

Excess Costs of Limited English Proficient Program, 2023

Background:

During the 2022 – 2023 budget year, our Belmond-Klemme cost for providing our Limited English Proficient (LEP) program exceeded the funding stream and revenues provided by the State of Iowa.

Under Iowa School Finance Law, a public school may request from the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) increased spending authority for excess costs to provide instruction for an LEP 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 LEP program.

School districts that want to request modified supplemental amount from the SBRC for the costs in excess of weightings and other resources for providing additional instruction beyond the regular instruction to LEP students may do so on an application form.

Board minutes showing official action taken by the board authorizing the request to the SBRC are due prior to the certification of the application and are uploaded within the application.

In October, we will also ask the SBRC for a modified supplemental amount for serving LEP students beyond the five years of weightings.

Excess Costs:

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

By comparison, . . .

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 \$91,408.63 for providing our LEP program for Fiscal Year 2023.