

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

DIPATTAMENTON ATMENESTRASION

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
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May 11, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To:

Governor of Guam

From:

Director of Administration

Subject:

Status and Recommendations

RE: Competitive Wage Act (CWA) Educator Pay Plan (EDU)

Buenas yan Hafa Adai! The Guam Department of Education (GDOE) employs approximately 3,497 employees according to their 1st Quarter Staffing Pattern for Fiscal Year 2022. There are approximately 1,925 employees who are considered educators performing such duties as classroom education, special program consultants, teacher mentors, School Administrators (including Assistant Principals and School Principals) of Elementary and Secondary (Middle and High) schools. Also included, as educators are those that provide services in the capacity of guidance counselors and school librarians. Collectively, the employees of the GDOE are solely responsible for the education, physical, and mental well-being of a large number of the island's children and teenagers. The teaching profession is a very dynamic one, and one that, like many others, had to adapt to the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic in recent years. The tasks of trying to maintain an adequate level of education and engagement of the island's children and teens took the effort of all GDOE employees; on top of other Pandemic-related activities such as food distribution and other duties related to employee safety.

When considering an update to the Educator Pay Plan (EDU), the current workforce and the history of the EDU pay plan was taken into account. It is also worth noting that the GDOE is the largest single agency within the Government of Guam, inclusive of employees who fall under the General Pay Plan (GPP) in the Competitive Wage Act (CWA).

BACKGROUND:

The Educator Pay Plan (EDU) was established and implemented on February 14, 2014 under the government of Guam Competitive Wage Act (CWA) of 2014. The new pay plan, which was fully implemented on October 1, 2014, served as the updated pay schedule for school teachers and school administrators since the implementation of the government of Guam Unified Pay Schedule on October 1, 1991, and all the subsequent authorized salary adjustments prior to the year 2014 (i.e. salary increase authorized pursuant to Public Law 28-36 as amended by P.L. 28-68).

The Fiscal year 2022 Budget Act, Public Law 36-54, Chapter XI, Section 18, authorizes the Governor of Guam to submit no later than September 30, 2022 an implementation plan to the Speaker of the Legislature to adjust classified / unclassified educator compensation and classifications with the goal of implementing salary increases. The methodology of this recommendation was discussed with GDOE. This is the Department of Administration's recommendation to the Governor.

CLASSIFICATION REVIEW:

DOA and GDOE personnel were able to discuss the different aspects of the EDU pay plan and the positions that are currently covered by the CWA. These positions are as follows:

| POSITIONS COVERED BY THE EDUCATOR PAY PLAN (EDU) |
|--|
| School Principal (Elementary and Secondary) - High |
| School Principal (Elementary and Secondary) - Middle |
| School Principal (Elementary and Secondary) - Elementary |
| Assistant School Principal (Elementary and Secondary) |
| School Program Consultant |
| Teacher VI |
| Teacher V |
| Teacher IV |
| Teacher III |
| Teacher II |
| Teacher I-D |
| Teacher I-C |
| Teacher I-B |
| Teacher I-A |
| Vocational Instructor |

As stated previously, currently, the positions included in the list chart above cover approximately 1,925 personnel at the GDOE. As part of the discussions with GDOE human resources personnel, it was stated that there are some proposed changes that the GDOE may be making to the Teacher series of positions. Focus of changes will revolve mainly around the utilization of the "substitute" category of teachers in relation to the duties that they perform. Most of the concerns expressed were those relative to the duties they perform in regards to classroom education and how the level of teaching in many cases is the same as those certified teachers who have formal education in the field of Education. The utilization of the various entry-level positions (i.e., on-call substitute, long-term substitute) and how, based on need, this has increased the number of those positions that may not require teacher certification compared to those entry-level positions that do, has created a need to re-assess the job specifications and requirements for these positions, and how these changes may impact the compensation for two categories of employees performing very similar duties.

