The School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) met in regular session on Tuesday, August 19, 2014, 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 Brad Buck, Department of Education, Director Dave Roederer, Department of Management, and public members: Gretchen Tegeler, Gina Primmer, Keith England, and Leland Tack. Votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted. The director of the Department of Education is a non-voting member and the chair.

All decisions by the Committee shall be made in accordance with reasonable and uniform policies which shall be consistent with chapter 257. All such policies of general application shall be stated in rules adopted in accordance with chapter 17A. 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 supplemental amount under subsection 257.31(5).

1. Committee Informational Items
The Committee reviewed the list of cash reserve levy limits by district and those levies reduced as a result of exceeding the limits permitted in Iowa Code.

2. Reorganization Progress Reports
The decision of the Committee in this matter is to accept the reports of progress toward reorganization submitted by the whole-grade sharing districts listed for approval and to allow those districts showing progress to request supplementary weighting for whole grade sharing on their October 1, 2015, certified supplementary weighting enrollment for eligible resident students.

Some districts did not show progress at this time: Alta and Aurelia, Denison and Schleswig, Decorah and North Winneshiek, and Hubbard-Radcliffe and Eldora-New Providence. Iowa Administrative Code states that a school district whose progress report is not accepted shall be allowed to submit a revised progress report at the next regular meeting of the school budget review committee. The committee shall accept or reject the revised progress report. If the district does not submit a revised progress report, or if the school budget review committee rejects the revised progress report, the school district shall not be eligible for supplementary weighting for whole-grade sharing.

Committee member Keith England recused himself.