



State Aid Funding for Impacted Student Enrollment

Department of Education

Overview

Governor Noem is recommending that \$11M be used for student enrollment impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. The recommended budget includes a redistribution of the FY2021 state aid to education budget to provide funding to K-12 school districts based on their 2020 fall enrollment.

Enrollment Formula

Traditionally, the state aid to general education budget is adjusted each year once the Department of Education receives final enrollment numbers. Fall 2020 enrollments were over 1,200 students below projected as many districts saw decreases in enrollment due to the pandemic.

If we had followed the state aid to general education formula, this would have resulted in a cut of \$11M to school districts. Governor Noem's budget recognizes doing this in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic would be damaging to schools at a time when they have had done great work to tackle the challenges related to COVID-19 and ensure students continue to be educated in South Dakota. To mitigate these impacts, Governor Noem's recommendation redistributes the \$11M back to school districts based on the difference between a school districts historical growth and their 2020 fall enrollment.