In line with the utilization of positions, additional discussions were had for specific positions that may need to be added to the EDU plan and some that may need to be removed from coverage; and possibly abolished or amended altogether. GDOE human resources personnel are assessing what changes, if any, will be requested for those positions covered by the EDU. The DOA team has conveyed that those proposed changes should be formally requested by the GDOE to DOA, so that the appropriate action may be taken.

In regards to the overall classification assessment for the GDOE in relation to their educator positions, it is understood that the GDOE has made a substantial effort to gather stakeholders from within GDOE employees, the Guam Education Policy Board, the Guam Federation of Teachers (GFT), and various school administrators to meet and discuss appropriate changes made to the various positions and how they are utilized with the GDOE.

DOA acknowledges this effort, and for the purposes of this study will collaborate with the GDOE team when requested, but defers many of those changes to the decision-making of GDOE leadership and governing Board.

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COMPENSATION REVIEW AND FINDINGS:

The DOA team conducted both an internal and external analysis of GDOE employee salaries, and available compensation survey resources to provide a recommendation for adjustment to the EDU pay structure; and also, to address some compensation-related issues that impact the overall progression of employees through the various levels of educator positions. The findings are as follows:

The current compensation structure for the EDU pay plan is as follows:

| EDUCATOR PAY PLAN (EDU) | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------------|
| Grade | Step 1 | Step 2 | Step 3 | Step 4 | Step 5 | Step 6 | Step 7 | Step 8 | Step 9 |
| ED-12 | \$74,669 | \$77,498 | \$80,435 | \$83,482 | \$86,645 | \$89,929 | \$93,336 | \$96,297 | \$99,353 |
| ED-11 | \$67,881 | \$70,453 | \$73,122 | \$75,893 | \$78,769 | \$81,753 | \$84,851 | \$87,543 | \$90,321 |
| ED-10 | \$61,710 | \$64,049 | \$66,476 | \$68,994 | \$71,609 | \$74,322 | \$77,138 | \$79,585 | \$82,111 |
| ED-9 | \$56,100 | \$58,226 | \$60,432 | \$62,722 | \$65,098 | \$67,565 | \$70,125 | \$72,350 | \$74,645 |
| ED-8 | \$51,000 | \$52,932 | \$54,938 | \$57,020 | \$59,180 | \$61,423 | \$63,750 | \$65,773 | \$67,860 |
| ED-7 | \$45,939 | \$47,680 | \$49,487 | \$51,362 | \$53,308 | \$55,328 | \$57,424 | \$59,246 | \$61,126 |
| ED-6 | \$43,752 | \$45,410 | \$47,130 | \$48,916 | \$50,770 | \$52,693 | \$54,690 | \$56,425 | \$58,216 |
| ED-5 | \$40,699 | \$42,241 | \$43,842 | \$45,503 | \$47,227 | \$49,017 | \$50,874 | \$52,488 | \$54,154 |
| ED-4 | \$38,762 | \$40,230 | \$41,755 | \$43,337 | \$44,979 | \$46,683 | \$48,452 | \$49,989 | \$51,575 |
| ED-3 | \$36,057 | \$37,423 | \$38,841 | \$40,313 | \$41,840 | \$43,426 | \$45,071 | \$46,501 | \$47,976 |
| ED-2 | \$34,383 | \$35,686 | \$37,038 | \$38,442 | \$39,898 | \$41,410 | \$42,979 | \$44,343 | \$45,750 |
| ED-1D | \$32,855 | \$34,100 | \$35,392 | \$36 ,733 | \$38,125 | \$39,570 | \$41,069 | \$42,372 | \$43,716 |
| ED-1C | \$31,395 | \$32,585 | \$33,819 | \$35,101 | \$36,431 | \$37,811 | \$39,244 | \$40,489 | |
| ED-1B | \$30,000 | \$31,137 | \$32,317 | \$33,541 | \$34,812 | \$36,131 | \$37,500 | \$38,690 | \$41,774 |
| ED-1A | \$28,667 | \$29,753 | \$30,881 | \$32,051 | \$33,265 | \$34,526 | \$35,834 | \$36,971 | \$39,917 \$38,144 |

