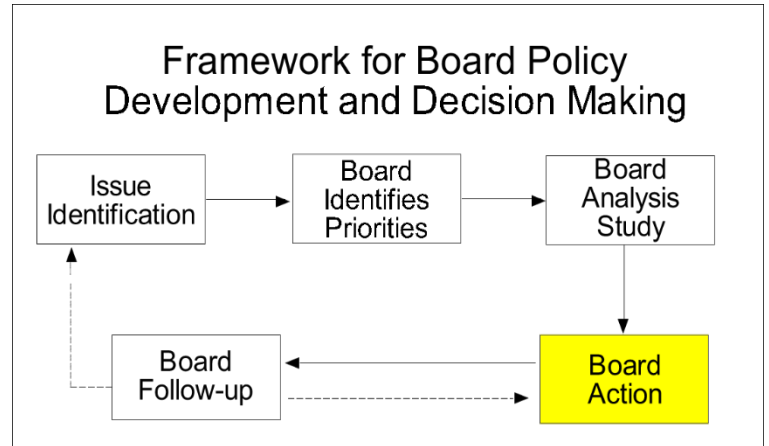


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

March 20, 2025



**Agenda Item:** Grant Wood Area Education Agency (AEA) Budget Review

**State Board Priority:** All

**State Board Role/Authority:** Iowa Code 273.3(12) requires the State Board to review the proposed budget of each area education agency (AEA) and either grant approval or return the budget without approval with comments of the State Board included. An unapproved budget shall be resubmitted to the State Board for final approval.

**Presenter(s):** Kassandra Cline, Chief  
Bureau of School Business Operations

John Speer, Chief Administrator  
Grant Wood AEA

Barb Harms, Director of Business Services  
Grant Wood AEA

**Attachment(s):** One

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board approve the Grant Wood AEA budget as presented.

**Background:** Iowa Code 273.3(12) requires the State Board review the proposed budget of each AEA and either grant approval or return the budget without approval with comments by May 1. An unapproved budget shall be resubmitted to the State Board for final approval not later than May 15.



**GRANT WOOD**  
AREA EDUCATION AGENCY



■ FY26

# Grant Wood AEA Budget Request & Report

# **FY26 AEA Budget Request & Report**

## **Grant Wood AEA**

**Submitted by:**

**John Speer - Chief Administrator**

**Barb Harms - Director of Business Services**

**Due: February 28, 2025**

**Resubmitted March 6, 2025**

## Table of Contents

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>Table of Contents.....</b>  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Executive Summary.....</b>  | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>Overview.....</b>   | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>Served.....</b>   | <b>4</b>  |
| Public Districts.....  | 4         |
| Accredited Non-Publics.....  | 5         |
| Students.....  | 6         |
| Teachers.....  | 7         |
| Others Served.....   | 8         |
| <b>Programs.....</b>   | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>Locations.....</b>  | <b>10</b> |
| <b>Capital Assets.....</b>   | <b>12</b> |
| <b>Staff.....</b>  | <b>12</b> |
| <b>Organizational Charts.....</b>  | <b>12</b> |
| BEDS Position Codes.....   | 14        |
| FY25 to FY26 Staff Changes.....  | 14        |
| Special Education Support Services Program.....  | 14        |
| Educational Services Program.....  | 15        |
| Media/Technology Services Program.....   | 15        |
| <b>Administrative Expenditures.....</b>  | <b>16</b> |
| Administrative Staff by FTE.....   | 16        |
| Total Administrative Expenditures: FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed....         | 18        |
| Total Administrative Expenditures: Reduction.....  | 20        |
| <b>Services.....</b>   | <b>21</b> |
| Centralized Services.....  | 21        |
| Centers of Excellence.....   | 23        |
| <b>Fiscal Detail.....</b>  | <b>24</b> |
| General Fund Balance: FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed.....                     | 24        |
| Three-Year Comparison for Budgeted Funds: FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed..... | 25        |
| <b>Additional FY26 Budget Assumptions-.....</b>  | <b>27</b> |

# Executive Summary

[Insert a high-level overview of the information contained in the report.]

The report outlines the financial and operational overview of Grant Wood AEA for the fiscal years FY24 to FY26, providing insight into the services, expenditures, staff, and various operational aspects of the organization. Key highlights include a detailed breakdown of the AEA's served districts, students, teachers, and other stakeholders, as well as a review of capital assets, staffing changes, and administrative expenditures. The report also includes comparisons of budgeted funds over a three-year period and projections for FY26, with an emphasis on administrative cost reductions and service offerings.

## Overview

### Served

[Enter a summary description of the different groups (e.g., districts, students, teachers, and others) served by the AEA.]

Grant Wood AEA partners with public and accredited non-public schools across seven counties to provide comprehensive educational programs and direct services for over 72,000 students from birth to age 21. These services include evaluations, assessments, and therapies for both general and special education, as well as Early ACCESS for early intervention in infants and toddlers. Teachers benefit from specialized professional development, consultation, and coaching, while district administrators, superintendents, curriculum directors, and other education professionals receive tailored support through structured learning, implementation, and sustainability phases. This integrated approach ensures that all stakeholders are equipped with the tools and guidance necessary to enhance educational outcomes.

### Public Districts

[Enter information about the districts served by the AEA. Identify any districts served that are located outside the AEA. Also, identify any districts that are not served by the AEA but that are located within the AEA.]

(32 districts - all districts served are within our service area)

Alburnett

Anamosa  
Belle Plaine  
Benton  
Cedar Rapids  
Center Point-Urbana  
Central City  
Clear Creek Amana  
College Community  
English Valleys  
Highland  
H-L-V  
Iowa City  
Iowa Valley  
Linn-Mar  
Lisbon  
Lone Tree  
Marion  
Midland  
Mid-Prairie  
Monticello  
Mount Vernon  
North Cedar  
North Linn  
Olin  
Solon  
Springville  
Tipton  
Vinton-Shellsburg  
Washington  
West Branch  
Williamsburg

## **Accredited Non-Publics**

(31 Schools)

All Saints School (Xavier)  
Calvary Christian Academy  
Cedar Valley Christian School  
Central Lutheran School  
CIVICA Charter School

Empowering Excellence Charter School  
Faith Academy  
Heritage Christian  
Hillcrest Academy  
Hillside Christian School  
Isaac Newton Christian Academy  
LaSalle Catholic System (Xavier)  
Lutheran Interparish School  
Montessori School- Iowa City  
Montessori School- Marion  
Pathway Christian School  
QUEST Charter School  
Regina Elementary School  
Regina Jr./Sr. High School  
Regis Middle School (Xavier)  
Sacred Heart Grade School  
Scattergood Friends School  
St. James Elementary School  
St. Matthew School (Xavier)  
St. Patrick School  
St. Pius X School (Xavier)  
Summit Schools, Inc.  
Tamarack Discovery School  
Trinity Lutheran School  
Willowwind School  
Xavier High School

## Students

[Enter information about the students who are served by the AEA.]

