Agenda Item: Preschool Update

Iowa Goal: All children will enter school ready to learn.

State Board Role/Authority: In Iowa Code, the State Board, in collaboration with the Department of Education, shall ensure that the administrative rules adopted to support the preschool program emphasize that children’s access to the program is voluntary, that the preschool foundation aid provided to a school district is provided based upon the enrollment of eligible students in the school district’s local program regardless of whether an eligible student is a resident of the school district, and that agreements entered into by a school district for the provision of programming in settings other than the school district’s facilities are between the school district and the private provider.

Presenters: Jeff Berger, Deputy Director
Division of School Finance and Support Services

Kimberly Villotti, Administrative Consultant
Bureau of Standards and Curriculum

Attachments: None

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board hear and discuss this information.

Background: The Department of Education is responsible for various preschool programs in Iowa, including Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs, Shared Visions Preschool Programs, Head Start Preschool Programs, and early childhood special education services. A summary of Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs illustrates how preschool programming in Iowa has evolved.