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| EDUCATORY PAY PLAN (EDU) | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Grade | Step 10 | Step 11 | Step 12 | Step 13 | Step 14 | Step 15 | Step 16 | Step 17 | Step 18 |
| ED-12 | \$102,505 | \$105,757 | \$109,113 | \$112,575 | \$116,147 | \$119,832 | \$123,634 | \$127,557 | \$131,604 |
| ED-11 | \$93,187 | \$96,143 | \$99,194 | \$102,341 | \$105,588 | \$108,938 | \$112,395 | \$115,961 | \$119,640 |
| ED-10 | \$84,716 | \$87,404 | \$90,177 | \$93,038 | \$95,990 | \$99,036 | \$102,178 | \$105,420 | \$108,765 |
| ED-9 | \$77,014 | \$79,457 | \$81,978 | \$84,580 | \$87,263 | \$90,032 | \$92,888 | \$95,836 | \$98,876 |
| ED-8 | \$70,013 | \$72,234 | \$74,526 | \$76,890 | \$79,330 | \$81,847 | \$84,444 | \$87,123 | \$89,888 |
| ED-7 | \$63,065 | \$65,066 | \$67,131 | \$69,261 | \$71,458 | \$73,725 | \$76,064 | \$78,478 | \$80,968 |
| ED-6 | \$60,063 | \$61,968 | \$63,934 | \$65,963 | \$68,056 | \$70,215 | \$72,443 | \$74,741 | \$77,113 |
| ED-5 | \$55,872 | \$57,644 | \$59,473 | \$61,360 | \$63,307 | \$65,316 | \$67,388 | \$69,526 | \$71,732 |
| ED-4 | \$53,212 | \$54,900 | \$56,642 | \$58,439 | \$60,293 | \$62,206 | \$64,180 | \$66,216 | \$68,317 |
| ED-3 | \$49,499 | \$51,069 | \$52,689 | \$54,361 | \$56,086 | \$57,866 | \$59,702 | \$61,596 | \$63,550 |
| ED-2 | \$47,201 | \$48,699 | \$50,244 | \$51,838 | \$53,483 | \$55,180 | \$56,930 | \$58,737 | \$60,600 |
| ED-1D | \$45,104 | \$46,535 | \$48,011 | \$49,534 | \$51,106 | \$52,727 | \$54,400 | \$56,126 | \$57,907 |
| ED-1C | \$43,099 | \$44,467 | \$45,878 | \$47,333 | \$48,835 | \$50,384 | \$51,983 | \$53,632 | \$55,334 |
| ED-18 | \$41,184 | \$42,491 | \$43,839 | \$45,230 | \$46,665 | \$48,145 | \$49,673 | \$51,249 | \$52,875 |
| ED-1A | \$39,354 | \$40,603 | \$41,891 | \$43,220 | \$44,592 | \$46,006 | \$47,466 | \$48,972 | \$50,526 |

The positions covered under the EDU plan are assigned respective grades as follows:

| EDU POSITIONS AND ASSIGNED PAY GRAD | DES |
|---|-------|
| School Principal (Elem and Sec) – High | ED-11 |
| School Principal (Elem and Sec) - Middle | ED-10 |
| School Principal (Elem and Sec) - Elem | ED-9 |
| Assistant School Principal (Elem and Sec) | ED-8 |
| School Program Consultant | ED-7 |
| . Teacher VI | ED-6 |
| Teacher V | ED-5 |
| Teacher IV | ED-4 |
| Teacher III | ED-3 |
| Teacher II | ED-2 |
| Teacher I-D | ED-1D |
| Teacher I-C | ED-1C |
| Teacher I-B | ED-1B |
| Teacher I-A | ED-1A |
| Vocational Instructor | ED-2 |
| Head Start Teacher | ED-1A |
| Head Start Program Director | ED-9 |
| Head Start Program Assistant Director | ED-7 |
| Chamorro Studies Administrator | ED-10 |