Grant Wood AEA partners with public and accredited non-public schools to provide educational programs, services and resources designed to support quality education and improve learning outcomes for **all** children ages birth-21, families, educators and communities. Agency services support **more than 72,000 students** in schools across a seven-county region. This area includes Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn and Washington counties.

Grant Wood AEA serves children in both general education and special education. Services include evaluation and assessment, while others are direct services (e.g., occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech-language services).

Early ACCESS is Iowa's early intervention system (IDEA Part C) for infants and toddlers under 3 years old who are not developing as expected or who have a medical condition that can delay typical development. Families and Early ACCESS staff work together to

identify, coordinate and provide needed services and resources that help families assist their infants and toddlers in their growth and development.

Nearly 60 percent of agency staff are assigned to specific schools as part of a regional team. They work directly with children and educators as an integral part of the local school staff. Others serve schools on a consultant or itinerant basis, offer courses or workshops, or link schools with other persons, agencies or materials that meet their needs.

## **Teachers**

[Enter information about the teachers who are served by the AEA.]

Grant Wood AEA serves 5,780 teachers (both public and non-public).

Special education teachers receive support from building-based AEA core team staff (e.g., school social workers, school psychologists and special education consultants). AEA special education staff design, deliver and support professional learning on various special education topics.

Through our Educational and Media/Technology Services, teachers may access AEA content experts to support teaching and learning in classrooms. Those content experts design, deliver and support professional learning for teachers who engage in offerings from the AEA.

From specialized professional learning to personalized consultation and coaching, AEAs ensure that districts receive the tailored support they need to meet their diverse needs.

### **Learning Support**

In the learning phase, services focus on equipping educators with the knowledge, skills and strategies necessary to enhance their teaching practices and improve student outcomes.

### **Implementation Support**

In the implementation phase, services focus on putting educational plans and strategies into action.

### **Sustainability Support**

In the sustainability phase, services aim to maintain and build upon the progress achieved during implementation.



## Others Served

[Enter information about others who are served by the AEA.]

Grant Wood AEA supports over 250 school district administrators, including Superintendents, Principals, Curriculum Directors and Special Education Directors. Services are also available for paraeducators and more than 4,400 substitute teachers.

## Programs

[Highlight the general programs offered by the AEA as well as the programs offered that differentiate this AEA from others.]

Grant Wood AEA grounds its services to districts around [Iowa's AEA's Portfolio of Services](#)

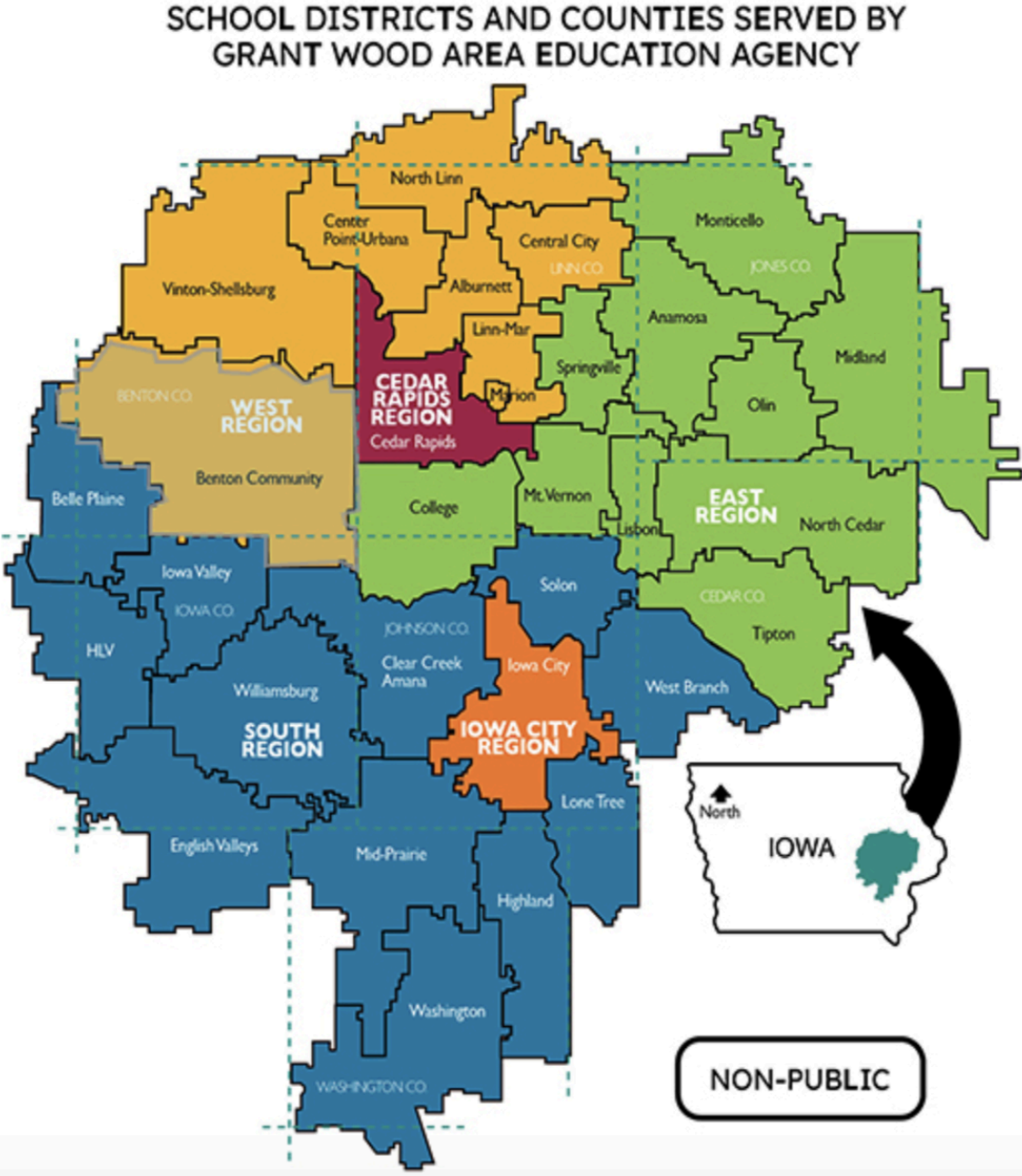
- **Universal Services:**
  - Career & Technical Education
  - College & Career Readiness
  - Computer Science Instruction
  - Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment
  - Literacy
  - Math
  - Professional Learning
  - School Improvement
  - Science
  - Social Studies
  - Social, Emotional & Behavioral Support
- **Specialized Services:**
  - ***Adaptive PE***
  - Assistive Technology
  - Autism Team
  - Challenging Behavior Support Team
  - ***Collaboration Consultant***
  - Early ACCESS (Birth-3)
  - Hearing Services
  - Mediation & Due Process Facilitation
  - Occupational Therapy
  - ***Offsite Programs (Foundation II Shelter, Linn County Detention Center, Anamosa State Penitentiary, Iowa Medical Classification Center, Offsite Behavior Program, Vocational Individualized Training And Learning)***
  - Physical Therapy
  - Significant Disabilities
  - Section 504
  - Speech & Language
  - School Social Workers
  - School Psychologists
  - Special Education Consultants

