

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Requested by Legislative Council**  
**02/05/2019**

Amendment to: SB 2300

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2017-2019 Biennium		2019-2021 Biennium		2021-2023 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures			\$1,300,000			
Appropriations						

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2017-2019 Biennium	2019-2021 Biennium	2021-2023 Biennium
Counties			
Cities			
School Districts			
Townships			

- 2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

SB 2300 provides funding to the Department of Human Services for grants to schools for behavioral health needs.

- B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

Section 1 of SB 2300 includes appropriation of \$1,300,000, all of which is general fund, for the purpose of providing grants to school districts to address student behavioral health needs in the 19-21 biennium.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*
- B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*
- C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

**Name:** Rhonda Obrigewitch

**Agency:** DHS

**Telephone:** 328-4585

**Date Prepared:** 02/08/2019

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Requested by Legislative Council**  
**01/14/2019**

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2300

- 1 A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2017-2019 Biennium		2019-2021 Biennium		2021-2023 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
<b>Revenues</b>			\$(3,200,000)	\$3,200,000		
<b>Expenditures</b>						
<b>Appropriations</b>						

- 1 B. **County, city, school district and township fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

	2017-2019 Biennium	2019-2021 Biennium	2021-2023 Biennium
<b>Counties</b>			
<b>Cities</b>			
<b>School Districts</b>			
<b>Townships</b>			

- 2 A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

SB 2300 creates a reading program grant fund and a school Medicaid matching grant fund.

- B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

Section 1 of SB 2300 transfers revenues from the state general fund portion of cigarette tax revenue to the reading program grant fund and the school Medicaid matching grant fund.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

- A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

If enacted, SB 2300 will provide for a transfer of \$3,000,000 from the state general fund's share of cigarette tax revenue to the school Medicaid matching grant fund each biennium. Additionally, the bill will provide for a transfer of \$200,000 of cigarette tax revenue to the reading program grant fund each biennium.

- B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

- C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation or a part of the appropriation is included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

**Name:** Kathryn Strombeck

**Agency:** Office of Tax Commissioner

**Telephone:** 701.328.3402

**Date Prepared:** 01/18/2019

**2019 SENATE EDUCATION**

**SB 2300**

# 2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Education Committee**  
Sheyenne River Room, State Capitol

SB 2300  
1/21/2019  
31091

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature Lynn Wolf

## Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A bill relating to a reading program grant fund and a school Medicaid matching grant fund; relating to the allocation of cigarette taxes; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

## Minutes:

Att. #1-Davison; Att. #2-Garty; Att. #3-Ziegler/Lemer; Att. #4-Ellefson

**Chairman Schaible:** We will open the hearing on SB 2300. Senator Davison.

**Senator Davison, Exec. Director of the South East Education Cooperative: See Attachment #1.**

**Chairman Schaible:** Do you have any idea where the money would come from?

**Senator Davison:** If we get this bill out of committee, I would push a little bit for the tobacco tax in Appropriations. I would push for moving the e-cigarettes to be taxed at the wholesale value at 28% to help, I do have ideas where the money could come from. I know how hard it is to get fee increases, so no I don't.

**Chairman Schaible:** Williston does not do the match. How many other schools in the state that don't do the Medicaid match?

**Senator Davison:** The biggest areas are Will-Mac – their Special Education in the Williston area – that's the biggest. The rural one in the Dickinson area, including Mott, Hettinger and Bowman. They have 13 or 14 schools; they do not do it. There are other schools, like Minot and Grand Forks, that we are working with the hardest right now. The challenge is that you need to have someone that is working with this on a regular basis. Through the support of the SEEC and our work, hopefully they will get up to base. There is room for expansion, a little bit.

**Chairman Schaible:** By your testimony, Williston is leaving \$1.5 million on the table?

**Senator Davison:** No, Williston is, in my estimation, leaving approximately \$200,000. \$100,000 of it, they would have to pay the match on, so they would get about \$100,000. Jamestown gets about \$65,000, so in my calculations, percentage wise, that's roughly what Williston would get. The rural Dickinson on would be right around \$100,000 to \$120,000 based on the one up in Grafton that we work with.

**Chairman Schaible:** But it does add up to real money that is being left on the table.

**Senator Davison:** We just talked about the funding formula and every little bit helps. We've done a lot of good things. I feel good about where education is headed right now. We have some schools leading in different areas – such as Northern Cass finding funds out of the United Way and the Burgum Foundation. They started to recognize that our people can't drive to Fargo. They are working. These families where kids are struggling, they are working, they just can't get them to Fargo and back. They partnered and brought the specialists into their schools once a week and then twice a week. Now this year, Kindred, Mapleton, and Central Cass said we want into this – this is a great idea. You start to see those kinds of things happening and these dollars could be a jump start all across the state.

**Chairman Schaible:** Your bill, as intended, is only to do the second half of the match, so they would have to get the first half of the match first. This would supplement the second half.

**Senator Davison:** They can do whatever they want to with the first half. I believe we need to create a little language in this bill to have them focus at the start on partnerships. I think Mark Lemar's written testimony outlines the language, too.

**Chairman Schaible:** If the school district or the health unit are not doing their job to get the first half, I wouldn't be real receptive of supplementing the second half.

**Senator Davison:** No, right, because we wouldn't know what the second half is, because they didn't bill it. I think it provides a greater incentive. There are special education units, like in the Napoleon area – I understand why they might not do it because it takes a little bit of work and the dollars that they get back might only be 10 or 12 thousand dollars, but if they were getting 25 thousand dollars, that might change their mind.

**Senator Oban:** Did you put the language for the reading program grant within the Department of Commerce because that is where the early childhood grant funding is right now?

**Senator Davison:** It is because that is where we get our AmericCorps funding right now for our volunteers that do the Reading Corps work.

**Chairman Schaible:** Thank you. Other testimony in favor of the bill.

**Jolene Garty, Director of Student Services, South East Education Cooperative (SEEC):**  
**See Attachment #2.**

**Senator Davison:** Could you explain how Reading Corps is funded without state dollars?

**Jolene Garty:** Sure, we receive \$230,000 in federal AmericCorps funding. We have a 41% match requirement, so currently we write grants – United Way of CassClay and Missouri Slope Area United Way Foundation also provide funding. The challenge with that is that those funds are geographically designated grants. The school districts pay a small fee per tutor – approximately \$1900 or \$2600 per tutor for the entire school year. We are the first state that started that model and we have found that it is really helpful. West Fargo pays about \$35,000 a year to have a tutor in every one of their elementary buildings.

**Chairman Schaible:** So why do you think more schools don't take advantage of this? Is it the cost to do it or?

**Jolene Garty:** I would say it is not the cost per tutor amount, but rather, our federal funding doesn't provide all the additional support that it takes to run the program. We would need to find a local supporter to cover that other cost because our current grants are just regional. If we wanted to be in Grand Forks, we would need to get the Grand Forks United Way to support that or another funder. Or, charge the school districts more.

**Chairman Schaible:** What percentage of the breakout is the other part of it? With the costs you had you said you had you said some was covered by this, but you'd have to find another source?

**Jolene Garty:** About 41%.

**Chairman Schaible:** Other questions. Thank you. Other testimony in favor the bill.

**Russ Ziegler, ND Council of School Leaders: See Attachment #3.** The testimony I have today is from Mark Lemer, Business Manager, West Fargo School District.

**Chairman Schaible:** Thank you.

**Roxane Romanick, Exec. Director, Designer Genes of ND:** I just wanted to share that the committee knows that we represent individuals with Down Syndrome across the life span and therefore the majority of our children and youth are on IEPs. We want to make sure the committee knows that in accessing the Medicaid dollars, the parents have to provide the permission for that. That is actually in IDEA and we want to be sure in moving this forward that the procedural safeguards are taken into account. The history on that is that the IDEA allows the billing of both private insurance and Medicaid. Historically, what has happened is that parents' primary insurance denied other services were denied because other services were happening at the school. So these parents ended up with some difficulties. Therefore, the provision was put in the federal law to make sure that parents provided that permission. In moving this forward, we would definitely be in support of making sure the billing is widely used. Those related services are being provided, but we would want to be sure the consideration of procedural safeguards was taken into account.

**Chairman Schaible:** Is there a concern or problem with parents not giving authority or consent?

**Roxane Romanick:** I guess I wouldn't know, at this point in time. I think parents always have questions when they are presented with it and they really don't know how it works or what the impact of it is. When it comes to Medicaid billing, traditionally there isn't any impact on private services that they may be trying to get, for example physical therapy services through an out-patient clinic. We have had incidents where if it is private insurance, which I know you are not looking at it has had an impact on service provision outside of the school setting. I wouldn't have an idea – I don't know if Department of Public Instruction would... What the population that could be billed, what percentage is being billed. Thank you. Other questions.



**Chairman Schaible:** Other testimony in favor of the bill.

**Ann Ellefson, Director of Academic Support, Department of Public Instruction:** See *Attachment #4*.

**Senator Davison:** What I think I heard here, is that we could leave the same process in place. The Department of Human Services would then get the foundation match from Department of Public Instruction and they would be responsible within that and then the schools would be responsible if the language said to what purpose that they could use those funds for and Human Services could determine how to pool those funds within their department.

**Ann Ellefson:** Yes, in my limited understanding of how the current system operates. My basic understanding is that a district would provide services that qualify for Medicaid and currently, the Department of Human Services covers that at 100%, 50% then has to be provided through a match. Department of Public Instruction holds that off before a state payment it goes out to a school district. So if it is say, Wahpeton, the department holds that off and then that payment gets paid back to Department of Human Services. I do think there is opportunity to maybe streamline these practices. We felt that if the funding were provided to the Department of Public Instruction it would be just be a little bit more of back and forth funding that we probably didn't have to have in place.

**Chairman Schaible:** Other testimony in favor of the bill.

**Elroy Burkle, Organization of Small Schools:** I think small schools will take advantage of this over time, especially small rural special education units as they get familiar with it. I want to complement Senator Davison and the group that you have done this is great and we support this particular bill.

**Chairman Schaible:** Do you know why some of our school districts are not taking advantage of this?

**Elroy Burkle:** One, lack of understanding. Two, no realizing what can be done and three, not having the leadership, as has been exhibited now, to give a guide and model to help others out.

**Chairman Schaible:** Other testimony in favor of the bill. Other Agency testimony. Maggie Anderson, could you come to the podium?

**Senator Davison:** I haven't had an opportunity to sit down with DHS, but my question is if the money came – if the flow goes as Ann Ellefson would say and the money comes up from Department of Public Instruction to Human Services, what do you see as the challenges in putting those dollars – obviously, we would have to have a state appropriation for the match so that Human Services could pay the match, but the amount of work or the process in order to put those dollars there for schools to submit – I am just going to call it a plan for the **conversation** today – a plan or a request about how they would use those dollars for behavioral health services within their schools so that we have some kind of accountability that those dollars are being used for what were the challenging things that are happening in their school districts.