The positions covered under the EDU and their respective Minimum Qualification Requirements:

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| EDU POSITIONS | S & MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS |
|---|--|
| School Principal (Elem and Sec) – High | Master's Degree + 2yrs of Supervisory Experience + 3yrs of Teaching + Certification in School Administration & Supervision |
| School Principal (Elem and Sec) - Middle | Master's Degree + 2yrs of Supervisory Experience + 3yrs of Teaching + Certification in School Administration & Supervision |
| School Principal (Elem and Sec) – Elem | Master's Degree + 2yrs of Supervisory Experience + 3yrs o Teaching + Certification in School Administration & Supervision |
| Assistant School Principal (Elem and Sec) | Master's Degree + 3yrs of Teaching + Certification in School Administration & Supervision |
| School Program Consultant | Master's Degree + 3yrs of Teaching + Guam Teaching Certification or Bachelor's Degree + 3yrs of Teaching + 18 Graduate Credits + Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher VI | Terminal Degree + Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher V | Master's Degree + 30 Semester Credit Hours of Post- Graduate Credits + Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher IV | Master's Degree + Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher III | Bachelor's Degree + 18 Semester Credit Hours Post- Graduate Credits + Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher II | Bachelor's Degree + Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher I-D | Master's Degree + <18 Semester Credit Hours of Education Course Credits + Emergency/Provisional Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher I-C | Bachelor's Degree + <18 Semester Credit Hours of Educatio Course Credits + Emergency/Provisional Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher I-B | 60 Semester Credit Hours < Bachelor's Degree + Emergency/Provisional Guam Teaching Certification |
| Teacher I-A | 30 Semester Credit Hours < Bachelor's Degree + Emergency/Provisional Guam Teaching Certification |
| Vocational Instructor | Bachelor's Degree + 3yrs Skilled Experience + Emergency Guam Teaching Certification or Associate's Degree + 4yrs Skilled Experience + Emergency Guam Teaching Certification or High School + 2yrs Skilled Experience + 6 Semester Credit Hours of Education Course Credits + Emergency Guam Teaching Certification |
| Head Start Teacher | High School + 2yrs Nursery Experience + Head Start Certification |
| Head Start Program Director | Master's Degree + 3yrs Teaching + 2yrs of Supervisory Experience + Head Start Certification or Bachelor's Degree + 4yrs Teaching + 2yrs of Supervisory Experience + Head Star Certification |
| Head Start Program Assistant Director | Bachelor's Degree + 4yrs Teaching + Head Start Certification |
| Chamorro Studies Administrator | Master's Degree + 3yrs Teaching + 3yrs Administration Experience + Chamorro Language Certification or Bachelor's Degree + 5yrs Teaching + 2yrs Administration Experience + Chamorro Language Certification |

The DOA team utilized salary data from the 1st Quarter Staffing Pattern for Fiscal Year 2022. The internal and external salary analysis is as follows:

TABLE A. GDOE Staffing as of 1st Quarter 2022 (P/A Base Salary). Total Educators = 1,925.

