

## School Information Update - Grade Sharing


For districts involved in a grade sharing arrangement the Grade Sharing tab will need to be completed during the spring School Information Update window.

Districts required to complete the Grade Sharing section of the application are the districts sending students to another district for at least half the day in at least one grade level. Information to be collected and/or reviewed include:

- Partner/receiving district
- Type of sharing (whole grade sharing or tuition agreement)
- Grades to be sent to the receiving district
- If seeking supplementary weighting, the year of the request (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> year) and supporting evidence to be presented to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC):
  - Year 1
    - Date of passage of the board resolution
    - Upload feature for the board resolution (Word document or pdf)
  - Year 2
    - Date of the board meeting establishing the reorganization committee
    - Upload feature for the board minutes containing the establishment of the committee
  - Year 3
    - Acknowledgement of an AEA-accepted reorganization petition
    - Date of the reorganization election
- If the district intends to submit an application for joint employment (due July 1)

### New Grade Sharing Arrangements

A district entering the first year of a grade sharing arrangement will complete the following steps in the School Information Update application:

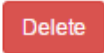


- Select the Grade Sharing tab and select Grade Sharing from the drop-down list.
- Under Action,  a new record.
- Select the receiving district name from the drop-down list.
- Select the sharing type (whole grade sharing or tuition agreement).
- If whole grade sharing, select the type of agreement (1- or 2-way).
- Check the grade levels for the grades to be sent to the partner district.
- If whole grade sharing, acknowledgement of a board resolution to study reorganization.
- If a board resolution exists, the date of the board resolution and an upload for the board minutes.

The receiving district will have a view-only version of the grades being shared as submitted by the sending district. If the grade sharing arrangement is a whole grade sharing arrangement and the sending district has indicated a board resolution to study reorganization exists, the receiving district will be prompted to provide the receiving district's board resolution to study reorganization as well.


Joint Employment is the only means by which a receiving-only district in a one-way whole grade sharing arrangement can generate whole grade sharing supplementary weighting. When the sending district indicates that an application for joint employment will be submitted, the receiving-only district will then be able to indicate whether whole grade sharing supplementary weighting is being requested and the year (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup>) being requested.




If a district will be seeking Year 1 whole grade sharing supplementary weighting in the upcoming school year but a board resolution has not yet been passed, please enter an anticipated date when the board will take action on the resolution to study reorganization. Create a Word document to be uploaded stating something similar to “The ABC School District is planning to present an action to have the board vote on a resolution to study reorganization with the LMN School District on xx/yy/20zz.” By providing a future date and a statement of intent, the district may complete the remaining supplementary weighting questions. After the board passes the resolution to study reorganization, the official board minutes can be uploaded. Board minutes showing the passage of the resolution to study reorganization must be uploaded on or before October 1 of the year when the district will be requesting whole grade sharing supplementary weighting.

For districts already in a grade sharing arrangement, the information on sharing partner, type of sharing agreement, grades to be sent to the receiving district, and whether the district will be requesting whole grade sharing supplementary weighting must be reviewed and updated as needed.

- If the sharing partner will change in the upcoming year,  the current sharing record and  a new record.
-  the current sharing record to update the information for the upcoming school year:
  - grades to be shared;
  - type of sharing arrangement;
  - passage of a board resolution, if one had not previously been passed;
  - request for whole grade sharing supplementary weighting; and/or
  - intent to submit an application for joint employment, if not already completed in a prior year.

Red or orange flags on the far right will appear for each of the “Sends to” or “Receives from” arrangements if action steps are required.

-  Indicates incomplete information. Edit the record to complete. Edit grade sharing information as needed. Most red flags will require the district to indicate whether whole grade sharing supplementary weighting will be requested.

-  Indicates the need to review last year's information. If changes are needed,  the record. If the information from the prior year is correct for the new year,  the values.

### [Iowa Administrative Code references](#)

**281-97.2(8) Whole-grade sharing.** If all or a substantial portion of the students in any grade are shared with another one or more school districts for all or a substantial portion of a school day, then no students in that grade level are eligible for supplementary weighting except as authorized by rule 281—97.5(257) [*concurrent enrollment*]. No students in the grade levels who meet the criterion in this subrule are eligible for supplementary weighting even in the absence of an agreement executed pursuant to Iowa Code sections 282.10 through 282.12 [*whole grade sharing*]. A district that discontinues grades pursuant to Iowa Code section 282.7 is deemed to be whole-grade sharing the resident students in those discontinued grades for purposes of these rules.

**281-97.5(5) Filing board resolutions.** Each school district that adopts a board resolution to study dissolution or has adopted a board resolution jointly with all other affected boards to study reorganization shall file a copy of the board resolution with the department of education not later than October 1 on which date the district intends to request supplementary weighting for whole-grade sharing.

**97.5(6) Filing progress reports.** Each school district that intends to assign a supplementary weighting to resident students attending class in a whole-grade sharing arrangement in any year following the initial year for which supplementary weighting for whole-grade sharing was approved shall file a report of progress toward reorganization with the school budget review committee, on forms developed by the department of education, no later than August 1 preceding October 1 on which date the district intends to request the second or third year of supplementary weighting for whole-grade sharing.

a. The progress report shall include the following information:

- (1) Names of districts with which the district is studying reorganization.
- (2) Descriptive information on the whole-grade sharing arrangement.
- (3) Information on whether a plan for reorganization has been approved by the AEA and an election date has been set.

b. The report must indicate progress toward a reorganization or dissolution to occur on or before July 1, 2024. The indicators of progress include:

- (1) For the second year of supplementary weighting, establishing a reorganization committee.
- (2) For the third year of supplementary weighting, having an AEA-approved plan for reorganization and a date set for an election on the proposed reorganization.

c. The school budget review committee shall consider each progress report at its first regular meeting of the fiscal year and shall accept the progress report or shall reject the progress report with comments.

The reports will be evaluated on demonstrated progress within the past year toward reorganization or dissolution.

d. A school district whose progress report is not accepted shall be allowed to submit a revised progress report at the second regular meeting of the school budget review committee. The committee shall accept or reject the revised progress report.

e. If the school budget review committee rejects the progress report and the district does not submit a revised progress report or if the school budget review committee rejects the revised progress report, the school district shall not be eligible for supplementary weighting for whole-grade sharing but may reapply in a subsequent year.

f. In the event that an election on reorganization fails to pass after the school budget review committee has approved a district's application for whole-grade sharing supplementary weighting and prior to January 1 of the year in which the reorganization was to take effect, a district may rescind the request for whole-grade sharing supplementary weighting by submitting a request to the school budget review committee asking to withdraw the application. The request to withdraw the application must be completed no later than one week prior to the committee's second regular meeting.