**Maggie Anderson, Medical Services Division, Department of Human Services:** Maybe it is a misunderstanding as we read the bill draft. This is why we all come to the hearings to hear everything so, we can get that cleared up. When we read the bill draft and we did reach out to Department of Public Instruction and asked if they would be supportive of the amendment that Ann Ellefson brought up because the way we understood it, it was taking the existing structure for school based Medicaid services for children who are on IEPs and then using that continuing appropriation from the tobacco tax. It wasn't an expansion to behavioral health, so when we read the bill, it was just – for context – we have \$2.6 million of federal money in our budget for 19-21, because we have to have the federal

appropriation. That's what we are estimating the school based Medicaid services IEP services would be for 19-21. What we understood the bill, as it was introduced, would say, okay, we are going to need the \$2.6 million of matching funds, state, what we call the non-federal match in the Department of Human Services. We have to get it somehow – whether it comes from Department of Public Instruction or another certified public expenditure, we have to have the match. As I heard you testify, I heard you talk about behavioral health services. Behavioral health services are a covered service today – in Medicaid it is a service that we cover through the IEP for all the practitioners that we enroll, which is a long list of practitioners, and so, maybe I am misinterpreted section 3, that you want specific grants because a school district would never send us a plan of what they plan to spend it on. The children would come, they would have an IEP if they happen to be Medicaid eligible, the bills would be sent to us and we would pay the claim. If this is something in addition to that, where there would be specific grants to schools to hire behavior health staff, those may or may not be eligible for Medicaid funding. There may need to be further conversations about Section 3 of the bill.

**Senator Davison:** I am going to repeat what I think you said: Once that you use state dollars to do the match, it may change the concept of how schools may use those dollars. My basic understanding was if we do the match for schools, I didn't want them to just get the money back into their General Fund and just spend it, I wanted us to start doing things that are already starting to happen that we know that work. Collaborating among special education units to hire a social worker at one day a week at schools to deal with some of this stuff. I was trying to figure out how we could put some language in there that when the money came from Department of Public Instruction, the match, back to pay off our state match – the \$2.6 million that you are talking about, that instead, you would get an appropriation from the state, but that \$2.6 million would still be sitting there and then the schools would have to identify how to get that money back. Department of Public Instruction would still deduct it from the schools and then it would – what I am trying to do which is a negative word – is force the schools to use the dollars for behavioral health. Not allow it to come back into their General Fund to use it on whatever they want to.

**Maggie Anderson:** That clears up our confusion. The way we read this draft, it was just replacing the existing \$2.6 million with funds that came out of this revolving account. That is why we reached out to Department of Public Instruction to and said if it is really replacing what Department of Public Instruction is currently deducting from the foundation aid payment, let's just clean up – there are a lot of hands that touch that money to do the non-federal match. Let's just have the appropriation come to DHS. Now what I hear you saying, is you still want that deduction to come out of those foundation aid payments, but you would like the state to set aside the equivalent of that, the \$2.6 million. Now that \$2.6 million has nothing to do with Medicaid. Correct?

**Senator Davison:** Correct, because it is foundation aid money that the school pay.

**Maggie Anderson:** So not that \$2.6 million, if the West Fargo School District submitted a plan that said we need \$200,000 to do XYZ, and these are the things we think we can do to help children with behavioral health needs, then Department of Public Instruction or DHS, would give them a check for the plan.

**Senator Davison:** Yes.

**Maggie Anderson:** In that situation, I probably don't agree that that appropriation should come to the Department of Human Services. I think we should all discuss potential language – Department of Public Instruction and Human Services – so we can work together on that.

**Senator Davison:** There isn't any reason since it is foundation aid dollars, they could hire people that are eligible to bill Medicaid services? Technically, you could hire someone that can bill Medicaid and therefore, you would get additional dollars back.

**Maggie Anderson:** The simple answer to that is yes. The more complicated answer is – as you know – on the work that we did on the school based Medicaid IEP policy, the rules that wrap around that are very specific to children that are Medicaid eligible who have an IEP and their billing Medicaid services. Things such as third party liability in Medicaid – in general – is the payer of last resort. There is some exception to that, but, the IEP services, we don't have to bill third payers. But now what you are talking about are non-IEP services, so that where it gets more complex is that OT then would also have to bill all other children that are not Medicaid eligible or if that Medicaid eligible child has primary insurance and Medicaid, they would have to bill that payer first. The simple answer is yes, as long as they are an enroll able Medicaid provider. To us, that just becomes another place of service – the school is a place of service, the clinic is a place of service, the nursing home is a place of service; but then those other rules that govern the Medicaid program would kick in.

**Chairman Schaible:** Other agency testimony. Any testimony in opposition to this bill? With that we'll close the hearing.

# 2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Education Committee**  
Sheyenne River Room, State Capitol

SB 2300  
2/4/2019  
32042

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature Lynn Wolf

## Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A bill relating to a reading program grant fund and a school Medicaid matching grant fund; relating to the allocation of cigarette taxes; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide an effective date.

## Minutes:

Att. #1-Davison(19.1030.02001)

Chairman Schaible: Senator Davison is passing out an amendment 19.1030.02001.

Senator Davison: This is a hog house amendment. From the testimony, you will remember there was tobacco tax and Reading Corps in there and then the dollars for the non-federal match for Medicaid was in the bill. We amended the Reading Corps into the foundation aid bill, took out the tobacco tax so really, what is left is the appropriation for the matching Medicaid dollars. In a joint meeting with Human Services, they provided the language for the amendment. The idea is the 1950i and some the work that they are doing with the structure and framework of the Department of Human Services and the targeted services to schools that they want to be able to offer through third parties and the ability to use Medicaid dollars for not only students on IEPs, but students with behavioral issues that qualify from a standpoint of dollar wise. Some of those things can't happen for a couple of years, the purpose of my bill is for those schools to create those collaborations, focus on behavioral health needs on a more regional special education unit basis. For those schools that aren't going for Medicaid, encourage them and incentivize them to get moving to get additional dollars in to help their schools support that we know every school has. It is \$1.3 million or so much of the sum as may be necessary for that non-Medicaid match – the 50% match for the federal dollars.

Chairman Schaible: You spoke of how this money could be used for matches and then the money that should have been used could go back into a fund for continuation of the program. What are the logistics of how that would work?

Senator Davison: Using Wahpeton as an example, in 2014, they did not do Medicaid billing. We integrated technology into the process and got them off the ground to do Medicaid billing. They recognized there were dollars. They put a system together integrating technology and now Wahpeton collects close to in the neighborhood of \$100,000 to \$110,000. Of that money,

when that bill comes due, Human Services sends a bill to Department of Public Instruction for the non-federal portion of Medicaid. Department of Public Instruction then takes the money out of the Wahpeton Public School's foundation aid and noted on the voucher that it was a deduction of half – whatever 50% is – and then Human Services uses that check as their audit to show that match has happened. We are not changing the system at all, we are taking a \$1.3 million appropriation and setting it up there creating these dollars – this fund – where now Wahpeton can go to the Department of Human Services and we want our other back and this is how we are going to collaborate within our region to deal with behavioral health issues.

Rust: The \$1.3 million is from the General Fund. Any particular place in the General Fund?

Senator Davison: Just from the General Fund.

**Motion by Senator Davison to adopt amendment 19.1030.02001.**

**Second by Oban.**

**Motion Carries: 7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Absent.**

**Motion by Senator Davison to Do Pass SB 2300 as amended and Rerefer to Appropriations.**

**Second by Senator Oban.**

**Motion Carries: 7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Absent.**

**Senator Davison will carry the bill.**

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2300

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of human services to provide grants to school districts for student behavioral health needs."

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,300,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of providing grants to school districts to address student behavioral health needs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021. To be eligible to receive a grant, a school district must submit a plan to the department detailing the school district's collaboration with other school districts in the region regarding student behavioral health needs and the use of grant funding to develop student behavioral health interventions. A grant to an eligible school district is limited to an amount equal to the nonfederal portion of Medicaid reimbursement received by the school during the preceding school year."

Renumber accordingly

**2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE  
 ROLL CALL VOTES  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2300**

Senate Education Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 19.6030.02001

Recommendation:  Adopt Amendment  
 Do Pass     Do Not Pass     Without Committee Recommendation  
 As Amended     Rerefer to Appropriations  
 Place on Consent Calendar  
 Other Actions:  Reconsider     \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Davison    Seconded By Oban

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Schaible:	✓		Senator Marcellais:	✓	
Vice-Chairman Fors:	✓		Senator Oban:	✓	
Senator Davison	✓				
Senator Elkin:	✓				
Senator Rust:	✓				

Total (Yes) 7    No 0

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Assignment \_\_\_\_\_

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE  
 ROLL CALL VOTES  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SK 2300**

Senate Education Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

- Recommendation:  Adopt Amendment  
 Do Pass  Do Not Pass  Without Committee Recommendation  
 As Amended  Rerefer to Appropriations  
 Place on Consent Calendar
- Other Actions:  Reconsider  \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Davison Seconded By Oban

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Schaible:	✓		Senator Marcellais:	✓	
Vice-Chairman Fors:	✓		Senator Oban:	✓	
Senator Davison	✓				
Senator Elkin:	✓				
Senator Rust:	✓				

Total (Yes) 7 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Davison

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:



**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2300: Education Committee (Sen. Schaible, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2300 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of human services to provide grants to school districts for student behavioral health needs.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,300,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of providing grants to school districts to address student behavioral health needs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021. To be eligible to receive a grant, a school district must submit a plan to the department detailing the school district's collaboration with other school districts in the region regarding student behavioral health needs and the use of grant funding to develop student behavioral health interventions. A grant to an eligible school district is limited to an amount equal to the nonfederal portion of Medicaid reimbursement received by the school during the preceding school year."

Renumber accordingly

**2019 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS**

**SB 2300**

# 2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations Committee Harvest Room, State Capitol

SB 2300  
2/12/2019  
Job #32552 (33:44)

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk: Rose Laning/ Meghan Pegel

### Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of human services to provide grants to school districts for student behavioral health needs.

### Minutes:

2 Attachments

Legislative Council: Brady Larson  
OMB: Stephanie Gullickson

**Chairman Holmberg** called the committee to order on SB 2300. A quorum was present.

### **Senator Kyle Davison, District 41, testifies in favor (see attachment #1)**

**(7:30) Chairman Holmberg:** (referring to Williston Public Schools not billing Medicaid) Has this been explained to them?

**Senator Davison:** It has more than once, and they're not the only one. I chose Williston to show you the difference in a similar size school to Jamestown. Jamestown is an organization that came on board and started doing Medicaid billing in the last 3 years. They recognize the advantage of doing it, and with the help of Human Services and the Southeast Education Cooperative, we help them integrate the technology into the process. That's why many of the schools have moved in that direction and doing it much more easily and efficient. The cooperation has been great with DHS. The system isn't changing at all. I've met with DPI and DHS to fine-tune the bill to make sure that we have an understanding. They still need to authorize the match, and it will still come out of the school's foundation aid. They'll have to write a plan to DHS.

