SCHOOL BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE
Summary of Decisions
March 19, 2012

The School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) met in regular session on Monday, March 19, 2012, at the Department of Education, ICN Room, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146. The following members were present: Director Jason Glass, Department of Education, Director Dave Roederer, Department of Management, and public committee members Gina Primmer, Brian Thilges, and Leland Tack. Member Jane Babcock was absent. Votes were unanimous except where noted.

All decisions by the Committee shall be made in accordance with reasonable and uniform policies which shall be consistent with chapter 257. 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 allowable growth under subsection 257.31(5).

1. Committee Informational Items 9:00

Board Minutes. The Committee was informed that not all board minutes for districts requesting class action modified allowable growth in January and March were submitted.

Federal Iowa Demonstration Grant Award Update. The Committee was information that no new funding has been received for federal construction and fire safety grants, and no further grants are anticipated. As previously directed by the SBRC, the Department will award any unexpended and reverted funds to fund partially-funded awarded grants to the next highest ranked district or districts to the extent that the funding is made available.

Gifted and Talented Budgetary Information. As required by Iowa Code 257.45, the list of budget amounts for FY2013 gifted and talented children program for each school district were provided to the SBRC. The amount provided in the DCPP is $56 with a required $18.67 local match from the regular program district cost per budget enrollment.

Update on Exira Phase II Visit. In January 2012, the Committee recommended to the Department of Education that the Department implement a phase II on-site visit to conduct a fiscal review of the Exira Community School District. The recommendation was forwarded to the State Board of Education for its March 29, 2012 meeting.

Performance and Compliance Audit. The state auditor's office has begun reviewing the procedures of the SBRC in relationship to Iowa Code. The stated intent is that the SBRC will undergo a performance and compliance audit review each year forward.

Fiscal Year 2013 Hearing Session Schedule. The Committee discussed and established a hearing schedule pursuant to rules:

- Monday, August 6, 2012 for a work session.
- Monday, October 8, 2012.

- Monday, December 10, 2012.
- Monday, March 18, 2013.

2. Returning Dropout/Dropout Prevention Programs. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2012-2013 school year for the districts that have approved applications for Returning Dropout and Dropout Prevention programs.

3. Special Education Administrative Costs. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to table the request for the use of special education funds for administrative costs of special education programs for the 2012-13 school year for the districts approved by the Department of Education until more information is available.

4. Late Application for Open Enrollment Out Not on Previous Headcount. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-2012 school year in the total amount of $22,637 for Riceville for tuition costs incurred for open enrollment students not included on the previous year's certified enrollment report.

5. Prairie Valley Community School District. The decision of the committee in this matter was to deny modified allowable growth for the 2011-2012 school year in the amount of $111,540 as part of its previous corrective action plan. Aye: Thilges, Primmer, Roederer; Nay: Tack.

6. Southern Cal Community School District. The decision of the committee in this matter was to deny modified allowable growth of $52,301 for the 2011-2012 school year as part of its corrective action plan, not accept the district's corrective action plan but direct the district to reduce expenditures sufficiently to ensure it will end FY12 with a positive unspent balance, and to direct the district to submit monthly reports to its board *and to the SBRC* demonstrating the financial position of the district in relationship to its certified budget control lines and to maximum spending authority. These reports shall be available to the auditor on request.

7. Starmont Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to not accept the district's corrective action plan and to direct the district to reduce expenditures sufficiently to ensure it will end FY12 with a positive unspent balance, and to direct the district to submit monthly reports to its board *and to the SBRC* demonstrating the financial position of the district in relationship to its certified budget control lines and to maximum spending authority. These reports shall be available to the auditor on request.

8. Twin Rivers Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $132,042 to make a permanent transfer from the General Fund to its Day Care Fund in the amount of the interfund loan outstanding when the day care was closed and to approve the interfund transfer from General Fund to the Day Care Fund in the amount of $132,042.25. Aye: Tack, Primmer, Roederer; Nay: Thilges.

The Committee stated that it is not their intent to set a precedent with their decisions on modified allowable growth for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted, or other resources. These decisions apply to this hearing session only, and the Committee plans to discuss the issues during a work session.

9. Waterloo Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $646,345 for asbestos abatement and in the amount of $673,110 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

10. Western Dubuque Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $59,287 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

11. Muscatine Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $627,588 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

12. Davenport Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $747,484 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

13. West Des Moines Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $1,215,617 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

14. Norwalk Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $8,359 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

15. Urbandale Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $656,765 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English

proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

16. Cedar Rapids Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $681,598 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

17. Johnston Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $261,356 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

18. Saydel Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $27,174 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

19. Southeast Polk Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $168,184 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

20. Dubuque Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $182,676 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

21. Ames Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $250,361 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

22. North Polk Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $26,817 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources.

The decision of the Committee in this matter was to deny modified allowable growth for the 2010-11 school year in the amount of $66,807 to calculate special education expenditures in a different manner which would increase the special education deficit, because the Committee lacks legal jurisdiction in the matter.

23. Ankeny Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter is to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $79,380 for the costs of providing additional instructional services to limited English proficient students in excess of weightings generated, modified allowable growth granted or other resources. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $9,075,102 for the costs related to initial staffing and opening new school buildings.

24. Boone Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $148,092 for asbestos abatement.

25. Belmond-Klemme Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-12 school year in the amount of $83,887 for asbestos abatement.

26. Woden-Crystal Lake Community School District. No decision of the Committee was made in this matter. The motion failed to approve modified allowable growth for the 2011-2012 school year in the amount of $11,505 as part of its corrective action plan. No motion to deny was offered. Aye: Primmer; Nay: Tack, Thilges, Roederer.

27. Lu Verne Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to deny modified allowable growth for the 2011-2012 school year in the amount of $26,651 as part of its corrective action plan and to receive and accept the district's corrective action plan. The district was directed to submit monthly reports to its board demonstrating the financial position of the district in relationship to its certified budget control lines and to maximum spending authority. These reports shall be available to the SBRC and to the auditor on request.

28. Winterset Community School District. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to deny modified allowable growth for the 2011-2012 school year in the amount of $41,740 for remodeling costs and to table the request for modified allowable growth for the 2011-2012 school year in the amount of $216,012 for startup costs of a new program until next fiscal year when all costs and revenues can be identified.

29. SBRC Rule Amendments. The decision of the Committee in this matter was to adopt amendments for 289 IAC chapter 6.