- Special Education Leadership
- Transition Services
- Vision Services
- **Targeted Services:**
  - *Childcare Alliance Response Team*
  - *College for Kids*
  - Crisis Support
  - Early Childhood (ages 3-5)
  - English Language Learners
  - Gifted & Talented
  - *Mentoring & Induction Consortium*
  - Positive Behavior Intervention Supports
  - School-Based Interventionists
  - *School Counselor Consultants*
  - Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health
  - *VAST Center - FOSS Science Kits*
- **Technology, Media, and Operations:**
  - Application Hosting Services
  - Budget & Finance Resources
  - Computer Science
  - Creative Services & Printing
  - Data & Privacy
  - Digital Learning
  - E-Rate Services
  - Information Technology Services
  - Media Services
  - *Micro-Credentials*
  - Online Media Resources
  - Professional Learning
  - Robust Infrastructure
  - Strategic Partnerships
  - *Student Information System Support*
  - *Substitute Management System (Sub Central)*
  - Van Delivery

***\*Italicized / bold services are more unique to Grant Wood AEA.***

# Locations

[Insert a map of the AEA, a map of the AEA building locations, and provide a narrative surrounding each.]



## **Grant Wood AEA Offices:**

- **4401 6th Street SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Main Facility - Owned)**
  - Conference Center - hosts professional development events for agency staff and the educators we serve. By reservation, outside entities may use meeting spaces outside of agency office hours. Monthly board meetings are held at this facility.
  - Media library - houses our physical collection of professional reference materials, as well as book sets & other materials that can be checked out by districts.
  - Staff Distribution Center - special education equipment, Early ACCESS equipment and special education assessment materials.
  - Creative Services/Teacher Work Center - Includes areas for printing (small and large format), graphic design, laminating, cutting, etc.
  - Professional Learning Office
  - Hearing Booth
  - Observation Room - used for Early ACCESS and early childhood behavior observations
  - ACHIEVE data leads/data techs.
  - Administrative offices including Human Resources, Business Services and Technology.
  - Staff offices and workspaces - available for staff to work independently or collaboratively. Large and small meeting rooms are available for use by teams.
- **4301 6th Street SW, Cedar Rapids (Owned)**
  - Building was purchased with the intent of converting it to classroom and multi-purpose space to house the Offsite Behavior Program (currently located in leased space in Marion ISD). With AEA funding changes, remodeling work was stopped. At least 1 classroom will likely be created in this building to replace our leased space.
- **1120 33rd Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids (Owned)**
  - VAST Center - Science kit distribution center where kits are stored, refilled/organized, and distributed to districts through van delivery
  - Conference Rooms - used for professional development and internal meetings
  - Autism Support room - for professional learning & modeling directly with students
  - Leased warehouse space - storage for special education equipment, including adaptive physical education items, as well as science kit storage
- **2852 Coral Court, Coralville (Owned)**
  - Conference Rooms - professional development and staff collaboration
  - Hearing Booth

- Staff workspaces - individuals and small teams who serve our Iowa City and South regions
- Administrative offices - administrators who serve our southern districts are assigned to this facility for proximity

## Capital Assets

[Provide a summary description of the AEA's capital assets.]

### Owned Buildings

- 4 owned buildings (see previous section)
- 1 leased behavior classroom (for off-site behavior program)
- 1 leased warehouse space (used for science kits, special education equipment)

### Vans:

- 5 delivery vans for school routes
- 1 box truck for science kit delivery
- 2 vehicles for staff check-out
- 6 vans for tech support and maintenance

## Staff

Iowa's AEAs are committed to employing highly qualified staff who offer and provide services and support to students, educators, districts and families. AEAs are working as a statewide system to ensure all those we serve have access to our unified Portfolio of Services, regardless of the location of their district or the AEA in which they reside.

