

2018 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 11

TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT

WHEREAS, Section 33-1006, Idaho Code states the State Board of Education shall determine what costs of transporting pupils shall be allowable in computing the transportation support program of school districts;

WHEREAS, each school district shall maintain records and make reports as required for the purposes of Section 33-1006, Idaho Code;

WHEREAS, the transportation reimbursement to school districts for allowable costs as specified in Section 33-1006(5), Idaho Code is calculated at 50 percent or 85 percent; and

WHEREAS, such reports require multiple ledger accounts to track 50 percent and 85 percent reimbursable expenditures along with reporting non-reimbursable expenditures;

WHEREAS, considerable staff time is required to itemize and differentiate reimbursable expenses as 50 percent and 85 percent; and

WHEREAS, the audits conducted by Idaho State Department of Education transportation personnel are more complicated due to the number of accounts being audited and such audits often result in multiple audit corrections;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho State Department of Education, Idaho State Board of Education, and the Idaho Legislature to amend Idaho Code to simplify and establish a fixed flat rate of allowable transportation expense reimbursement to districts at 85 percent.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Changes to the methodology for reimbursing school districts for allowable transportation expenses has created a burden for school personnel. Extensive clerical work is necessary to identify and categorize the allowable reimbursement costs incurred by each district. Considerable time, effort, and cost is associated with ensuring each allowable expense is properly documented within the 50 percent and 85 percent categories to maximize the transportation reimbursement to the school district. Reimbursing all allowable transportation costs at a flat fixed rate of 85 percent will reduce the amount of clerical work required to submit reimbursement and other reports at the district level. Such a change would also simplify the audits conducted by the Idaho State Department of Education transportation program personnel. This resolution seeks to simplify and streamline transportation reimbursement to the districts.

Submitted by Cassia Joint School District No. 151

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Erin Barnard of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

PASSED
TABLED
FAILED

AYES
NAYES
TOTAL