

Legislative Update: Education Funding & Property Tax Proposals

The Iowa Legislature recently reached its first “funnel” deadline, which determines which bills remain eligible for consideration this session. Among the topics advancing are proposals related to State Supplemental Aid (SSA) and broader property tax reform.

State Supplemental Aid (SSA)

The Iowa House has passed a bill providing a 2% increase in SSA for the upcoming fiscal year, along with targeted funding adjustments for para-educators and transportation supplements. SSA establishes the per-pupil funding rate that forms the foundation of public school budgets statewide. Final action on SSA will occur as the legislative process continues.

Public school funding in Iowa comes from multiple sources, including state aid, local property taxes, and federal funds. District budgets must account for a range of required expenditures such as transportation, special education services, facilities, insurance, utilities, debt service, and other operational costs.

Our district continues to monitor legislative developments as we prepare budget plans for the upcoming fiscal year.

Property Tax Reform Proposals

Several property tax reform proposals are currently under discussion at the state level. These proposals address topics such as:

- Assessment calculations
- Rollback formulas
- Levy rate limitations
- Voter approval thresholds
- Revenue growth provisions

Property tax policy is closely connected to school district revenue, particularly for general fund and debt service levies. Changes enacted by the Legislature could affect how districts plan for future budgets.

These proposals remain under legislative consideration. We will continue to review developments and share updates as appropriate.

This information is provided for general awareness and transparency. As always, we encourage residents to stay informed and reach out with questions.