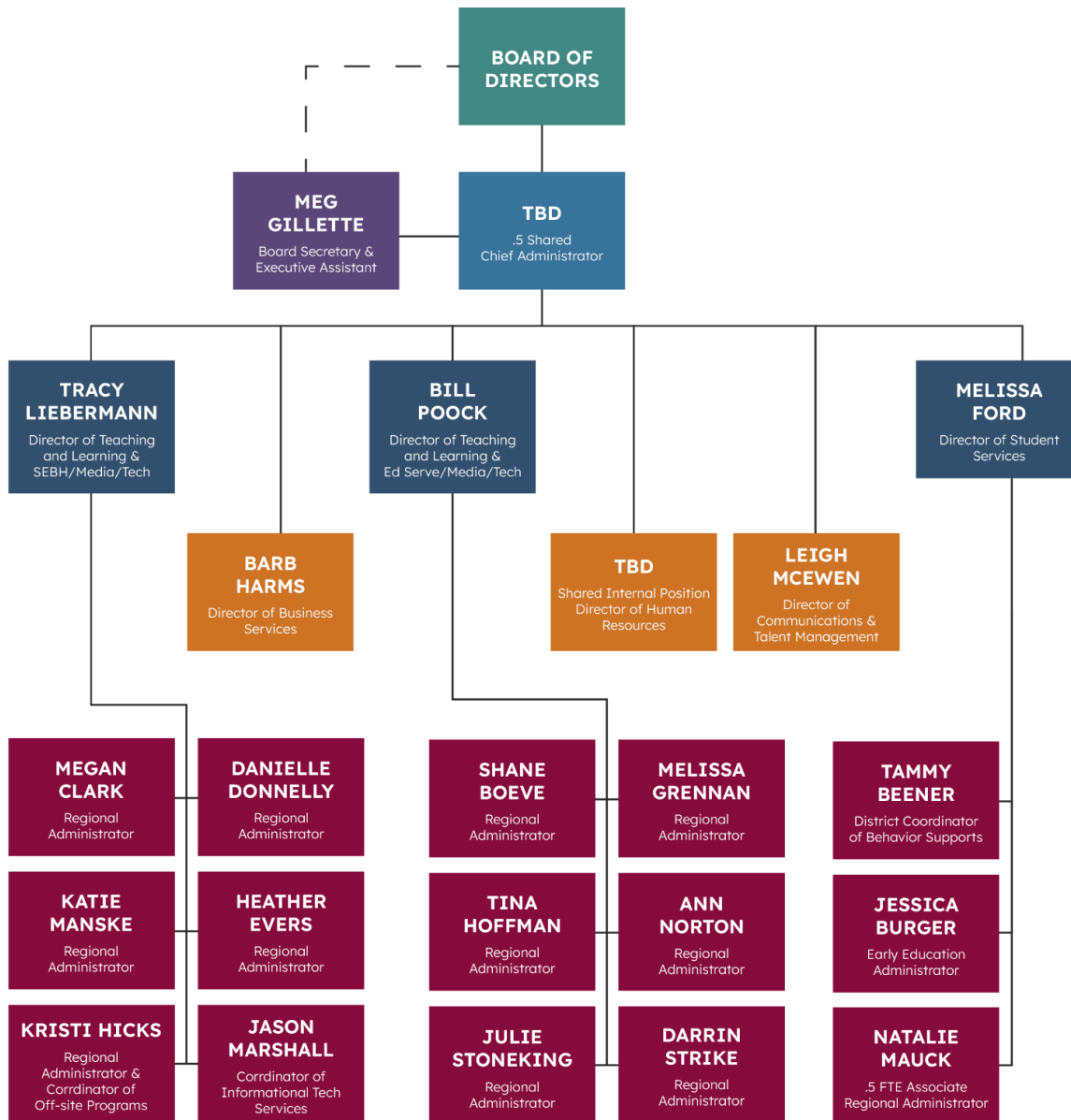
## Organizational Charts

[Insert an organizational chart and enter a related narrative.]

Beginning in April of 2024, we have reduced Cabinet-level and other administrative positions – those efforts continue today. The remaining administrators generally work directly with district staff and/or administrators. Our Regional Administrators are organized into five regions to better serve and individualize services to local school districts.

# Grant Wood AEA Organization Chart

Draft 2025/2026



# BEDS Position Codes

[Complete the table below and enter a narrative related to variances for staff.]

Grant Wood AEA’s staffing reflects a reduction in revenues. The Agency is budgeting a decrease of \$6 million in the General Fund from FY25 to FY26. Revenues are down \$13 million when compared to FY24. Our FTE count is down 82 staff from FY24 to FY25.

**Table Name: AEA BEDS Position Codes - All Staff**

| Position Name                        | Position Code | FY25 FTE Count | FY26 FTE Count | Variance |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Chief Administrator                  | 510           | 1.0            | 0.5            | -0.5     |
| School Business Official             | 612           | 1.0            | 1.0            | 0        |
| Other Administrator                  | 550           | 8.5            | 7.5            | -1.0     |
| AEA Regional/Zone Coordinator        | 533           | 11.0           | 10.5           | -0.5     |
| District Wide Administrative Support | 152           | 14.9           | 14.9           | 0        |
| Special Education Support            | 660           | 202.6          | 201.6          | -1.0     |
| Special Education Consultant         | 616           | 42.0           | 42.0           | 0        |
| Paraprofessional/Aides               | 101           | 9.6            | 9.6            | 0        |
| Library Media Associate              | 104           | 4.4            | 4.4            | 0        |
| Content/Curriculum Consultant        | 618           | 40.5           | 32.0           | -8.5     |
| AEA Supervisors/Managers             | 139           | 1.0            | 1.0            | 0        |
| Other Support                        | 107           | 5.7            | 5.7            | 0        |
| Technology Support                   | 141           | 14.2           | 14.2           | 0        |
| Records Transfer Staff               | 130           | 1.9            | 1.9            | 0        |
| HR/Personnel Manager                 | 134           | 1.0            | 0.5            | -0.5     |
| Itinerant Teacher                    | 731           | 23.0           | 23.0           | 0        |
| Transportation (Non-pupil)           | 175           | 2.2            | 2.2            | 0        |
| Technology                           | 121           | 10.0           | 10.0           | 0        |
| Juvenile Home Teacher                | 746           | 4.0            | 4.0            | 0        |
| Special Education Teacher            | 745           | 6.0            | 6.0            | 0        |
| Other Professional                   | 137           | 7.0            | 3.0            | -4.0     |
| Board Secretary                      | 112           | 1.0            | 1.0            | 0        |
| Other Technical                      | 142           | 4.0            | 4.0            | 0        |
| Student Support                      | 106           | 8.8            | 8.8            | 0        |
|                                      |               | 425.3          | 409.3          | -16.0    |

## FY25 to FY26 Staff Changes

Staff changes from FY25 to FY26 are detailed below for each position in the following programs: Special Education Support Services, Educational Services and Media Services.

### Special Education Support Services Program

[Complete the table below and enter a narrative related to variances for staff in the special education support services program.]

Special Education FTE changes are due to the 10% reduction in AEA Special Education funding.

**Table Name: AEA BEDS Position Codes - Special Education Support Services Program**

| Position Name                        | Position Code | FY25 FTE Count | FY26 FTE Count | Variance |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Special Education Support            | 660           | 202.6          | 201.6          | -1.0     |
| Special Education Consultant         | 616           | 42.0           | 42.0           | 0        |
| Other Administrator                  | 550           | 6.5            | 6.3            | -0.2     |
| AEA Regional/Zone Coordinator        | 533           | 9.7            | 9.2            | -0.5     |
| Other Professional                   | 137           | 1.0            | 1.0            | 0        |
| Special Education Teacher            | 745           | 6.0            | 6.0            | 0        |
| Itinerant Teacher                    | 731           | 23.0           | 23.0           | 0        |
| Records Transfer Staff               | 130           | 1.9            | 1.9            | 0        |
| Student Support                      | 106           | 9.5            | 9.5            | 0        |
| District Wide Administrative Support | 152           | 3.4            | 3.8            | 0.4      |
| Juvenile Home Teacher                | 746           | 4.0            | 4.0            | 0        |
| Paraprofessionals/Aides              | 101           | 9.6            | 9.6            | 0        |

*Educational Services Program*

[Complete the table below and enter a narrative related to variances for staff in the educational services program.]