**Senator Mathern:** I presume we'll support the plan in light of having it gone through your committee. In terms of finance, is everything contained in this bill to authorize the mechanism to proceed or must there be additional language in 2012 the Human Service bill for this to precede?

**Senator Davison:** Everything is in place to be successful within this system of Medicaid billing. The system of Medicaid billing is already set up. On page 2, it talks about the covered services for schools.

**Senator Mathern:** The dollars are in here too?

**Senator Davison:** The dollars come from the appropriation in this bill.

**Senator Grabinger:** How much was this funded last biennium?

**Senator Davison:** There was no funding; the schools paid for the match.

**Senator Wanzek:** The \$65,000 match that Jamestown received actually comes off their payments?

**Senator Davison:** The \$65,000 from Jamestown- those checks you see on Jamestown's voucher are checks that are sent to DHS for the 50% match from the money that they receive directly from the federal government. All the Medicaid is matched dollars, so how we have done it for all these years is the schools have paid the match. Sometimes schools bill for Medicaid and sometimes they don't. The reason that some of the smaller ones don't is because it's not always an easy process. We've tried to simplify it, but it's not always an easy process. The DHS uses that check off of that voucher to show the federal government in an audit that it was matched 50% by state dollars.

**Senator Poolman:** Thank you for bringing this forward. I think we will look back on this bill as being monumental in terms of the shift and how we are providing services in public schools. We have to stop thinking that teachers can be all of these things; they aren't trained to do all of this. The idea that we are finally taking a look at taking professionals in these fields and bringing them into the schools and getting Medicaid reimbursement for that, this is a monumental shift. I hope that we will support it.

**Senator Davison continues testimony.**

**(24:25) Robin Lang, Assistant Director, Department of Public Instruction, testifies in favor**

**Lang:** We support this bill and the efforts of DPI to expand their services across the state to our schools and communities.

**Chairman Holmberg:** You would agree with what Senator Poolman said earlier that the schools have to go outside of their employees of the school district in order to have those services provided?

**Lang:** Before I came to DPI, my trade was a school counselor. I would agree, it will change the landscape of our schools and for our students and parents. I believe it's a pivotal bill.

**Senator Grabinger:** This is something my superintendent in Jamestown has asked for for years. He's talked about it time and again; I think it's great. This is the start.

**(26:05) Kayla Effertz Kleven, Olson Effertz Lobbying and Consulting, testifies in favor**

**Effertz Kleven:** This is another tool in the toolbox for schools to use funding like this to enhance behavioral health within schools. I would now like to introduce Toinette Banks.

**(26:25) Toinette Banks, Administrative Director, Prairie Learning Center, Raleigh ND, testifies in favor (see attachment #2)**

**Senator Bekkedahl:** I serve on the board at Eckert Foundation in Williston, so I know firsthand what you're dealing with and appreciate your services. We're all going through this re-credentialing processes with you. I don't understand how this funding mechanism ties into that. Is it because you'll integrate with the funding the schools get to use in their programs or will you get funding through this program as well?

**Banks:** We do bill Medicaid for students that are at school with us. Being able to integrate their program with us when they go back to their home schools will help with the transition and their continuity of behavioral health.

**Senator Bekkedahl:** So would you qualify them for the match from DPI in the funding here?

**Banks:** I do believe we would since we already bill Medicaid.

**(31:25) Roxane Romanick, Executive Director for Designer Genes, testifies in favor**

**Romanick:** I am in favor of this bill. I would like the committee to also consider the possibility of increasing the number of children that we can get on Medicaid by looking at our children with disabilities buy-in. We have put an ask into the subcommittee which is currently at 200% of the federal poverty level. The federal government would allow up to 300%. As Senator Davison said, this bill will only be effective for those children that are on Medicaid that can be billed out for allowing an increase to bring some more children with disabilities onto Medicaid would be helpful in this situation.

**Chairman Holmberg:** You've made that wish known to the subcommittee. We're not going to mingle this bill with the subcommittee; it stands alone.

**Chairman Holmberg** closed the hearing on SB 2300.

**Senator Grabinger Moved Do Pass on SB 2300.**

**Senator Wanzek Seconded the motion.**

**A Roll Call Vote was taken: Yes: 14 No: 0 Absent: 0. Motion carries.**

**The bill goes back to the Education Committee and Senator Davison will carry the bill.**

Date: 2-12-19

Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2019 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2300**

Senate Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation:  Adopt Amendment  
 Do Pass     Do Not Pass     Without Committee Recommendation  
 As Amended     Rerefer to Appropriations  
 Place on Consent Calendar

Other Actions:  Reconsider     \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Grabinger    Seconded By Wanzek

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Holmberg	✓		Senator Mathern	✓	
Senator Krebsbach	✓		Senator Grabinger	✓	
Senator Wanzek	✓		Senator Robinson	✓	
Senator Erbele	✓				
Senator Poolman	✓				
Senator Bekkedahl	✓				
Senator G. Lee	✓				
Senator Dever	✓				
Senator Sorvaag	✓				
Senator Oehlke	✓				
Senator Hogue	✓				

Total (Yes) 14    No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Senator Davison - Education

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2300, as engrossed: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).  
Engrossed SB 2300 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

**2019 HOUSE EDUCATION**

**SB 2300**



# 2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Education Committee**  
Coteau A Room, State Capitol

SB 2300  
2/27/2019  
32942

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk: Bev Monroe by Marjorie Conley

## Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A bill relating to a reading program grant fund and a school Medicaid matching grant fund; relating to the allocation of cigarette taxes; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide an effective date

## Minutes:

Attachment 1, 2, 3

**Chairman Owens:** Open hearing on SB 2300.

**Sen. Kyle Davison:** (Attachment 1) end 14:05

**Chairman Owens:** questions? support?

**Amy DeKok NDSBA:** (Attachment 2) end 15:39

**Chairman Owens** questions? Support?

**ElRoy Burkle North Dakota Small Organized Schools:** (Attachment 3) end 17:15

**Aimee Copas, Director of NDCEL :** No written testimony only verbal support.

**Chairman Owens:** Anyone else in support of SB 2300?

**Robin Lang, DPI:** The Department of Public Instruction supports SB 2300.

**Nick Archuleta, ND United:** We stand in full support of SB 2300.

**Chairman Owens:** Further support? Opposition? Neutral?

**Pam Sagness, Director of Behavioral Health Division of Human Services:** I just want to point out clarification that I would ask for in the language of this bill. Currently the \$1.3 million that is only one year, so I would suggest that either there is a one year delay in implementation or the funding would be twice as much or we need to clarify in the bill when the funding is gone there wouldn't be any more. \$1.3 million per year, that

would be the total amount. It is not clear in the bill that either one year funding or one year delayed implementation or whether that should be doubled.

**Chairman Owens:** Are there any questions? Any Neutral?

**Chairman Owens:** close hearing.

# 2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Education Committee**  
Coteau A Room, State Capitol

SB 2300  
3/13/2019  
33629

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk: Bev Monroe

## **Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:**

A bill relating to a reading program grant fund and a school Medicaid matching grand fund; relating to the allocation of cigarette taxes; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide an effective date

## **Minutes:**

**Vice Chairman Cynthia Schreiber-Beck:** The amendment is Sen. Davison's amendment. On page 1, line 11, after the period insert "The department shall award student behavioral health grants only during the second year of the 2019-21 biennium." We had that question as it was not clear as to the first year was a paperwork year and the second year would be the award.

On page 1, line 13, replace "preceding school" with "first" and

On page 1, line 13, after "year" insert "of the biennium" and

Renumber accordingly.

That should clear up the confusion about when the fiscal note would be expended and it would only be in the second year of the biennium.

**Chairman Owens:** Does it state \$1.3M in that case or is it half of that?

**Vice Chairman Cynthia Schreiber-Beck:** It is \$1.3M. Sen. Davison said he would offer that amendment and we have it here.

**Representative Denton Zubke:** I'll **move** the amendment.

**Chairman Owens:** Do we have a second?

**Rep. Pat D. Heinert:** I'll **second** the amendment.

**Rep. Mary Johnson:** So it is \$1.3M for the biennium all of which can only be awarded in the second half of the biennium?

**Chairman Owens:** Yes.

**A Voice Vote was taken. A unanimous vote carried.** We will be holding the bill until after the Health and Human Services meeting to see what their plan is. They have been working on an integrated plan with DPI and other groups.

# 2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Education Committee**  
Coteau A Room, State Capitol

SB 2300  
3/19/2019  
33939

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk: Bev Monroe

## Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A bill relating to a reading program grant fund and a school Medicaid matching grant fund; relating to the allocation of cigarette taxes; to provide a continuing appropriation; and to provide an effective date

## Minutes:

**Chairman Owens:** On SB 2300, the way it reads it would be good to pass this because it talks about reimbursement from Medicaid. In talking with Health and Human Services, that is not it's intent. It appropriates \$1.3M out of the general fund based on Medicare reimbursements from the year prior. It would have very little effect on smaller schools. It is only for the bigger schools. The year prior Medicare reimbursements may be from PT and various other things. It does not always have to do with behavioral health or mental health. The Health and Human Services Committee thinks that this is a waste of money as it redirects money for the wrong purposes. Any discussion from the committee?

**Rep. Ron Guggisberg:** Wasn't it to encourage schools to apply for Medicaid because they were leaving some money on the table and this would just be the matching?

**Chairman Owens:** The bill is a grant that is creating matching funds. It is not actually matching funds that are needed for Medicaid reimbursement.

**Rep. Mary Johnson:** I move a **Do Not Pass** on SB 2300.

**Rep. Hoverson:** **Seconded.**

**Vice Chairman Cynthia Schreiber-Beck:** In meeting with Human Services, it does reflect that you can get dollars for the behavioral health plan. It seems that there are several different interpretations here. I think we need to get the consensus on what this really means.

**Chairman Owens:** All it is using is the Medicaid reimbursement received (the non-federal portion) as a funding match to determine the level of a grant that is going out for this. It has nothing to do with Medicaid. It is using the component that says how much.

**Vice Chairman Cynthia Schreiber-Beck:** My understanding is that the school can't come to Human Services who are not billing to get reimbursement for another program. There is a connection going on someplace.

**Chairman Owens:** That's not what I am being told. If the people who made the motion would like to withdraw the motion, we can find out some more.

**Rep. Mary Johnson:** Just the \$1.3M and then there has to be a plan development and collaborate with those around you? It is not even worth it. Why are we requiring all this work to get some dollars? I wouldn't even bother if I were a school district.

**Chairman Owens:** Rep. Schreiber-Beck, you just said that if they don't apply for Medicaid they don't get the federal match. They won't apply for Medicaid to get the federal. Instead, they want their equivalent given to them by the state where they don't have to apply for it.

**Vice Chairman Cynthia Schreiber-Beck:** They have to fulfill the application process to seize the 50%.

**Chairman Owens:** We have a motion on the table, I have an amendment to add to SB 2265. If we discover that we need to add it, we already have it to add to SB 2265, if we verify it.

**Vice Chairman Cynthia Schreiber-Beck:** Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman Owens:** Any further discussion?

