

Elementary Class-size Funds

Background:

Both the state of Iowa and the federal government provide funding to elementary schools intended for use to reduce class size K-3. The funding is in response to research that suggests that low class size at the K-3 level increases student achievement and reduces student learning problems in later grades. Our allocations appear below.

Dist. No.	District Name	Iowa Early Intervention Supplement (class size)	Federal Title II Funds	Total Class Size Reduction Funds
0594	Belmond-Klemme	\$57,716.00	\$27,010.00	\$84,726.00

For the current year, we have two instructors we use to reduce class size K-3. The cost of those instructors is as follows:

Salary	FICA	IPERS	Health/Dent	LTD	Total
\$ 70,200	\$ 5,370	\$ 6,269	\$ 17,280	\$ 132	\$ 99,251

As you can see from the tables above, the class size funding from the state and federal governments provides us with less than two full-time teaching positions.

K-3 enrollment projections for Belmond-Klemme for next fall suggest the following distribution of students:

	Grade Total		Regular		
Kindergarten	54		18	18	18
Grade 1	48		16	16	16
Grade 2	45		23	22	
Grade 3	42		21	21	
Total	189	/	10	=	18.9

Average projected for Belmond-Klemme in K-3 = 18.9

Average recommended by the state = 17.0

Average recommended by the fed. = 18.0

Options Available:

- We can continue to use the funding to provide 2.0 FTE positions.
- We can divert the funding to provide more teacher assistants instead.
- We can use funding to provide training and professional development to our primary grade faculty.
- We can use the funding to access technology and other reading instructional materials.

Recommended Action: I recommend we continue to fund the positions that we currently fund (no changes).