Educational Services FTE changes are due to the reduction of AEA Educational Services funding and an estimate of purchased services from districts we serve.

**Table Name: AEA BEDS Position Codes - Educational Services Program**

| Position Name                        | Position Code | FY25 FTE Count | FY26 FTE Count | Variance |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Content/Curriculum Consultant        | 618           | 36.5           | 34.0           | -6.5     |
| District Wide Administrative Support | 152           | 2.5            | 2.3            | -0.2     |
| Other Support                        | 107           | 5.0            | 5.0            | 0        |
| Other Professional                   | 137           | 4.0            | 0              | -4.0     |
| Other Administrator                  | 550           | 0.5            | 0.2            | -0.3     |
| AEA Regional/Zone Coordinator        | 533           | 1.3            | 1.2            | -0.1     |

*Media/Technology Services Program*

[Complete the table below and enter a narrative related to variances for staff in the media services program.]

Media/Technology Services FTE changes are due to the reduction of AEA Media Services funding and an estimate of purchased services from districts we serve.



**Table Name: AEA BEDS Position Codes - Media/Technology Services Program**

| Position Name                        | Position Code | FY25 FTE Count | FY26 FTE Count | Variance |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Content/Curriculum Consultant        | 618           | 4.0            | 2.0            | -2.0     |
| Library Media Associate              | 104           | 4.4            | 4.4            | 0        |
| Technology                           | 121           | 10.0           | 10.0           | 0        |
| AEA Supervisor/Managers              | 139           | 1.0            | 1.0            | 0        |
| Technology Support                   | 141           | 14.2           | 14.2           | 0        |
| Other Technical                      | 142           | 4.0            | 4.0            | 0        |
| Transportation                       | 175           | 2.2            | 2.2            | 0        |
| Other Administrator                  | 550           | 0.5            | 0              | -0.5     |
| District Wide Administrative Support | 152           | 1.0            | 0.8            | -0.2     |

## Administrative Expenditures

Administrative expenditures include costs related to administration and administrators, as defined by HF2612 Sec. 17 (Iowa Acts 2024), which includes chief administrators, directors and department heads, regional administrators, regional and zone coordinators, district coordinators, human resources and personnel managers. This section includes FY24 actual, FY25 re-estimated and FY26 proposed administrative staff levels and administrative expenditures.

## Administrative Staff by FTE

[Complete the table below and enter a narrative related to variances.]

Grant Wood AEA is reducing administrative staff by 10.0 FTE when comparing FY24 to FY26. This represents a 33% reduction in administrative positions. The positions Grant Wood AEA plans not to fill or to combine include the following:

- Chief Administrator - Grant Wood AEA will share 0.5 FTE of the Chief Administrator position with another agency for FY26
- Director of Teaching & Learning - 1.0 FTE responsible for Media/Technology Services will not be filled for FY26, and duties will be redistributed across existing staff
- Regional Administrators: Reduction of 5.0 FTE
  - 4.0 FTE resigned and were not replaced for FY25
  - 0.5 FTE will be unfilled effective January 1, 2026
  - 0.5 FTE will be combined with the Human Resources Director in FY26
- Human Resources: Reduction of 1.0 FTE
  - Combine the Director position with Regional Administrator - 0.5 FTE
  - Combine Coordinator of Talent Management with Communications - 0.5 FTE
- Other Administrative Positions: Reduction of 2.5 FTE

- Director of Communication resigned - 0.5 FTE shifted to existing administrator
- Professional Learning Coordinator resigned - 1.0 FTE shifted to existing staff
- Coordinator of Digital Learning resigned - 1.0 FTE shifted to existing staff

**Table Name: AEA Administrative Staff by FTE**

| <b>Administrative Staff</b>    | <b>FY24 Actual</b> | <b>FY25 Re-Estimated</b> | <b>FY26 Proposed</b> | <b>FY24-FY26 Variance Amount</b> | <b>FY24-FY26 Variance Percent</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Chief Administrator            | 1.0                | 1.0                      | 0.5                  | -0.5                             | -50.0%                            |
| Directors & Department Heads   | 4.0                | 4.5                      | 3.0                  | -1.0                             | -25.0%                            |
| Regional Administrators        | 17.0               | 13.0                     | 12.0                 | -5.0                             | -29.0%                            |
| Regional & Zone Coordinators   |                    |                          |                      |                                  |                                   |
| District Coordinators          | 1.0                | 1.0                      | 1.0                  | 0                                | 0                                 |
| Human Resources                | 2.0                | 1.5                      | 1.0                  | -1.0                             | -50.0%                            |
| Other Administrative Positions | 5.0                | 2.5                      | 2.5                  | -2.5                             | -50.0%                            |
| <b>Total FTE</b>               | <b>30.0</b>        | <b>23.5</b>              | <b>20.0</b>          | <b>-10.0</b>                     | <b>-33.3%</b>                     |

### Total Administrative Expenditures: FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed

Total administrative expenditures, detailed below by administration and administrative staff, are required to be reduced by at least 30% by July 1, 2026.

[Complete the table below and enter the related narrative.]

**Table Name: Administrative Expenditures – Administration & Administrative Staff FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed**