A **Roll Call Vote** was taken: Yes 14, No 0, Absent 0. A **Do Not Pass** motion carried. **Rep. M. Johnson** will carry SB 2300.

DP 3/13/19

19.1030.03001  
Title.04000

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Senator Davison

March 1, 2019

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2300

Page 1, line 11, after the period insert "The department shall award student behavioral health grants only during the second year of the 2019-21 biennium."

Page 1, line 13, replace "preceding school" with "first"

Page 1, line 13, after "year" insert "of the biennium"

Renumber accordingly

Date: 3-13-19  
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ROLL CALL VOTES  
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2300

House Education Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: 19.1030.03001

.04000

- Recommendation:  Adopt Amendment  
 Do Pass     Do Not Pass     Without Committee Recommendation  
 As Amended     Rerefer to Appropriations  
 Place on Consent Calendar  
Other Actions:  Reconsider     \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Rep. Zubke    Seconded By Rep. Heinert

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman M. Owens			Rep. Guggisberg		
V. Chair. Schreiber-Beck			Rep. Hager		
Rep. Heinert					
Rep. Hoverson					
Rep. D. Johnson					
Rep. M. Johnson					
Rep. Johnston					
Rep. Longmuir					
Rep. Marschall					
Rep. Pyle					
Rep. Strinden					
Rep. Zubke					

Total (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

Floor Assignment VOICE VOTE - MOTION CARRIED

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:



Date: 3-19-19  
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2019 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE  
 ROLL CALL VOTES  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2300**

House Education Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

- Recommendation:  Adopt Amendment  
 Do Pass  Do Not Pass  Without Committee Recommendation  
 As Amended  Rerefer to Appropriations  
 Place on Consent Calendar  
 Other Actions:  Reconsider  \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Rep. M. Johnson Seconded By Rep. Hoverson

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman M. Owens	✓		Rep. Guggisberg	✓	
V. Chair. Schreiber-Beck	✓		Rep. Hager	✓	
Rep. Heinert	✓				
Rep. Hoverson	✓				
Rep. D. Johnson	✓				
Rep. M. Johnson	✓				
Rep. Johnston	✓				
Rep. Longmuir	✓				
Rep. Marschall	✓				
Rep. Pyle	✓				
Rep. Strinden	✓				
Rep. Zubke	✓				

Total (Yes) 14 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep M. Johnson

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2300, as engrossed: Education Committee (Rep. Owens, Chairman) recommends  
DO NOT PASS (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).**  
Engrossed SB 2300 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

**2019 TESTIMONY**

**SB 2300**

SB 2300  
1-21-19  
Att. #1  
p 1 of 19

Senator Kyle Davison  
Testimony 2300

I'm Senator Kyle Davison representing District 41 in south Fargo. I'm here today in support of SB 2300. This bill targets two of our five strategic goals within our Strategic Vision framework. 1) it provides immediate targeted funding to schools to address behavior health challenges 2) in addition, it provides funding to expand Reading Corps program to support our strategic goal of all students reading at proficiency in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

A couple changes I'd like to see and will offer amendments for the committee to review is eliminating the increase in the tobacco tax and identifying more clearly the flow of the matching dollars and perhaps a more targeted language for the use of those dollars. The tobacco tax increase was a distraction from the real issue of increasing funds for behavioral health.

What do we mean by behavioral health in schools?

Behavioral health is the scientific study of the emotions, behaviors and biology relating to a person's mental well-being, their ability to function in everyday life and their concept of self. "Behavioral health" is the preferred term to "mental health." A person struggling with his or her behavioral health may face stress, depression, anxiety, relationship problems, grief, addiction, ADHD or learning disabilities, mood disorders, or other psychological concerns. Counselors, therapists, life coaches, psychologists, nurse practitioners or physicians can help manage behavioral health concerns with treatments such as therapy, counseling, or medication.

Before I get into how school Medicaid funding works, I need to share some data to make a case for immediate dollars to address behavioral health and reading proficiency. The first piece of data you've seen and that's the recent survey of administrators for the Strategic Vision Framework (Review attachment). The second piece of data comes from DPI and is called the Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report (Review attachment).

What is School Medicaid billing and how does it work with schools (Review attachment)?

What is the money the bill is asking to send to schools (Review attachment)?

In the end this bill asks for an appropriation of \$3,000,000 to cover the schools match for Medicaid billed services. This will have an immediate impact in the 2019-2020 school year on a school's ability to hire additional staff to deal with these behavioral health issues. The money will go directly back to the school and/or special education unit.

Next, I'll have Jolene Garty from the SEEC to come up and testify about the reading program within the bill. I would appreciate your support of SB 2300 and will stand for any questions.



DRAFT

1

# PK-12 Education Strategic Vision Framework

**Our vision is that all students will graduate choice ready with the knowledge, skills and disposition to be successful**

**We will make progress toward this vision by achieving these long-term outcomes for students**

- Increase students who enter kindergarten prepared to learn
- Increase students who demonstrate reading proficiency in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- Increase students who meet expected learning gains each year
- Increase students who engage in learning
- Increase students who graduate choice ready
- Reduce the disparity in achievement for students in poverty and for Native American students

**We will drive improvement on these outcomes through focused effort within these strategic themes**

- Quality early childhood education
- Support for safe and healthy behaviors
- Career exploration
- Quality educators
- Quality instruction for personalized learning

SB 2300

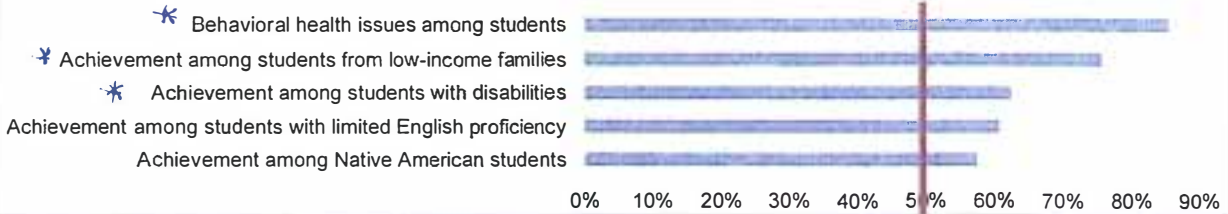
SB 2300

SB 2300  
1-21-19  
Att. #1  
p. 2 of 19

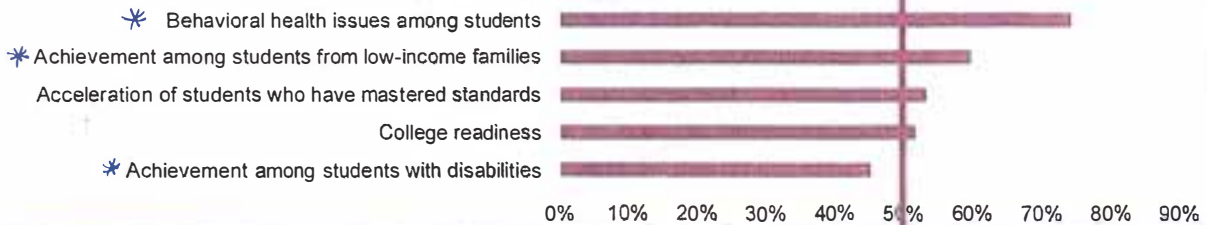
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 1-21-19  
 AH: #1  
 p.3 of 19

## Top 5 Areas Rated High Priority by District / School Leaders

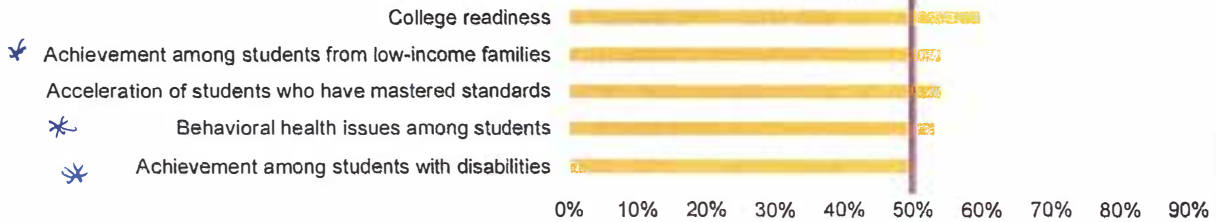
### Districts with 1000 or more students



