

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

March 21, 2024



Agenda Item: Northwest Area Education Agency Request to Lease Space

State Board Priority: Preparing Learners for Tomorrow’s Workforce

State Board Role/Authority: This action is authorized by Iowa Code section 273.3(7).

Presenter(s): None – Consent Agenda

Attachment(s): Two

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the proposed lease from Northwest AEA as described below and in the two attachments.

Background: On March 7, 2024, the Department received a request from Northwest AEA to request permission to lease a portion of Northwest AEA’s real property popularly known as 5800 Discovery Blvd, Sioux City, Iowa, to Western Iowa Tech Community College for WIT’s new Aviation Maintenance program.

For the reasons stated in the request, Director Snow recommends that it be granted.



March 5, 2024

McKenzie Snow
Director, Iowa Department of Education
Grimes State Office Building
400 E 14th St.
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146

Dear Director Snow:

I am writing to you on behalf of Northwest AEA to request permission, in accordance with subsection 273.3(7) of Iowa Code, to lease a portion of our main office at 5800 Discovery Blvd, Sioux City, Iowa to Western Iowa Tech Community College for their new Aviation Maintenance program.

The largely unfinished North wing of our new office building is currently underutilized and would be an ideal location for the new program offered by Western Iowa Tech Community College. They would like to lease up to 15,000 square feet of space on a 10-year initial lease.

Our building is located across the street from the new Oracle Aviation building that will house the Morningside University aviation program at the Sioux Gateway Airport. The two new programs being offered by WITCC and Morningside have the strong support of the City of Sioux City, the Airport Board of Trustees, and the 185th Refueling Wing - a unit of the Iowa Air National Guard.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if further information is needed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dan Cox
Chief Administrator, Northwest AEA

CC: Dr. Terry Murrell, president of Western Iowa Tech Community College
Roger Brinkert, chair of the Northwest AEA board of directors

WITH OFFICES IN

Cherokee
2020 Highway 3 Bypass
Cherokee, IA 51012

Denison
2008 Highway 59 S.
Denison, IA 51442

Le Mars
940 Lincoln St.
Le Mars, IA 51031

Onawa
801 Tenth St., Ste. A
Onawa, IA 51040

Sioux Center
1382 4th Avenue, NE
Sioux Center, IA 51250

Sioux City
5800 Discovery Blvd.
Sioux City, IA 51111

TO: Northwest Area Education Agency
FR: John Robbins, President, Iowa State Board of Education

DA: March 21, 2024
RE: Request to Lease Premises - State Board Action

This is to notify you that at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 21, 2024, the Iowa State Board of Education, upon the favorable recommendation of Director McKenzie Snow, approved a request from Northwest Area Education Agency to lease a portion of real property located in Woodbury County and popularly known as 5800 Discovery Blvd, Sioux City, Iowa, to Western Iowa Tech Community College for WIT's Aviation Maintenance program.