| Expenditures: Administration                                   | FY24 Actual      | FY25 Re-Estimated | FY26 Proposed    | FY24 to FY26 Reduction Amount | FY24 to FY26 Reduction Percent |
|--|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| General Administration (Func. 2300-2399)                       | 2,246,423        | 2,054,617         | 1,081,357        |                               |                                |
| School Administration (Func. 2400-2499)                        | 3,259,508        | 2,482,015         | 2,346,466        |                               |                                |
| Business & Central Administration (Func. 2500-2519, 2540-2599) | 3,556,638        | 4,061,582         | 3,808,216        |                               |                                |
| Purchasing, Distributing, Printing (Func. 2520-2539)           | 722,168          | 820,209           | 674,892          |                               |                                |
| <b>Sub-total Expenditures: Administration</b>                  | <b>9,784,737</b> | <b>9,418,423</b>  | <b>7,910,931</b> |                               |                                |
| <b>Revenue: Administration</b>                                 |                  |                   |                  |                               |                                |
| General Administration   | 74,277           | 99,594            | 0                |                               |                                |
| School Administration  | 0                | 62,830            | 275,446          |                               |                                |
| Business & Central Administration                              | 3,324,677        | 3,457,930         | 3,475,864        |                               |                                |
| Purchasing, Distributing, Printing                             | 431,007          | 142,300           | 157,500          |                               |                                |
| <b>Sub-total Revenue: Administration</b>                       | <b>3,829,961</b> | <b>3,762,654</b>  | <b>3,908,810</b> |                               |                                |
| Net Administration Expense                                     |                  |                   |                  |                               |                                |
| General Administration   | 2,172,146        | 1,955,023         | 1,081,357        | -1,090,789                    | -50.2%                         |
| School Administration  | 3,259,508        | 2,419,185         | 2,071,020        | -1,188,488                    | -36.5%                         |
| Business & Central Administration                              | 231,961          | 603,652           | 332,352          | 100,391                       | 43.3%                          |
| Purchasing, Distributing, Printing                             | 291,161          | 677,909           | 517,392          | 226,231                       | 77.7%                          |
| <b>Net Total Expenditures: Administration</b>                  | <b>5,954,776</b> | <b>5,655,769</b>  | <b>4,002,121</b> | <b>-1,952,655</b>             | <b>-32.8%</b>                  |

| Expenditures: Administrative Staff<br>(Obj. 100-299)   | FY24<br>Actual   | FY25<br>Re-Estimated | FY26<br>Proposed | FY24 to FY26<br>Reduction<br>Amount | FY24 to<br>FY26<br>Reduction<br>Percent |
|--|------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Step One: Enter expenditures for administrative staff, including objects 100-299.</b>   |                  |                      |                  |                                     |   |
| Chief Administrator  | 340,371          | 344,195              | 177,260          | 380,622                             |   |
| Directors and Department Heads   | 906,940          | 1,008,559            | 678,282          |                                     |   |
| Regional Administrators  | 3,033,079        | 2,392,465            | 2,270,820        |                                     |   |
| Regional and Zone Coordinators   |                  |                      |                  |                                     |   |
| District Coordinators  | 134,052          | 152,546              | 157,122          |                                     |   |
| Human Resources  | 353,287          | 282,292              | 184,961          |                                     |   |
| Other Administrative Positions   | 724,785          | 449,167              | 462,642          |                                     |   |
| <b>Sub-total Expenditures:<br/>Administration</b>  | <b>5,492,514</b> | <b>4,629,224</b>     | <b>3,931,087</b> |                                     |   |
| <b>Step Two: Enter revenue received from sharing agreements for each function.</b>   |                  |                      |                  |                                     |   |
| Chief Administrator  | 54,027           |                      |                  |                                     |   |
| Directors and Department Heads   |                  | 99,594               |                  |                                     |   |
| Regional Administrators  | 58,946           | 62,830               | 145,035          |                                     |   |
| Regional and Zone Coordinators   |                  |                      |                  |                                     |   |
| District Coordinators  |                  |                      | 130,411          |                                     |   |
| Human Resources  |                  |                      |                  |                                     |   |
| Other Administrative Positions   |                  |                      |                  |                                     |   |
| <b>Sub-total Revenue from Sharing</b>  | <b>112,973</b>   | <b>162,424</b>       | <b>275,446</b>   |                                     |   |
| <b>Step Three: Enter total expenditures for administrative staff (original administrative staff expenditures less revenue received from sharing agreements).</b> |                  |                      |                  |                                     |   |
| Chief Administrator  | 286,344          | 344,195              | 177,260          | -109,084                            | -38.1%                                  |

|  |                    |                          |                      |                                      |                                       |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Directors and Department Heads                 | 906,940            | 908,965                  | 678,282              | -228,658                             | -25.2%                                |
| Regional Administrators                        | 2,974,133          | 2,329,635                | 2,125,785            | -848,348                             | -28.5%                                |
| Regional and Zone Coordinators                 |                    |                          |                      |                                      |                                       |
| District Coordinators                          | 134,052            | 152,546                  | 26,711               | -107,341                             | -80.1%                                |
| Human Resources                                | 353,287            | 282,292                  | 184,961              | -168,326                             | -47.7%                                |
| Other Administrative Positions                 | 724,785            | 449,167                  | 462,642              | -262,143                             | -36.2%                                |
| <b>Total Administrative Staff Expenditures</b> | <b>5,379,541</b>   | <b>4,466,800</b>         | <b>3,655,641</b>     | <b>-1,723,900</b>                    | <b>-32.0%</b>                         |
|  |                    |                          |                      |                                      |                                       |
|  | <b>FY24 Actual</b> | <b>FY25 Re-Estimated</b> | <b>FY26 Proposed</b> | <b>FY24 to FY26 Reduction Amount</b> | <b>FY24 to FY26 Reduction Percent</b> |
| <b>Total Administrative Expenditures</b>       |                    |                          |                      |                                      |                                       |
| Total Expenditures: Administration             | 5,954,776          | 5,655,769                | 4,002,121            | -1,952,655                           | -32.8%                                |
| Total Expenditures: Administrative Staff       | 5,379,541          | 4,466,800                | 3,655,641            | -1,723,900                           | -32.0%                                |
| <b>Total Administrative Expenditures</b>       | <b>5,954,776</b>   | <b>5,655,769</b>         | <b>4,002,121</b>     | <b>-1,952,655</b>                    | <b>-32.8%</b>                         |

### Total Administrative Expenditures: Reduction

[Provide narrative for progress made toward administrative expenditure reduction.]

Grant Wood AEA's administrative staff positions are being reduced from 30.0 to 20.0 FTE (33.3%), resulting in a reduction of approximately \$1.7 million (32.0%). Total Administrative Expenditures, which include both expenses and revenue from offsetting revenues from fee for service programs, are being reduced by almost \$2.0 million (32.8%). Both are above the 30% threshold established in recent legislation. The agency will continue to monitor administrative expenditures during FY26 and make any needed adjustments that may be more efficient for the FY27 fiscal year (per the July 1, 2026 date referenced in HF2612, Section 17).

## Services

[Insert a table and a narrative description of services provided, the recipients of those services, and associated cost to the entity purchasing the service (e.g., rates, fee schedule), if applicable, and the cost to the AEA to provide the service.]

At appendix A, find the report delivered to the Department of Education in December 2024 that outlines a detailed description of the services available for purchase at GWAEA.

## Centralized Services

[Include a narrative to describe the AEA’s centralized services, which are defined for this purpose as staff and services that are centralized and shared with other AEAs.]