### Districts with 300-999 students

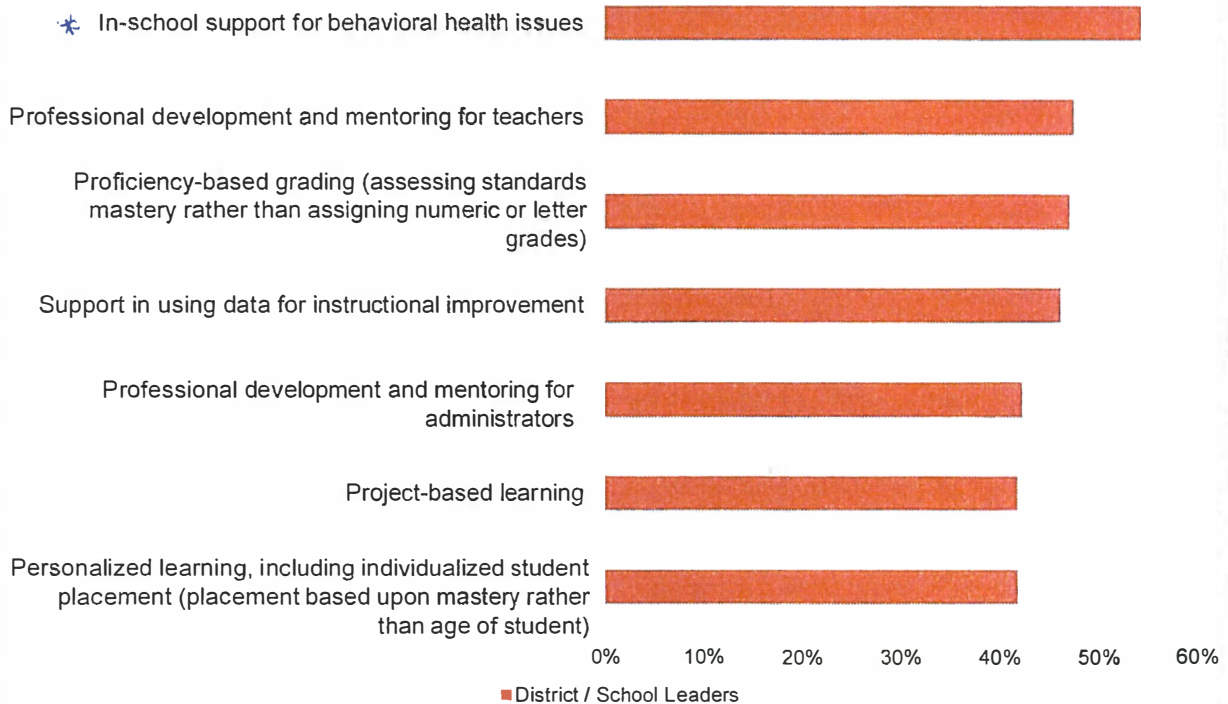


### Districts with fewer than 300 students



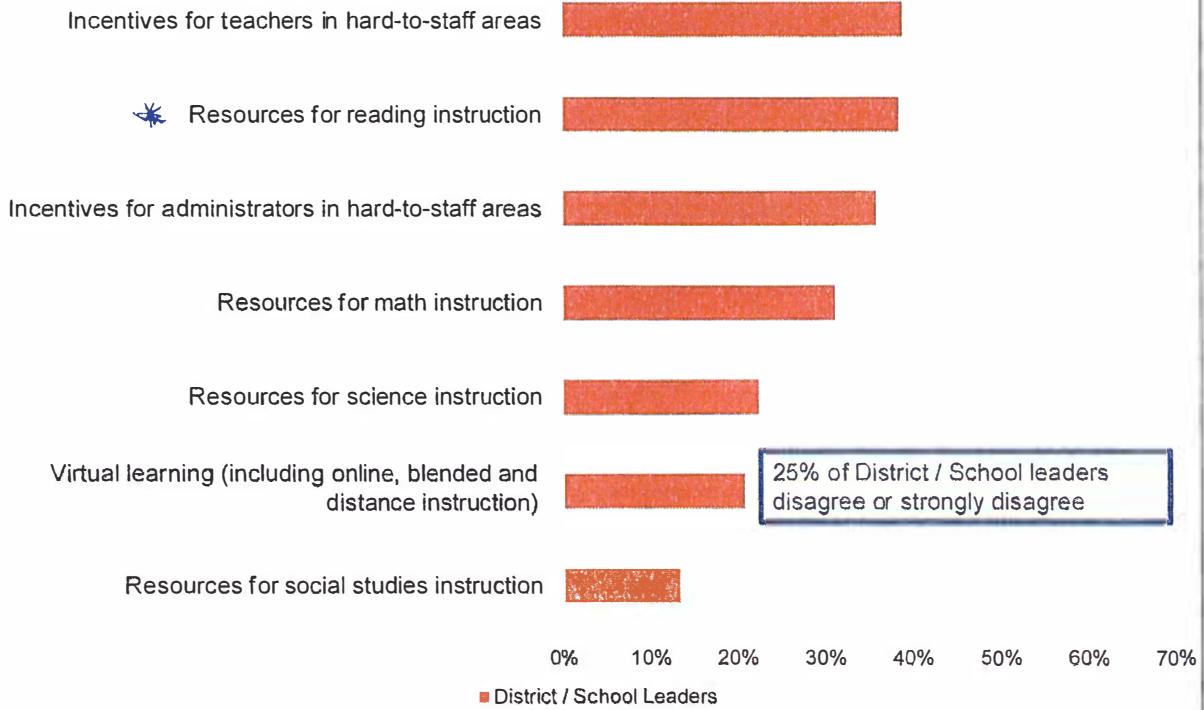
## Increased Support Would Improve Achievement

### Percentage Strongly Agree



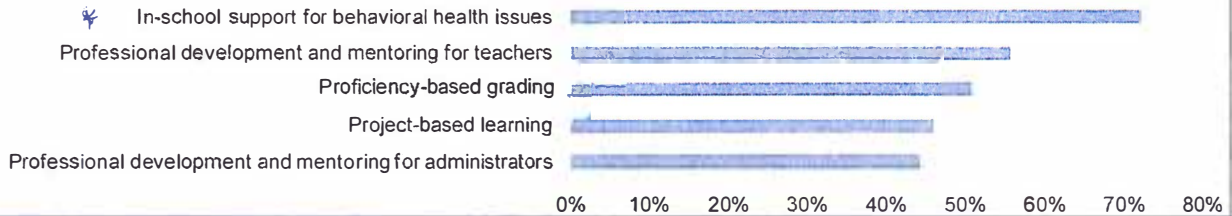
# Increased Support Would Improve Achievement

## Percentage Strongly Agree

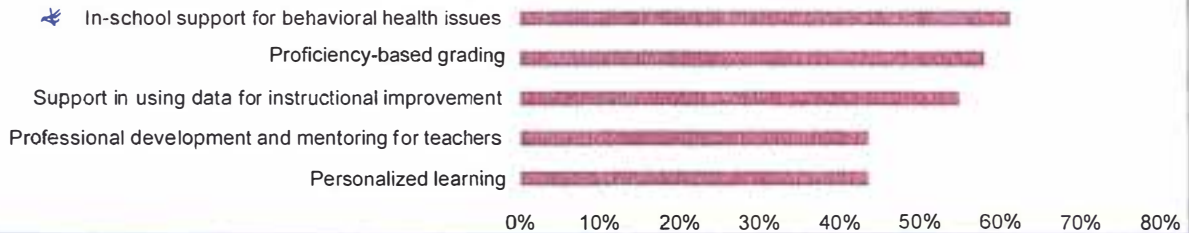


## Top 5 Areas Rated Strongly Agree by District / School Leaders

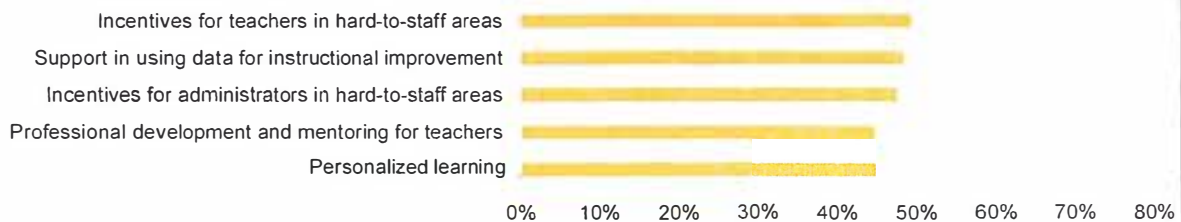
### Districts with 1000 or more students



### Districts with 300-999 students



### Districts with fewer than 300 students



North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
 Safe & Healthy Schools  
 Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report 2013-2014  
 State Quick Stats

SB 2300  
 1-21-19  
 AH #1  
 P.5 of 19

461 - Total number of violent & drug-related incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion  
 1,622- Total number of students involved

	<u>Removal days</u>
* 608 Reported Fighting/Mutual Altercation	1,644.90
274 Reported Tobacco	695.30
⚡ 200 Reported Simple Assault	537.08
189 Reported Drugs (excluding alcohol and tobacco)	1,500.00
58 Reported Alcohol	182.00
63 Reported Terrorizing	386.75
45 Reported Knife, Blade 2.5" or greater	403.00
82 Reported Assault	557.00
11 Reported Other Objects (chain, brass knuckles, BB or pellet gun)	172.00
21 Reported Reckless Endangerment	28.00
10 Reported Hazing	24.00
27 Reported Robbery	151.20
3 Reported Incidents (not listed above) requiring 10 days or more removal	30.00
3 Reported Handgun	481.00
2 Reported Multiple Weapons	2.00
1 Reported Serious Bodily Injury	5.00
8 Reported Sexual Imposition	16.50
3 Reported Shotgun/rifle	18.00
7 Reported Other Firearm (zip guns, starter guns, flare guns, bomb or grenade)	46.00
3 Reported Aggravated Assault	104.00
4 Reported Murder, Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide, Kidnapping, Felonious Restraint, Inciting a Riot, or Gross Sexual Imposition/Rape incidents	87.00
<b>Optional reporting incidents:</b>	<u>Total days: 7,070.7</u>
59 Reported Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	130.50
257 Reported Bullying	511.25
1,165 Reported Other	2,455.80
	<u><b>Total days: 10,168.3</b></u>

59 - total number of students expelled in 2013-2014

**Bold** indicates increase from previous year

Total Public/Nonpublic K-12 enrollment 2013-2014: 109,876

**Incident Demographics:**

Males: 1,275; Females: 347

\* By grade: K-5: 286 6-8: 492 9-12: 844

Top 5 Locations:

Classroom (1126) Hallway or Stairs (410) Cafeteria (158) Other (147) Other inside area (145)

Students served by an IEP: 934

\*\*\*\*\*

**2013-2014 Truancy incidents reported:**

7,891.78 days ND students were truant

2,153 students truant

State truancy rate: 3.67 days (based on average of elementary/high school)



North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
**Safe & Healthy Schools**  
**Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report 2017-2018**  
**State Quick Stats**

SB 2.3 00  
 1-21-19  
 AK. #1  
 p.6 of 19

2,610 - Total number of violent & drug-related incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion  
 907- Total number of students involved

<u>Incidents Reported</u>		<u>Removal days</u>
13	Burglary	26.50
279	Harassment	659.50
<b>5</b>	Other Firearm	109.50
<b>235</b>	Other incident RELATED TO drug or alcohol use, weapons possession, or violence	409.00
19	Other Objects	54.50
* <b>1,103</b>	Fighting/Mutual Altercation	2,692.10
<b>421</b>	Tobacco	1,052.50
230	Simple Assault	623.95
246	Drugs (excluding alcohol and tobacco)	2,642.50
75	Alcohol	263.50
79	Terrorizing	501.84
<b>48</b>	Knife, Blade 2.5" or greater	464.50
69	Assault	201.60
1	Reckless Endangerment	3.00
14	Hazing	33.00
<b>20</b>	Robbery	57.50
7	Incidents (not listed above) requiring 10 days or more removal	175.00
6	Handgun	183.00
3	Multiple Weapons	72.00
7	Serious Bodily Injury	6.50
14	Sexual Imposition	68.00
4	Shotgun/rifle	15.00
7	Aggravated Assault	24.50
2	Murder, Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide, Kidnapping, Felonious Restraint, Inciting a Riot, or Gross Sexual Imposition/Rape	13.00
		<u>Total days: 10,352.00</u>
<b>Optional reporting incidents:</b>		
74	Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	148.70
205	Bullying	472.00
929	Other	1,834.33
		<u>Total days: 12,807.00</u>

59 - students expelled in 2017-2018

**Bold** indicates increase from previous year

Total Public/Nonpublic K-12 enrollment 2017-2018: 117,099

**Incident Demographics:**

Males: 2,093; Females: 814 By grade: K-5: 766 6-8: 996 9-12: 1,145 Students served by an IEP: 1,299  
 Top 5 Locations: Classroom (1263); Hallway/Stairs (600); Playground (276); Cafeteria (215); Locker room/gym (202)

\*\*\*\*\*

**2017-2018 Truancy**

200.70 days 882 students truant

State truancy rate: 13.83 days (based on average of elem/high school)

SB 2360  
1-21-19  
A# #1  
p. 7 of 19

# Overview

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- The Department of Human Services (DHS), Medical Services Division (ND Medicaid) is responsible for the payment of services for Medicaid-eligible children who receive Medicaid-covered services that are authorized or prescribed in the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP), per the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- ND Medicaid will pay the school for services based on claims submitted by the school. Payment will be based on reimbursement schedules developed by ND Medicaid.