| Position | No. Employees | Lowest Salary | Average Salary | Highest Salary |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Teacher I-A | 9 | \$28,667.00 | \$32,469.00 | \$40,603.00 |
| Teacher I-B | 43 | \$30,000.00 | \$36,246.00 | \$48,145.00 |
| Teacher I-C | 64 | \$31,395.00 | \$33,937.00 | \$50,384.00 |
| Teacher I-D | 2 | \$32,855.00 | \$32,855.00 | \$32,855.00 |
| Teacher II | 382 | \$34,383.00 | \$40,601.00 | \$58,737.00 |
| Teacher III | 353 | \$36,057.00 | \$51,863.00 | \$67,551.00 |
| Teacher IV | 699 | \$38,762.00 | \$54,388.00 | \$74,869.00 |
| Teacher V | 245 | \$40,699.00 | \$62,916.00 | \$78,612.00 |
| Teacher VI | 37 | \$43,752.00 | \$65,071.00 | \$79,504.00 |
| School Program Consultant | 4 | \$63,065.00 | \$68,078.00 | \$78,478.00 |
| Head Start Program Director | 1 | \$79,457.00 | \$79,457.00 | \$79,457.00 |
| Assistant Principal - Elem | 6 | \$61,423.00 | \$73,264.00 | \$81,847.00 |
| Assistant Principal - Sec | 40 | \$54,938.00 | \$69,655.00 | \$95,547.00 |
| School Principal - Elem | 25 | \$77,014.00 | \$84,204.00 | \$105,101.0 |
| School Principal - Middle | 10 | \$77,138.00 | \$88,884.00 | \$122,892.0 |
| School Principal - High | 5 | \$90,321.00 | \$96,352.00 | \$105,588.0 |

TABLE B. National Compensation Surveys (Elementary-Secondary Teachers):

| Date | Name | Average Wage Per Annum |
|------------|--|------------------------|
| 2020-21 SY | National Education Association (NEA) | \$65,090.00 |
| March 2022 | Salary.com | \$61,468.00 |
| May 2021 | USDOL – Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) | \$58,730.00 |
| March 2022 | Payscale.com | \$49,986.00 |
| | Average | \$58,819.00 |

TABLE C. Teacher Salary Average (all Levels) and Average National Wage Comparison. Total Teachers = 1,834.

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| POSITION | Percent of Employees Less than 5 Years of Service | AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY PER ANNUM | NATIONAL AVERAGE WAGE PER ANNUM FROM TABLE B (MARKET) |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| Teacher I-A (9) | 67% | \$32,469.00 | |
| Teacher I-B (43) | 47% | \$36,246.00 | GMSdateL_o |
| Teacher I-C (64) | 83% | \$33,937.00 | The second section is a second se |
| Teacher I-D (2) | 100% | \$32,855.00 | |
| Teacher II (382) | 56% ¹ 92819 | \$40,601.00 | A DESCRIPTION OF THE STREET |
| Teacher III (353) | 20% | \$51,863.00 | et = concept ver |
| Teacher IV (699) | 19% | \$54,388.00 | teritori de |
| Teacher V (245) | 12% | \$62,916.00 | |
| Teacher VI (37) | 16% | \$65,071.00 | * (4) 47.52319&4 |
| | AVERAGE | \$45,594.00 | \$58,819.00 |
| | | PERCENT LAG | -29% |

TABLE D. Reference Group. Teacher Salary Average (at Benchmark w/largest number of teachers and more than 5 years of experience) and Average National Wage Comparison (Behind market -% or above market + %):

| POSITION TO LE | PERCENT OF EMPLOYEES LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF SERVICE | AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY PER ANNUM | AVERAGE NATIONAL WAGE (MARKET) | PERCENT DIFFERENCE (Neg. – Behind Market/Position – Above Market) |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Teacher II (382) | 56% | \$40,601.00 | \$58,819.00 | -45% |
| Teacher III (353) | 20% | \$51,863.00 | \$58,819.00 | -13% |
| Teacher IV (699) | 19% | \$54,388.00 | \$58,819.00 | -8%) |
| | | Reference Group | Average % Lag | -22% |

TABLE E. Teacher Salary Average (Above market with 86% above 5 years' service) and Average National Wage Comparison:

| POSITION | Percent of Employees Less than 5 Years of Service | AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY PER ANNUM | AVERAGE NATIONAL WAGE (MARKET) | PERCENT DIFFERENCE (Neg. – Behind Market/Pos. – Above Market) |
|-----------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| Teacher V (245) | 12% | \$62,916.00 | \$58,819.00 | +7% |
| Teacher VI (37) | 16% | \$65,071.00 | \$58,819.00 | +10% |
| | | Avera | ige % above Market | 9% |

