public schools teaching students who reside within Archuleta County, or distribution to the County's own Road and Bridge Fund. Each year, a decision must be made regarding how much of the funding will be retained by the County, versus given to the public schools. Current rules require that a minimum of 25% be given to the public schools. Today, we are seeking a decision on the allocation of these funds.

### **Fiscal Impact**

In making the allocation decision, it is important to note that any SRS funds allocated to the County's Road & Bridge Fund will be deducted from a separate source of funding ("Payment In Lieu of Taxes" (PILT) funding) in the following year. Thus, every dollar of SRS funding the County might allocate to Road & Bridge will be deducted from next year's PILT funding the County. Therefore, the County gains nothing by allocating SRS funding to Road & Bridge. If the County allocates the full amount to the public schools, they gain, while the County loses nothing.

### **Recommendations**

Staff recommend allocation of the full amount of 2020 SRS funding to the public schools serving students who reside within the County.

In particular, staff would like the County Commissioners to consider the following motion:

1. Move to approve allocation of 100% of SRS funding received in 2020 to be distributed to public schools teaching students who reside within Archuleta County.