**North Dakota Medicaid**

SB 2300  
1-21-19  
AK. #1  
P. 8 of 19

# Overview

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- To receive ND Medicaid payment, the services must be part of a special education program and otherwise covered by ND Medicaid. ND Medicaid will not directly pay private schools, but can make payments to the public school district for IEP-related services for children in that district who are attending private educational facilities.
- *Schools* for purposes of ND Medicaid policy means a public school district or special education unit.



**North Dakota Medicaid**

# Overview

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- Medicaid-covered services must be provided by school personnel who meet ND Medicaid provider qualifications as well as all applicable state licensing standards and are enrolled as ND Medicaid providers. Personnel can be either an employee of or contracted through the school; however, all claims must be submitted by the school.

SB 2300  
1-21-19  
AH #1  
P.10 of 19

# Qualified Services Must:

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- Be provided to student who is eligible for Medicaid on the date of service;
- Be authorized or prescribed in the eligible Medicaid student's Individualized Education Program (IEP);
  - The IEP must be updated as Medicaid-eligible services are initiated or discontinued.
- Be rendered by an enrolled Medicaid provider who is either an employee of or contracted through a school;
- Be a service covered under the North Dakota Medicaid State Plan;
- Documented appropriately; and
- Billed to Medicaid by the school.



**North Dakota Medicaid**

SB 2300  
1-12-19  
RKH  
p. 12 of 19

# Covered Services

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- Services must be medically necessary and authorized or prescribed within an IEP that has been developed by the student's IEP team.
  - Skilled nursing services require a written order.
  - Other health-related services can be authorized by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts operating within their scope of practice in accordance with state law and enrolled with ND Medicaid.



**North Dakota Medicaid**

SB 2300  
6/1-19  
1-21-19  
A# 44  
#1  
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# Covered Services

- 
- Therapies (Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech-Language Pathology);
  - Audiology;
  - Behavioral Health;
  - Skilled Nursing Services provided to children with complex medical needs;
  - Transportation from school to IEP services provided at an offsite location, and transportation back to school. Inclusion of the service in the child's IEP is mandatory; and
  - Applied behavior analysis.



**North Dakota Medicaid**



# Telemedicine

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- Health Services billed by Schools can be delivered via telemedicine; however, no originating site fee is allowed.



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# Non-Covered Services

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- Services provided that are not recommended in the Medicaid-eligible student's IEP and prescribed or ordered by the appropriate health care professionals.
- Services that are not provided directly to the child such as attendance at staff meetings, staff supervision, member screening, development and use of instructional text and treatment materials.
- Communications between the provider and child that is not face-to-face.

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# Non-Covered Services

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- Transportation to and from home to school.
- Population screenings such as lice checks.
- Services considered experimental or investigational.
- Services considered educational or instructional in nature.
- Medication administration.

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# STATE SCHOOL AID PAYMENT VOUCHER

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
Office of School Finance and Organization

School Year 2017-2018  
State Issued ID 47-001  
District Name Jamestown 1  
Payment Month June  
Vendor ID 000008497

06

Acct Code	Net Entitlement	Adjustments	Annual Total	Prior Payments	June Payment	Year to Date
1 3110 State Aid Formula Payment	19,089,122.59	(107,798.17)	18,981,324.42	19,008,636.06	(27,311.64)	18,981,324.42
2 3130 Transportation	229,703.52	-	229,703.52	229,703.52	-	229,703.52
3 3140 State Child Placement	38,550.84	-	38,550.84	11,239.20	27,311.64	38,550.84
4 3200 Special Education Contracts - Agency	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3200 Special Education Contracts - School	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 3200 Special Education - Boarding	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 3110 Gifted and Talented	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total State Aid</b>	<b>19,357,376.95</b>	<b>(107,798.17)</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>

Adjustment Detail

Pmt Line	Adj Code	Description	Date	Acct Code	Adj Amount	Comment
1	2	Payment To REA		3110	(41,670.72)	South East Ed Cooperative
1	6	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(7,272.21)	Feb
1	6	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	(10,783.38)	Jan
1	6	Medicaid Match	11/1/2017	3110	(20,632.21)	Jun-Sept
1	6	Medicaid Match	12/1/2017	3110	(128.01)	Oct
1	6	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(27,311.64)	Year End Mar-May

*Handwritten note:* 65,000 match

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# STATE SCHOOL AID PAYMENT VOUCHER

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
Office of School Finance and Organization

School Year 2017-2018  
State Issued ID 08-001  
District Name Bismarck 1  
Payment Month June 06  
Vendor ID 0000002647

Acct Code	Net Entitlement	Adjustments	Annual Total	Prior Payments	June Payment	Year to Date
1 3110 State Aid Formula Payment	110,274,285.43	(404,126.93)	109,870,158.50	109,917,353.17	(47,194.67)	109,870,158.50
2 3130 Transportation	1,156,207.11	-	1,156,207.11	1,156,207.11	-	1,156,207.11
3 3140 State Child Placement	438,094.23	-	438,094.23	62,415.59	375,678.64	438,094.23
4 3200 Special Education Contracts - Agency	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3200 Special Education Contracts - School	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 3200 Special Education - Boarding	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 3110 Gifted and Talented	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total State Aid</b>	<b>111,868,586.77</b>	<b>(404,126.93)</b>	<b>111,464,459.84</b>	<b>111,135,975.87</b>	<b>328,483.97</b>	<b>111,464,459.84</b>

Adjustment Detail

Pmt Line	Adj Code	Description	Date	Acct Code	Adj Amount	Comment
1	2	Payment To REA		3110	(246,455.30)	Missouri River Ed Cooperative
1	6	Medicaid Match	2/1/2018	3110	(21,335.56)	Dec
1	6	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(26,702.94)	Feb
1	6	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	(21,058.42)	Jan
1	6	Medicaid Match	11/1/2017	3110	(14,158.38)	Jun-Sept
1	6	Medicaid Match	1/1/2018	3110	(21,849.99)	Nov
1	6	Medicaid Match	12/1/2017	3110	(5,371.67)	Oct
1	6	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(47,194.67)	Year End Mar-May

*\$ 157,808*

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# STATE SCHOOL AID PAYMENT VOUCHER

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
Office of School Finance and Organization

School Year 2017-2018  
State Issued ID 53-001  
District Name Williston 1  
Payment Month June 06  
Vendor ID 0000009024

Acct Code	Net Entitlement	Adjustments	Annual Total	Prior Payments	June Payment	Year to Date
1 3110 State Aid Formula Payment	28,525,076.86	(3,042,775.91)	25,482,300.95	25,482,300.95	-	25,482,300.95
2 3130 Transportation	40,898.58	-	40,898.58	40,898.58	-	40,898.58
3 3140 State Child Placement	83,064.88	-	83,064.88	46,540.48	36,524.40	83,064.88
4 3200 Special Education Contracts - Agency	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3200 Special Education Contracts - School	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 3200 Special Education - Boarding	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 3110 Gifted and Talented	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total State Aid</b>	<b>28,649,040.32</b>	<b>(3,042,775.91)</b>	<b>25,606,264.41</b>	<b>25,569,740.01</b>	<b>36,524.40</b>	<b>25,606,264.41</b>

## Adjustment Detail

Pmt Line	Adj Code	Description	Date	Acct Code	Adj Amount	Comment
1	1	Payment To Sp Ed Unit		3110	(2,971,009.67)	Wilmac Special Ed Unit
1	2	Payment To REA		3110	(71,766.24)	Great North West Ed Cooperative

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52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-416.1	Jan
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-58314.5	Jan
47-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-1987.68	Jan
47-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-10783.38	Jan
6-714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-3282.61	Jan
30-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-1023.76	Jan
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-2862.92	Jan
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-921.7	Jan
11-041	Oakes 41	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-429.65	Jan
39-728	South Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-5164.79	Jan
50-729	Upper Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-2141.87	Jan
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-10912.42	Jan
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-20788.24	Jan
16-049	Carrington 49	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(978.07)	Feb
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,041.93)	Feb
08-001	Bismarck 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(26,702.94)	Feb
45-001	Dickinson 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(3,488.56)	Feb
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(40,204.08)	Feb
18-001	Grand Forks 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(6,880.19)	Feb
47-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(7,272.21)	Feb
36-714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(5,040.46)	Feb
30-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,864.12)	Feb
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,060.44)	Feb
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(10,383.96)	Feb
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(15,473.46)	Feb
11-041	Oakes 41	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(441.80)	Feb
52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(693.98)	Feb
47-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(2,144.77)	Feb
08-001	Bismarck 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(47,194.67)	Year End Mar-May
14-712	East Central Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(2,129.48)	Year End Mar-May
52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(1,308.85)	Year End Mar-May
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(69,194.86)	Year End Mar-May
18-001	Grand Forks 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(5,923.80)	Year End Mar-May
47-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(27,311.64)	Year End Mar-May
47-701	Jamestown Specia	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(33,673.66)	Year End Mar-May
36-714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(30,856.21)	Year End Mar-May
30-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(2,197.83)	Year End Mar-May
51-701	Minot Special Educ	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,429.47)	Year End Mar-May
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(4,309.84)	Year End Mar-May
51-001	Minot 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(38,381.10)	Year End Mar-May
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,613.65)	Year End Mar-May
02-727	Sheyenne Valley S	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(1,220.94)	Year End Mar-May
39-728	South Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(28,335.70)	Year End Mar-May
50-729	Upper Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(19,024.42)	Year End Mar-May
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(9,690.18)	Year End Mar-May
39-737	Wahpeton Special	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(24,446.85)	Year End Mar-May
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(59,101.96)	Year End Mar-May
47-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,400.51)	Year End Mar-May

\*Paid by district (Not w

(998,530.03)

2017-18  
 match paid by  
 schools for Medicaid

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**Testimony**  
**66<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly**  
**Senate Education Committee**  
**Senate Bill 2300**  
**January 21, 2018**

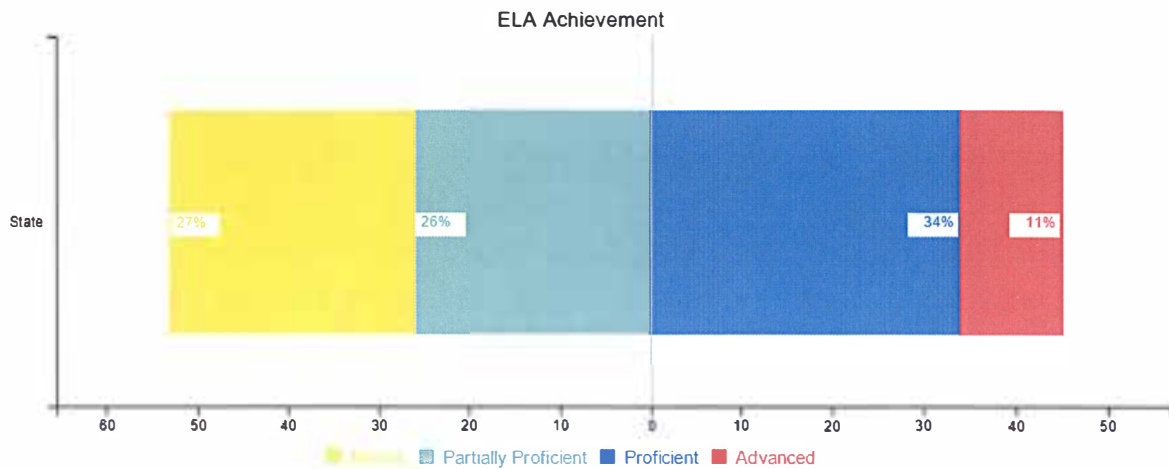
Chairman Schaible and members of the Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide information regarding the North Dakota Reading Corps program. I am Jolene Garty, Director of Student Services at the South East Education Cooperative (SEEC) and I oversee North Dakota Reading Corps.

