



SCHOOL BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting. The School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) met on August 16, 2016. The Committee reviewed two action items and two informational items. The Committee then had a work session, during which no official action was taken.

Hearings. During the hearings time, the Committee heard information on the cash reserve levy limit list and a final report on the Columbus School District Phase 1 visit. The Columbus School District visit occurred in April 2016 to review the continued growth of the district's negative unspent budget authority. The Committee determined that there was no further action required at this time.

The Committee also reviewed a request from Bettendorf Community School District to use funds on hand (beyond its spending authority) to perform upgrades on the district's planetarium. The Committee voted in favor.

The SBRC also approved amending the FY 2017 budgets of three school districts that had misallocated administrator costs on their certified budgets. Corrections were approved for Cedar Rapids, Council Bluffs, and Glenwood.

Work Session. The Committee heard information on Department of Education editing procedures, plans for tracking the final usage of the "Secretary's Balance," and general updates from the Department. The Committee also heard presentations from the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) and Iowa School Finance Information Service (ISFIS) on school budget projection tools that each organization offers.

The SBRC also had requested and received information on unspent balance as a percentage of total budget (by school district), modified supplemental aid as a percentage of total expenditures, and the results of negotiated salary settlements as compared to a district's budget growth.

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