The table below provides a list of the services that GWAEA is centralizing through sharing with other AEA’s in the Iowa AEA system. Many of these centralized services will provide efficiency in management of the services but maintain effective services and supports to the schools, teachers, and students of GWAEA.

| Services Provided               | Centralized From | Shared With             |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| IT Services/Power School/Campus | Grant Wood AEA   | GPAEA & MBAE            |
| ELL/Title III                   | Grant Wood AEA   | Systemwide              |
| Science Consultant & VAST       | Grant Wood AEA   | GPAEA, MBAEA & Keystone |
| Braille                         | Heartland AEA    | Systemwide              |
| Canvas User Network             | Heartland AEA    | Systemwide              |
| Curriculum Network              | Heartland AEA    | Systemwide              |
| Cybersecurity Support           | Heartland AEA    | Systemwide              |
| Ed Tech Network                 | Heartland AEA    | Systemwide              |

|   |   |            |
|---|---|------------|
| Shared Hearing Booth                            | Heartland AEA   | GWAEA      |
| Special Education Leadership Network            | Heartland AEA   | Systemwide |
| TAG Consultant                                  | Heartland AEA   | Systemwide |
| Talented & Gifted/Extended Learning Network     | Heartland AEA   | Systemwide |
| Tech Network                                    | Heartland, Northwest, Central Rivers, Grant Wood AEAs   | Systemwide |
| Creative Services Graphic Design Support        | Grant Wood AEA  | Systemwide |
| Early Access Administrator                      | Grant Wood AEA  | GPAEA      |
| Data Lead                                       | GWAEA   | GPAEA      |
| Regionalized technology services                | Heartland & Green Hills AEAs<br>Keystone & Central Rivers AEAs<br>Grant Wood, Mississippi Bend & Great Prairie AEAs<br>Northwest & Prairie Lakes AEAs | Systemwide |
| Data Support (non-special education)            |   | Systemwide |
| Media Consolidation                             |   | Systemwide |
| Van Delivery                                    |   | Systemwide |
| Communications Team                             |   | Systemwide |
| Statewide Print Collaborative/Creative Services |   | Systemwide |
| TAG   | GWAEA   | GPAEA      |
| Audiology                                       | GWAEA   | GPAEA      |
| Library Services                                | GWAEA   | GPAEA      |
| Various Administrative Positions                | GWAEA   | GPAEA      |

## Centers of Excellence

[Include a narrative to describe the AEA’s centers of excellence, which are defined for this purpose as content expertise and capacity in a targeted special education service area with statewide impact.]

Grant Wood AEA will serve as a center of excellence for Assessment, Linkages, and Instructional Programming Practices for Successful Post Secondary Transition for Learners with Disabilities and support the system across the state in other areas.

Iowa AEA’s are committed to collaborate with each other as a statewide system to establish additional Centers of Excellence, which will bring additional efficiencies and effectiveness to the system.

| Center of Excellence (CoE)  | Lead AEA                      | Partnering AEA’s | Implementation Date |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Recruitment, Retainment, Onboarding, Mentoring & Professional Learning for AEA Special Education Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Iowa AEA School Psychologist</li> </ul> | Heartland AEA                 | Systemwide       | July 1, 2025        |
| Iowa AEA Early Access CoE   | Keystone/Central Rivers AEA   | Systemwide       | July 1, 2025        |
| Assistive Technology Support for Learners with Disabilities   | Green Hills AEA/Heartland AEA | Systemwide       | July 1, 2026        |
| Leadership for Closing the Achievement Gap for Learners with Disabilities   | Mississippi Bend AEA          | Systemwide       | July 1, 2026        |
| Explicit Instruction Practices for Learners with Disabilities   | Prairie Lakes AEA             | Systemwide       | January 1, 2026     |
| Assessment, Linkages, and Instructional Programming Practices for Successful Post-Secondary Transition for Learners with  | Grant Wood AEA                | Systemwide       | July 1, 2026        |



|  |                   |            |                 |
|--|-------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Disabilities   |                   |            |                 |
| Instruction for Learners with Significant Cognitive Disabilities | Northwest AEA     | Systemwide | July 1, 2026    |
| Language and Literacy for Learners with Disabilities             | Great Prairie AEA | Systemwide | January 1, 2026 |

### Fiscal Detail

[Enter narrative of information provided in the section.]

For FY26, Grant Wood AEA is budgeting a revenue reduction of approximately \$6 million in the General Fund. Over the two years since FY24, Grant Wood AEA’s revenues have decreased by approximately \$13 million (20%). Due to the decreased revenues and the requirements of HF 2612, administrative staff are being reduced from 30.0 FTE to 20.0 FTE (33.3%). Additional staff reductions are planned in the areas of Educational Services and Media/Technology Services for FY26. In addition to the revenue reductions, Grant Wood AEA has the same inflationary pressure other Iowa governmental agencies are experiencing.

### General Fund Balance: FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed

[Include narrative to explain fund balance type (e.g., non-spendable, restricted, committed) reflected in the table below, including reasons for purposeful balances and plans for use.]

Grant Wood AEA’s non-spendable fund balances include prepaid expenses and inventory, and the restricted fund balance is for TQ professional development funds. Grant Wood AEA’s committed fund balances are for completing remodeling work for our Coralville office, as well as planned equipment replacement for our print shop and other technology items. Assigned fund balances include outstanding encumbrances for purchases approved but not received by 6/30 each year; accrued balances of staff professional leave funds; and finally, carry-over funds for specific local projects with outside funding.

It is also important to note that AEA’s have no taxing authority or other funding source outside the General Fund for facilities, cash flow or emergency needs.

### Table Name: General Fund Balance Detail FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed

| <b>General Fund Balance Detail</b>                             | <b>FY24 Actual</b> | <b>FY25 Re-Estimated</b> | <b>FY26 Proposed</b> |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Non-Spendable Fund Balance, Special Education Support Services | 206                | 200                      | 200                  |
| Non-Spendable Fund Balance, Other                              | 137,560            | 134,000                  | 100,000              |
| Restricted Fund Balance, Special Education Support Services    | 0                  | 0                        | 0                    |
| Restricted Fund Balance, Other                                 | 272,434            | 150,000                  | 60,000               |
| Committed Fund Balance, Special Education Support Services     | 260,000            | 0                        | 0                    |
| Committed Fund Balance, Other                                  | 91,500             | 91,500                   | 100,000              |
| Assigned Fund Balance, Special Education Support Services      | 285,293            | 284,000                  | 170,000              |
| Assigned Fund Balance, Other                                   | 737,136            | 631,000                  | 65,000               |
| Unassigned Fund Balance, Special Education Support Services    | 3,381,516          | 3,560,915                | 3,200,000            |
| Unassigned Fund Balance, Other                                 | 7,866,227          | 7,762,7072               | 4,662,413            |
| <b>Total General Fund Balance</b>                              | <b>13,031,872</b>  | <b>12,614,322</b>        | <b>8,357,613</b>     |

### Three-Year Comparison for Budgeted Funds: FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed

[Include narrative of the budget detail. Summarize the FY26 proposed budget assumptions mentioned earlier in the report (e.g., districts served, programs offered). Explain the assumptions used to estimate revenues and expenditures. Additionally, include any assumptions used to generate the budget that were not already covered in the report narrative above (e.g., types of contracts for services, programs, sharing agreements, capital purchases).]