SEEC is one of the eight Regional Education Associations or REAs in North Dakota. We are based out of Fargo and serve 36 public schools, 3 private schools and more than 2,800 teachers and 33,500 students.

Reading Corps combines the power of national service through AmeriCorps with literacy science to help struggling readers transform into confident students. Students served by Reading Corps score below proficiency on district reading assessments but are not yet low enough to make them eligible to receive special education for Title I reading services. These “bubble kids” are at-risk for reading failure, but schools do not typically have staff capacity to work one on one with these students until they score low enough for support services. By that point, the gap is wider, and it takes more intensive and expensive intervention to get these students to proficiency. The goal of Reading Corps is to catch those students before they fall low enough to need assistance from district staff. By doing so, the district can focus its staff and resources on students who have more intensive needs.

Research tells us that students who are reading proficiently by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are 4 times more likely to graduate from high school. The 2017-18 NDSA English Language Arts (ELA) Achievement data shows that 53% of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are only novice or partially proficient in reading. Third grade marks the transition from “learning to read” to “reading to learn”.

Reading Corps is a cost-effective way to close the literacy gap in North Dakota to help achieve the State’s Strategic Vision Framework goal of increasing the number of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders reading proficiently.



### How Reading Corps Works

In partnership with participating school districts and the Missouri River Education Cooperative (MREC), Reading Corps recruits individuals to commit to a year of service through AmeriCorps (often known as the domestic version of the Peace Corps), trains them to deliver research-based literacy interventions to students in Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Our tutors come from all walks of life and many are parents, retirees, or college students. Some have experience working in education and others do not. Tutors are placed in an elementary building part-time to work one-on-one with students 20 minutes a day, 5 days a week.

#### *K-3 Tutoring Dosage by Grade*

Grade	Students Tutored	Total Tutoring Minutes	Total Tutoring Sessions	Average Tutoring Sessions	Average Tutoring Weeks	Average Tutoring Minutes Per Week
Grade K	228	170,319	8,643	37.9	11.3	66.0
Grade 1	184	193,719	9,771	53.1	15.3	68.6
Grade 2	175	213,706	10,815	61.8	17.9	68.1
Grade 3	172	192,437	9,769	56.8	17.0	65.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>770,181</b>	<b>38,998</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>67.2</b>



Tutors use research-based interventions tailored to student need based on assessment data to boost early literacy skills like letter names, letter sounds, phoneme blending, letter sound correspondence, and connected text skills like fluency, expression, and comprehension. Student progress is monitored weekly to track growth and provide data for decision-making. Students "graduate" from the program on a rolling basis when they demonstrate that they have acquired the literacy skills required to "catch up" with their grade-level peers. A new student is then placed in that spot to receive services. During the 2017-18 school year, 77% of students served had a weekly growth rate above their grade level target; meaning they made more than a years' worth of growth within a year's time to close the gap.

*Participant Average Growth*

	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 1*	Grade 2	Grade 3	
	Test of Letter Sounds	Test of Nonsense Words (Eng.)	CBMReading			Total
Average Growth per Week	3.22	3.00	2.34	2.23	2.05	
Target Growth per Week	1.21	1.59	1.88	1.61	1.06	
Number of Students**	193	145	97	154	164	<b>753</b>
Number of Students Above Target Growth	172	111	60	107	133	<b>583</b>
Percentage of Students Above Target Growth	89.12%	76.55%	61.86%	69.48%	81.10%	<b>77.42%</b>

\* Students in this group may have also participated in Grade 1 Test of Nonsense Words (Eng.).

\*\* Students must have at least 6 progress monitoring data points to be included in the growth rate calculations.

One of the reasons for Reading Corp's success is its focus on fidelity, which is achieved through a multi-layered training and coaching support model. Reading Corps tutors receive 5 days of training on the assessments and literacy interventions used with students. They also have an on-site Internal Coach, a district employee, who observes tutoring sessions using a fidelity checklist and

provides coaching in any areas needing support. The tutor and Internal Coach meet monthly with a Master Coach who reviews student progress data and observes tutoring sessions to ensure fidelity in the delivery of the program. The Master Coach is employed by SEEC or MREC .

*Fidelity of K-3 Intervention Implementation*

Intervention	Total Checks Completed	Range	Average	Percentage of Checks with 100% Accuracy
Blending Words	186	56-100%	97%	77%
Duet Reading	343	78-100%	99%	87%
Great Leaps: Any	175	63-100%	95%	66%
Letter Sound Correspondence	150	46-100%	95%	73%
Newscaster Reading	67	86-100%	99%	93%
Pencil Tap	7	100%	100%	100%
Phoneme Blending	60	40-100%	94%	73%
Phoneme Segmenting	45	60-100%	96%	80%

**The Scope of ND Reading Corps**

This school year we are partnering with the following 8 school districts: Bismarck, Fargo, Jamestown, Kidder County, Northern Cass, Roosevelt Public Schools (Carson), West Fargo, and Wilton to deliver Reading Corps services. We have 50 tutors currently serving 800 elementary students who may not otherwise have access effective literacy support, and even if they did it would be much more expensive to deliver. During the school year, we anticipate that 560, or 70%, of those students will make more than a years’ worth of growth to catch up to their peers.

*Number of K-3 Students Participating 2017-18*

District	Gr K	Gr 1	Gr 2	Gr 3	Total
Bismarck Public Schools	66	44	36	23	<b>169</b>
Fargo Public Schools	48	59	74	71	<b>252</b>
Garrison Public Schools	11	3	1	6	<b>21</b>
Jamestown Public Schools	21	15	15	18	<b>69</b>
Kidder County School District	6	7	7	6	<b>26</b>
Northern Cass Public Schools	0	7	9	6	<b>22</b>
West Fargo Public Schools	74	46	28	36	<b>184</b>
Wilton Public School	2	3	5	6	<b>16</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>759</b>

## **Cost Savings**

Through AmeriCorps we're able to train tutors to serve as part-time interventionists with each tutor receiving an annual stipend for their service of \$4,150 or \$6,200 each year. We're able to leverage \$237,000 in federal AmeriCorps funding which comes to us through the North Dakota Department of Commerce. With the combination of our grants and a low fee from school districts for each tutor, we're able to deliver effective intervention services for around \$800 per student which is a significantly lower price per student than other programs. For example, Reading Recovery, has an estimated cost of \$4,000-\$5,000 per student. In fact, a study conducted in Minnesota found that the average cost to deliver special education, once the gap is wide enough for a student to need that level of intervention, is over \$10,000 per student.

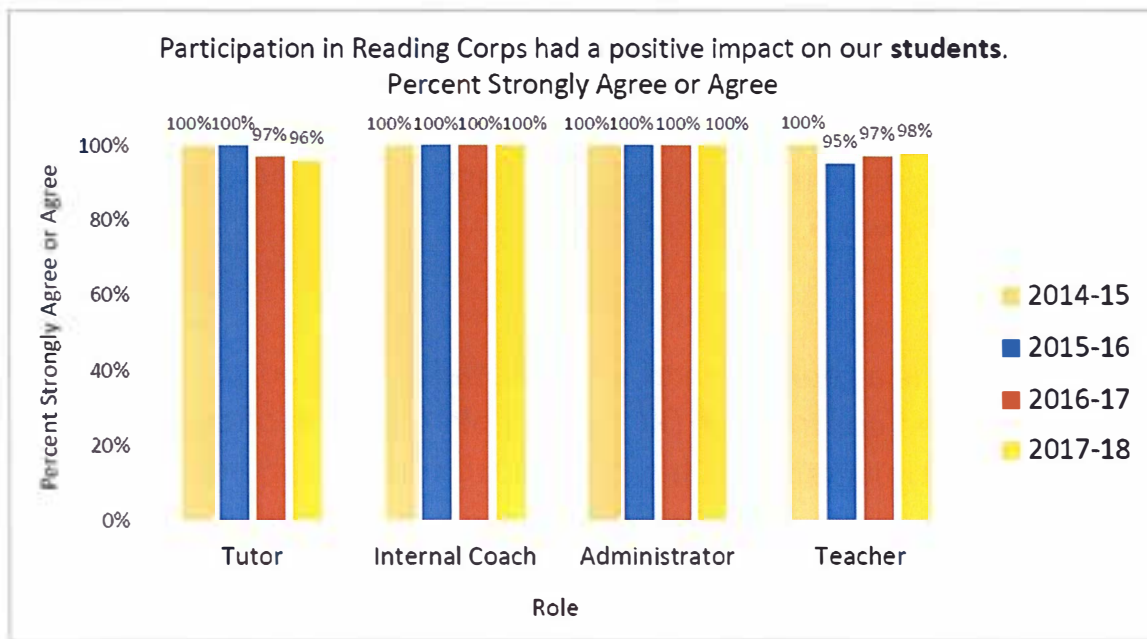
## **Proven Results**

Our North Dakota program is a replication of Minnesota Reading Corps, which began in 2003. A randomized control trial (RCT), the gold standard of evaluation, conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago in 2014 found that elementary students tutored by Minnesota Reading Corps achieved significantly higher literacy levels than students without such tutors, and that the impacts were statistically significant even among students at higher risk of academic failure including students of various ethnicities, students on Free/Reduced-Price Lunch and English Learners. Reading Corps programs are now in 11 other states and Washington D.C. Minnesota currently invests nearly \$7 million of state funding annually in Minnesota Reading Corps.

North Dakota Reading Corps is currently working with West Fargo Public Schools to complete our own impact study, comparing outcomes using a matched-comparison of students receiving Reading Corps and similar students who are not receiving Reading Corps services.

Finally, last year 93% of school principals agreed with the statement “Reading Corps supports our school in implementing a rigorous, aligned, and developmentally appropriate system of literacy interventions and assessments”. And 100% of principals surveyed said they would recommend the program to other administrators.

*Survey Respondent Opinion Regarding the Impact on their Students*



### Support SB2300

In closing, I'd like to thank the committee again for the opportunity to testify in support of SB2300. North Dakota Reading Corps is a research-based literacy intervention program with a proven track record of helping students close the proficiency gap. With state funding, Reading Corps will have the opportunity to expand beyond the south east and south central regions of the state so additional school districts can participate. Supporting this bill is a fiscally responsible way to help achieve North Dakota's vision to increase the number of students who demonstrate reading proficiency in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

**Testimony on SB 2300**  
**Presented to the Senate Education Committee**  
**By Mark Lemer, Business Manager, West Fargo Schools**  
**January 21, 2019**

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1-21-19  
AH #3  
p 1 of 2

1 NDCEL / Mark Lemer West Fargo Testimony

2 SB 2300 – Medicaid / Reading Grant Funding

3 Chairman Schaible and members of the Senate Education Committee, I offer  
4 this testimony in support of the provisions of SB 2300 related to funding the  
5 Medicaid Match for school districts.

