



The Washington State
BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 15, 2024

In response to OFM's request for budget reduction proposals, we have reviewed the State Board of Education's funding sources and considered OFM's list of potential reduction options for each source. However, we have been unable to identify any savings, for reasons listed below in italics under each option.

1. Under-expenditures, premium adjustments and efficiencies
We do not anticipate any under-expenditures or premium adjustments, and we are operating as efficiently as possible within the constraints of being administratively housed within the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). There may be some savings (likely on the order of \$20k-40k or less) if OSPI charges less indirect than we have budgeted for, but conversely there may be additional costs if OSPI charges more indirect than we've budgeted for. We typically do not find out what indirect rate OSPI will retroactively charge for each fiscal year until late in the year.
2. Mainly Near General Fund accounts (General Fund-State, Education Legacy Trust, Opportunity Pathways, and Workforce Education Investment), but consider all accounts for savings
All of SBE's state funding is from Near General Fund Accounts.
3. Use of other funds in lieu of General Fund-State whenever possible
SBE's ability to use funds other than General Fund-State is limited because our only alternative state source is the Opportunity Pathways account, currently a \$352,000 biennial appropriation that represents about 3% of SBE's current biennial budget. Moreover, we anticipate fully expending these funds.
4. Program eliminations, reductions, and delays especially for those programs or services that do not meet the agency's core mission.
Our only program with specific proviso funding is Mastery-Based Learning Demonstration Sites, which meets our agency's core mission and currently provides professional learning and related services to educators in over 40 schools statewide, including a cohort of 24 schools in 17 districts that is in its second year of the four-year program. Eliminating, reducing, or delaying the program would be extremely disruptive to these schools.
5. Central services charge programs (would the action impact central service costs?)
No impact.
6. Offsets to savings (does the reduction in one program move the problem and cost to another program?)
Not applicable.
7. Overlapping programs (does the reduction cross programs and/or agencies?)
Not applicable.
8. Timing of savings (how long would it take to implement the reductions?)
Not applicable.

Sincerely,

Mark Bergeson
Finance Director