Grant Wood AEA's FY26 budget is based on 0% SSA increase and the continuation of the \$32.5 million AEA Statewide Reduction. We anticipate receiving 90% of the special education funding flowing to the districts. We do not anticipate an increase in IDEA federal grant or other federal funds. Over 73% of Grant Wood AEA's budgeted FY26 expenditures are related to Instruction, Student Support Services and Instructional Staff Support Services. We are budgeting \$3.3 million (6%) in Other Financing Uses for the IDEA Part B

flow-through funds passed to school districts. The budgeted Debt Service and Interfund Transfers Out are due to Leases and SBITAs. Grant Wood AEA does not currently have any outstanding loans and is not budgeting for additional debt in FY26.

**Table Name: Resources, Expenditures & Financing Uses, & Funds Balance FY24 Actual, FY25 Re-Estimated, & FY26 Proposed**

| <b>Resources: Revenues, Other Financing Sources, and Beginning Funds Balance</b> | <b>FY24 Actual</b>   | <b>FY25 Re-Estimated</b> | <b>FY26 Proposed</b> |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Taxes (Controlled Funding)   | 15,075,246.00        | 9,605,919                | 5,811,909            |
| Tuition/Transportation   | 776,071.18           | 442,000                  | 455,000              |
| Earnings on Investments  | 409,631.30           | 335,000                  | 300,000              |
| Nutrition Program Sales  |                      |                          |                      |
| Student Activities & Sales   |                      |                          |                      |
| Other Revenues from Local Sources  | 8,890,977.74         | 8,287,323                | 9,498,757            |
| Intermediate Revenues  |                      |                          |                      |
| State Aid (Controlled Funding)   | 16,763,351.00        | 16,406,420               | 14,130,983           |
| Juvenile Home Tuition Aid  | 616,335.32           | 634,072                  | 692,013              |
| Other State Revenues   | 3,586,593.46         | 3,479,148                | 3,502,296            |
| IDEA Federal Grant   | 18,282,943.61        | 18,056,929               | 16,463,000           |
| Other Federal Revenues   | 949,261.80           | 151,955                  | 217,000              |
| Long-Term Debt Proceeds  | 197,823.33           |                          |                      |
| Interfund Transfers In   | 2,537,994.38         | 1,722,000                | 1,200,000            |
| Proceeds of Fixed Asset Dispositions   |                      |                          |                      |
| Other Financing Sources  |                      |                          |                      |
| Beginning Funds Balance  | 13,358,654.21        | 13,143,704               | 12,726,147           |
| <b>Total Resources</b>   | <b>81,444,883.33</b> | <b>72,264,470</b>        | <b>64,997,105</b>    |
| <b>Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses</b>                                   |                      |                          |                      |
|  | <b>FY24 Actual</b>   | <b>FY25 Re-Estimated</b> | <b>FY26 Proposed</b> |
| Instruction  | 3,483,717.11         | 2,236,378                | 3,626,797            |
| Student Support Services   | 20,972,128.44        | 20,789,436               | 21,322,613           |
| Instructional Staff Support Services   | 22,998,350.22        | 17,236,023               | 16,425,026           |

|  |                        |                              |                          |
|--|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| General Administration                                   | 2,246,422.53           | 2,054,617                    | 1,081,357                |
| School Administration                                    | 3,259,507.95           | 2,482,015                    | 2,346,466                |
| Business & Central Support                               | 3,556,637.73           | 4,061,582                    | 3,808,216                |
| Purchasing, Distributing, Printing,<br>Duplicating       | 722,168.20             | 820,209                      | 674,892                  |
| Plant Operations & Maintenance                           | 1,226,385.56           | 1,279,160                    | 1,467,945                |
| Student Transportation                                   |                        |                              |                          |
| Other Support Services                                   | 5,874.63               | 6,000                        | 6,000                    |
| Non-Instructional Programs                               | 216,012.19             | 126,027                      | 118,355                  |
| Facilities Acquisition & Construction                    | 2,564,385.77           | 3,256,438                    |                          |
| Debt Service   | 1,312,105.33           | 212,000                      | 1,200,000                |
| Interfund Transfers Out                                  | 2,386,071.10           | 1,722,000                    | 1,200,000                |
| Other Financing Uses                                     | 3,351,413.00           | 3,256,438                    | 3,250,000                |
| <b>Total Expenditures &amp; Other Financing<br/>Uses</b> | <b>68,301,179.76</b>   | <b>59,538,323</b>            | <b>56,527,667</b>        |
|  |                        |                              |                          |
| <b>Funds Balance</b>                                     | <b>FY24<br/>Actual</b> | <b>FY25<br/>Re-Estimated</b> | <b>FY26<br/>Proposed</b> |
| Total Resources  | 81,444,883.33          | 72,264,470                   | 64,997,105               |
| Total Expenditures & Other Financing<br>Uses             | 68,301,179.76          | 59,538,323                   | 56,527,667               |
| <b>Ending Funds Balance</b>                              | <b>13,143,703.57</b>   | <b>12,726,147</b>            | <b>8,469,438</b>         |

### Additional FY26 Budget Assumptions-

[Please insert narrative on additional assumptions informed by potential opportunities and challenges not otherwise detailed in the report.]

Although our budget reflects a decrease in our fund balance of \$4.2 million from FY25 to FY26, a potential Supplemental State Aid increase may help offset that decrease. We are also working with our public and non-public school partners to establish service plans for FY26 based on their needs, and this will likely lead to additional revenue opportunities. We have historically had strong fee-for-service programs in the areas of technology support, and we expect to grow that revenue potential. Given the current hiring

challenges and increasing needs in Special Education, the Agency has taken a cautious approach and minimized staff reductions in both FY25 and FY26. Grant Wood AEA is in a strong financial position to navigate the challenges presented in FY26.