

## Excess Costs of English Learner Program, 2024

### **Background:**

During the 2023 – 2024 budget year, the cost for providing our English Learner (EL) program exceeded the funding stream and revenues provided by the State of Iowa.

Under Iowa School Finance Law, a public school may request increased spending authority for excess costs to provide additional instruction beyond regular instruction for an EL program. The request does not increase the actual cash the district receives. It only increases spending authority, which can be funded through the Cash Reserve Levy.

This is similar to our special education deficit balance, except it is for our EL program.

School districts that want to request the modified supplemental amount may do so on an application form to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC).

Board minutes showing official action taken by the board authorizing the request to the SBRC are required and are uploaded within the application.

### **Excess Costs:**

For Fiscal Year 2024, our excess cost for serving our EL students was \$100,913.96.

By comparison, . . .

For FY 2023, our excess cost for serving our LEP students was \$91,408.63.

For FY 2022, our excess cost for serving our LEP students was \$91,105.23.

For FY 2021, our excess cost for serving our LEP students was \$64,208.96.

For FY 2020, our excess cost for serving our LEP students was \$126,818.84.

For FY 2019, our excess cost for serving our LEP students was \$83,013.31.

Please see the accompanying sheet.

### **Recommended Action:**

I recommend the board move to approve the SBRC application for a modified supplemental amount to cover our excess cost of \$100,913.96 for providing our EL program for Fiscal Year 2024.