

**SCHOOL BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE
SUMMARY OF ACTION
October 15, 2019**

The School Budget Review Committee held hearings beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at the Department of Education, State Board Room, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146. Members of the Committee consist of the following: Director Ryan Wise, Department of Education, Director Dave Roederer, Department of Management, and public members: Gretchen Tegeler, Keith England, Leland Tack, and Martha Bruckner. The director of the Department of Education is a non-voting member and the chair.

All decisions by the Committee shall be made in accordance with reasonable and uniform policies which shall be consistent with chapter 257. All such policies of general application shall be stated in rules adopted in accordance with chapter 17A. The Committee shall take into account the intent of chapter 257 to equalize educational opportunity, to provide a good education for all the children of Iowa, to provide property tax relief, to decrease the percentage of school costs paid from property taxes, and to provide reasonable control of school costs. The Committee shall also take into account the amount of funds available (257.31(10)). The SBRC shall review a school district's unexpended fund balance prior to any decision regarding unusual finance circumstances. The SBRC shall review a school district's unspent balance prior to any decision to increase modified supplemental amount under subsection 257.31(5).

1. Committee Informational Item

Cash Reserve Levy. The Committee reviewed the final listing of districts levying for the cash reserve authorized in Iowa Code section 298.10. This was an update to the cash reserve levy limit list discussed during the March 2019 hearing. Of the 213 districts levying for cash reserve, 73 did so at the maximum allowed level. Three districts had the ability to levy but did not levy.

2. Late Filers of CAR, SES, or Transportation Reports

The Committee directed the districts and AEAs to file all future CAR, SES, and ATR in the manner and by the date prescribed by the Department of Education, including extensions granted for unusual circumstances that meet the definition of good cause. The date prescribed is September 15 following the close of the fiscal year. September 15, 2019 fell on a Sunday so the deadline was moved to Monday, September 16, 2019.

The Committee also required each district or AEA that did not certify its COA, SES, or ATR by September 15th (September 16, 2019), or by the extended due date if applicable, to appear before the committee at its regular session in December following the close of the fiscal year to present the procedures that the district or AEA will implement to prevent late filing of the Certified Annual Report (CAR), special education supplement (SES), and annual transportation report (ATR) in all future years. These districts or AEAs are:

- Green Hills AEA

3. Reorganization Progress Reports

The Committee was provided a summary of district progress toward reorganization. No districts chose to request supplementary.

District not submitting a progress report by choice:

Charter Oak-Ute
Prairie Valley
Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn
Adair-Casey
North Union
Hubbard-Radcliffe
Schleswig

4. Rule Adoption: The committee adopted amendments to the Iowa Administrative Code rule 289 Chapter 1, "Organization and Administrative Procedures," Chapter 4, "Agency Procedures for Rule Making," and Chapter 6, "Duties and Operational Procedures".
5. Hudson Community School District. The committee approved modified supplemental amount for the 2019-2020 school year in the amount of \$8,547.75 for environmental hazard abatement.
6. Panorama Community School District. The committee approved modified supplemental amount for the 2019-2020 school year in the amount of \$35,980.74 for an unusual and unanticipated cost increase in their cost of electricity.
7. Hamburg Community School District. The committee denied \$19,431.10, tabled \$17,425.67, and approved modified supplemental amount for the 2019-2020 school year in the amount of \$4,265.00 for an unusual natural disaster.
8. Davenport Community School District. The committee received the district's progress report on its corrective action plan and denied the request for modified supplemental amount for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$11,923,713.