TABLE F. Average School Administrator Salary and Average National Wage Comparison. Total School Administrators = 81.

| POSITION | AVERAGE ADMIN. SALARY PER ANNUM | AVERAGE NATIONAL WAGE (BLS) |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Assistant Principal – Elem (6) | \$73,264.00 | \$102,760.00 |
| Assistant Principal – Sec (40) | \$69,655.00 | |
| School Principal – Elem (25) | \$84,204.00 | All Other School Admin: |
| School Principal – Middle (10) | \$88,884.00 | \$96,810.00 |
| School Principal – High (5) | \$96,352.00 | |
| AVERAGE | \$82,471.00 | \$99,785.00 |
| | PERCENT LAG | -21% |

TABLE G. Proposed work pay differential for difficult-to-fill administrator positions for purposes of recruitment and retention. This is a percentage of the base salary added to the employee's base pay, which takes into account scope of duties and responsibilities and magnitude of student characteristics and population.

Administrator Pay Differential

| PERCENT DIFFERENTIAL | POSITION |
|-------------------------|--|
| 10% | Assistant School Principal – All Levels (Ed-8) (Elementary, Middle, High School) |
| 15% | School Principal – All Levels (Elementary, Middle, High School) (Ed-9) |

OBSERVATIONS:

1. The total number of Educators as of the 1st Quarter of FY2022 is 1,925 (Table A). This includes teachers as well as school administrators. The average salary for all teachers combined is \$45,594 P/A (Table C). The average national wage for elementary and secondary schoolteachers from four survey sources is \$58,819 (Table B). The percent lag behind the average national wage for all teachers combined is 29%. However, this percent lag may be misleading since the Teacher 1A-1D are mostly temporary hires and do not receive any salary increment benefits, thus skewing the 29 percent lag for all teachers combined.

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- 2. The total number of teachers from Teacher 1A to Teacher VI as of the 1st Quarter of FY2022 is 1,834 (Table C). Teacher 1's are not fully certified teachers and make up only 6% of the total teacher population with the majority having less than five (5) years of service. Teacher II's are fully certified and make up 21% of all teachers with the majority having less than five (5) years of service. This may explain why Teacher II staff salaries lag behind the national average wage by as much as 45% (Table D). However, Teacher III's and IV's only lag behind the national average of the total number of teachers. Teacher III, III, and IV's ("reference group") collectively make up 78% of the total number of teachers. Teacher III's and IV's collectively make up 45% of the total number of teachers. More than 80% of Teacher III's and above have five (5) or more years of service. The average lag behind the national average wage for these benchmark positions is 11% (Table D). This benchmark percentage is a more accurate indicator of the lag behind the national average wage for certified teachers. In addition, the Teacher V and VI average salaries combined exceed the average national wage by 9% (Table E).
- 3. Preliminary observations indicate a good retention of certified teachers from Teacher III level and above. As for Teacher II's, the majority of teachers hired are new with about 30% of them having less than two (2) years of service. As mentioned earlier, this fact may be contributing to the unusually high 45% lag behind the national teacher average wage and appears to further skew the benchmark percentage. By focusing on the Teacher II, III and IV positions (reference group) only which represent approximately 78% of all seasoned certified teachers, the benchmark percentage may be assessed at a minimum average of 20% behind the national average wage.
- 4. The total number of school administrators as of the 1st Quarter of FY2022 is 86 (Table F). The national average wage salaries (BLS) for Education Administrators ranges from \$96,810 to \$102,760 per annum and averages \$99,785 per annum. A 10% market movement of the educator base salaries will reduce the average lag behind the national average wage between all administrators to 12%. This pay gap may be reduced further with a proposed flat or variable pay differential recruitment and retention incentive for difficult-to-fill administrative positions (Table G).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

 To be competitive and address the recruitment difficulty of new teachers under the new pay plan, and in an effort to take into consideration employees at GDOE who may be part of future increases to other pay plans, and to add incentive to those whose salaries are slightly ahead of market, DOA recommends a base salary increase to the EDU Pay Plan structure by 16%.

