ISD Appropriations Fact Sheet - Fiscal Year 2010

ISD 2009 – How Funding Supported Programs for Students

Funds from Allowable Growth (4 percent, minus 1.5% reversion=3.5%):
- Continued high quality instruction for 109 deaf or hard-of-hearing students on-campus from Toddler to 21 years old, and 55 students off-campus through itinerant teacher service.
- Maintained “fixed” funding items and increases without significant program reductions.
  - Staff and faculty salary increases, including AFSCME negotiated raises and steps.
  - Increases in benefit health insurance and Worker’s Compensation premiums.
  - Increases in employer contributions to retirement (mandated).
- Continued ISD focus on core programs, enhancing student achievement.
  - Literacy program components continue to be funded; student proficiency increasing.
  - Tracking student achievement for reading and mathematics – computerized database.
  - Funds for special programs or equipment, e.g., SMARTboards, acquired through grants.

Funds from the Regents Salary Funding Bill:
- Brought ISD direct teaching faculty salaries more into parity with regular classroom teachers, in Iowa and across the U.S. (“Teacher Quality” funding legislation previously passed for FY09 had not included teachers at the Iowa special schools.)

Looking To the Future – FY 2010

What a 6.5% or More Budget Cut Would Mean for ISD’s Students:
- Significant program reductions. The General Fund Appropriation is the basis for all ISD programs, and comprises 96% of all funding for ISD by state mandate.
- Cannot meet increases in “fixed” costs listed above, true budget effect closer to 12-16% less.
- Direct instruction and dormitories would have to be restructured with less service available.
- Increase deferred maintenance and facilities updates except to address health/safety.

As a state special school, ISD cannot levy local funding, nor charge tuition under federal and state special education laws. The single main source of funding for ISD is its general appropriation from the Iowa Legislature.

What Would Help Minimize Program Reductions:
- Align ISD with “allowable growth” of regular education K-12, maintain the current FY2009 level and appropriate a 2% increase, and maintain “teacher quality” funding through Regents Salary Bill.