- 2. To prevent or reduce issues of salary compression between incumbents and new hire salaries under the new pay plan structure, DOA recommends that a "step-to-step" slotting or movement of current incumbent salaries into the new pay plan implement the updated EDU Pay Plan structure. This will ensure that the net increase applied to all employees will maintain an appropriate salary gapping for those employees who are newer to the profession and those with more experience, time, and service.
- To retain school administrators and persuade teachers to become school administrators (and fill difficult-to-recruit administrative positions), DOA recommends a flat rate work pay differential percentage for all difficult-to-recruit administrator positions at 10% and 15% for Assistant School Principals and School Principals respectively.
- 4. To maintain a competitive EDU Pay Plan structure moving forward, DOA recommends an annual structure adjustment of at least 3% to 5% with a comprehensive market review to be conducted every three (3) years thereafter.
- Any adjustments to the structure or implementation of differentials, should they approved, are recommended to be effective prior to the new school year beginning. This will give time for coordination between the human resources offices of both DOA and GDOE for proper implementation and transition.

If approved, implementation procedures and policies will be issued to guide the transition of employees into the updated EDU pay plan. It is also noted that of the 3,497 total employees, 1,452 of them belong to the General Pay Plan (GPP) under the CWA. Positions and employees that fall under the GPP will be assessed subsequent to this proposal, and recommendations will be made accordingly to the Governor by the DOA.

Should the recommended structure increase to the EDU pay plan be approved, the average salary of teachers will be as follows:

| AVERAGE EDUCATOR SALARY (CURRENT) (TEACHER II – IV) | AVERAGE EDUCATOR SALARY (ADJUSTED – 16%) | AVERAGE NATIONAL WAGE (MARKET) | PERCENTILE WAGE ESTIMATE EDUCATOR (REFERENCE GROUP) - 50 TH PERCENTILE (BLS) | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| \$48,951.00 | \$56,783 | \$58,819.00 | \$57,220.00 | |

The estimates above reflect the recommended **16%** EDU pay plan structure movement and the impact it would have relative to aligning the pay structure with relevant markets. As with most statistics, salaries will continue to fluctuate based on various factors. The recommended annual adjustments are designed to address those movements and trends.

This recommendation is based on data associated with the reference group, which excludes uncredentialed but professionally qualified teachers whose salaries are outside the normal range. DOA recommended increase would be applied to this group. If, however, this group were included in market rate comparison, because of their separated pay scale, an increase of 20% would be required to move all pay grades to the market average (50th percentile). The annual cost of such increase is estimated at \$30,412,586.

It is worth noting that costs associated with the increases should be factored and incorporated into subsequent fiscal year budgets for those positions and employees covered by the EDU pay plan.

CONCLUSION:

Teachers are not just responsible for formally providing education to the children and teens they interact with on a daily basis. Teachers are also responsible for shaping the minds of future generations who will provide the leadership, ingenuity, and the direction of society for years to come. The knowledge passed on to future generations will empower them to provide innovative solutions, make educated decisions, encourage future growth in economies, maintain and pass down traditions and values, and shape the character of children in preparation for them to adapt to the different situations in life. Teaching and guiding future generations in an effort to unlock their full potential is a lifelong mission. The dedicated teachers and school administrators take on the task every day that they perform their duties at the GDOE. The adjustments being proposed are an effort to keep compensation for the profession moving with relevant external markets and, with your approval, the DOA can begin to take steps to collaborate with the GDOE for implementation of any approved adjustments.

DOA recommends an across-the-board increase of 16%, administrator pay differential of 10% and 15% for assistant principals and school principals respectively and an annual pay increase of 3% to 5% to ensure that EDU does not fall behind market averages.

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