6 Public School Districts have the opportunity to bill Medicaid for medically  
7 necessary services that are required by an eligible student’s Individualized  
8 Education Plan, and that are included in the State’s school-based Medicaid Services  
9 plan.

10 The Medicaid program provides federal support for these services, but there  
11 is a required match from non-federal funds. The current provisions of Medicaid  
12 pass the required match on to public school districts for provided services.

13 This bill provides a General Fund Appropriation that would be accessed to  
14 meet the Medicaid match requirements, and would free up resources for local  
15 school districts to provide other needed services to students.

16 The West Fargo School District was assessed \$164,024.97 in 2016-2017 and  
17 \$151,409.90 in 2017-2018 for Medicaid matching funds. With the additional State  
18 Support that is included in this bill, we would be able to reallocate those funds for  
19 additional school psychology services, student nursing services, behavioral  
20 supports and a myriad of other underfunded areas of our budget.

21 We ask for your consideration of a Do Pass recommendation from the  
22 committee.

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Att. #3  
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1 I apologize for not being able to attend in person. However, if you have  
2 questions, please contact me by email at [lemer@west-fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:lemer@west-fargo.k12.nd.us).

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1-21-19  
Att. #4  
p1 of 2

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2300  
NORTH DAKOTA SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**January 21, 2019**

**By: Ann Ellefson, Director of Academic Support**

**701-328-2488**

**North Dakota Department of Public Instruction**

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Good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Ann Ellefson, and I am the Director of Academic Support in the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction. I am here to provide agency testimony in support of Senate Bill 2300 with one recommended change. With that change, we would like the committee to give a “do pass” recommendation to Senate Bill 2300.

The department supports the concept of using a portion of the state cigarette tax to provide reading instruction and medical care for our youngest citizens of North Dakota.

The department would like to suggest a change to the current draft. Section 3 says the bill would appropriate the \$3 million dollars in school Medicaid-matching grant money to the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

Right now, the Department of Public Instruction adjusts a district’s Medicaid match requirement of 50% through an adjustment to a district’s state foundation aid payment. This is used as state-matching money for Medicaid. The department then certifies the non-federal match to the Department of Human Services, based on claims paid for children eligible for Medicaid.

We believe services and funding would be streamlined if this \$3 million-dollar appropriation for school Medicaid-matching grant funds were provided directly to the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Humans Services collaborate on numerous programs and initiatives. One of these is the currently established Medicaid-matching grant fund. The suggested amendment would streamline the appropriation, while both agencies work together to verify the students served, federal funds provided through Medicaid, and the non-federal match for Medicaid services for children.

With this change, we would ask for your “do pass” recommendation for Senate Bill 2300.

Thank you for your time today, and I stand for any questions you may have.

###



19.1030.02001  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Senator Davison

February 1, 2019

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2-4-19  
Att. #1  
p. 1 of 1

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2300**

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to provide an appropriation to the department of human services to provide grants to school districts for student behavioral health needs.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1,300,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the department of human services for the purpose of providing grants to school districts to address student behavioral health needs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2021. To be eligible to receive a grant, a school district must submit a plan to the department detailing the school district's collaboration with other school districts in the region regarding student behavioral health needs and the use of grant funding to develop student behavioral health interventions. A grant to an eligible school district is limited to an amount equal to the nonfederal portion of Medicaid reimbursement received by the school during the preceding school year."

Renumber accordingly

Senator Kyle Davison  
Testimony 2300

#1 SB 2300  
2-12-2019  
AG1

I'm Senator Kyle Davison representing District 41 in south Fargo. I'm here today to introduce and provide support SB 2300. This intent of this bill hasn't changed but the scope of the bill has been narrowed to behavioral health support through the funding of the non-federal Medicaid match.

So since I'm in Appropriations, let's go directly to the \$1,300,000. Every school or schools who are part of a special education unit can bill for Medicaid-eligible children who receive Medicaid-covered services that are authorized or prescribed through the students Individualized Education Plan (IEP), per the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

So in North Dakota, last year schools were directly reimbursed from Medicaid for \$1,997,060.06 for Medicaid eligible services. So, on page 3, you see a total of \$998,530.03 and that is the nonfederal portion of Medicaid reimbursement. The Department of Human Services receives payments from DPI to certify the 50% match needed for Medicaid.

So on page 4, you see Jamestown Public Schools and their payment voucher from DPI. Their match to the Department of Human Services was \$65,000 so the money they received directly from the federal government for Medicaid eligible services was \$135,000.

On page 5 you see the Williston Public Schools, they don't bill Medicaid and of course you see no deduct for Medicaid. They are somewhat larger than Jamestown so my guess is there leaving somewhere between \$80,000 - \$100,000 on the table annually by not billing.

SB 2300 rewards district who currently do Medicaid billing and incentivizes those districts who don't bill to get their ducks in a row and help their neediest students. The bill is saying for those schools who bill Medicaid in the 2019-2020 school year, the legislature is going to appropriate \$1,300,000 to the Department of Human Services and you can write a grant up to your nonfederal portion of Medicaid reimbursement to focus on behavioral health interventions in your school or collaboratively in your region.

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It's important to note in my work with DPI and Human Services were not changing the current system because Human Services needs the certified match.

Now, let's talk about the most important part of this bill and that's addressing behavioral health needs in North Dakota. If you can look at pages 6-8 we can briefly review some data. It shows the school administrators giving behavioral health issues the highest priorities at nearly every level of school. In addition on page 6 they prioritize achievement of students with low income and students with disabilities. On pages 7 & 8 it shows on our state data the significant increase in suspension/expulsion & truancy most notably in our elementary schools.

Last week the Education Committee took testimony on a bill dealing with seclusion and restraints in schools. The testimony started at 2:30 and ended at 6pm and it was gut wrenching. But from all that anger and frustration from advocates and parents who drove hundreds of miles to testify there was a sliver of hope. And that hope came from two parents who testified that they had gotten to a school where they received the proper interventions for their children. Those two interventions came from Board Certified Behavioral Analysis (BCBA). The other frustrated parents, in all of those schools they were hiring a para to follow their kids around all day. A para isn't trained to be with your most vulnerable students.

In closing, SB 2300 is the only bill in the legislature that has funding which goes directly to schools this biennium to deal with the behavioral health crisis. There are many things Human Services is working on structurally which will have an impact 2-3 years out. A very good example is the work on the 1950i amendment for targeted supports for youth. But schools need some funding now.

I've attached some additional testimony from Thomas Hill, United Way Fargo and Mark Lemer, Business Manager West Fargo.

I ask for your support on SB 2300 and will take any questions...

# / SB 2300  
2-12-2019  
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~~14~~

# Covered Services

- Therapies (Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech-Language Pathology);
- Audiology;
- Behavioral Health;
- Skilled Nursing Services provided to children with complex medical needs;
- Transportation from school to IEP services provided at an offsite location, and transportation back to school. Inclusion of the service in the child's IEP is mandatory; and
- Applied behavior analysis.



2

**North Dakota Medicaid**



52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-416.1	Jan
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-58314.5	Jan
47-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-1987.68	Jan
17-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-10783.38	Jan
714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-3282.61	Jan
00-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-1023.76	Jan
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-2862.92	Jan
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-921.7	Jan
11-041	Oakes 41	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-429.65	Jan
39-728	South Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-5164.79	Jan
50-729	Upper Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-2141.87	Jan
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-10912.42	Jan
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-20788.24	Jan
16-049	Carrington 49	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(978.07)	Feb
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,041.93)	Feb
08-001	Bismarck 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(26,702.94)	Feb
45-001	Dickinson 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(3,488.56)	Feb
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(40,204.08)	Feb
18-001	Grand Forks 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(6,880.19)	Feb
47-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(7,272.21)	Feb
36-714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(5,040.46)	Feb
30-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,864.12)	Feb
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,060.44)	Feb
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(10,383.96)	Feb
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(15,473.46)	Feb
11-041	Oakes 41	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(441.80)	Feb
52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(693.98)	Feb
17-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(2,144.77)	Feb
001	Bismarck 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(47,194.67)	Year End Mar-May
4-712	East Central Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(2,129.48)	Year End Mar-May
52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(1,308.85)	Year End Mar-May
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(69,194.86)	Year End Mar-May
18-001	Grand Forks 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(5,923.80)	Year End Mar-May
47-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(27,311.64)	Year End Mar-May
47-701	Jamestown Specia	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(33,673.66)	Year End Mar-May
36-714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(30,856.21)	Year End Mar-May
30-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(2,197.83)	Year End Mar-May
51-701	Minot Special Educ	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,429.47)	Year End Mar-May
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(4,309.84)	Year End Mar-May
51-001	Minot 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(38,381.10)	Year End Mar-May
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,613.65)	Year End Mar-May
02-727	Sheyenne Valley S	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(1,220.94)	Year End Mar-May
39-728	South Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(28,335.70)	Year End Mar-May
50-729	Upper Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(19,024.42)	Year End Mar-May
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(9,690.18)	Year End Mar-May
39-737	Wahpeton Special	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(24,446.85)	Year End Mar-May
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(59,101.96)	Year End Mar-May
47-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,400.51)	Year End Mar-May

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\*Paid by district (Not w

(998,530.03)

2017-18  
Match paid by  
schools for Medicaid

WS

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#

PY5

Handwritten initials in a circle



# STATE SCHOOL AID PAYMENT VOUCHER

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
Office of School Finance and Organization

School Year 2017-2018  
State Issued ID 47-001  
District Name Jamestown 1  
Payment Month June  
Vendor ID 0000008497

06

Acct Code	Net Entitlement	Adjustments	Annual Total	Prior Payments	June Payment	Year to Date
1 3110 State Aid Formula Payment	19,089,122.59	(107,798.17)	18,981,324.42	19,008,636.06	(27,311.64)	18,981,324.42
2 3130 Transportation	229,703.52	-	229,703.52	229,703.52	-	229,703.52
3 3140 State Child Placement	38,550.84	-	38,550.84	11,239.20	27,311.64	38,550.84
4 3200 Special Education Contracts - Agency	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3200 Special Education Contracts - School	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 3200 Special Education - Boarding	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 3110 Gifted and Talented	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total State Aid</b>	<b>19,357,376.95</b>	<b>(107,798.17)</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>

### Adjustment Detail

Pmt Line	Adj Code	Description	Date	Acct Code	Adj Amount	Comment
1	2	Payment To REA		3110	(41,670.72)	South East Ed Cooperative
†	6	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(7,272.21)	Feb
†	6	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	(10,783.38)	Jan
†	6	Medicaid Match	11/1/2017	3110	(20,632.21)	Jun-Sept
†	6	Medicaid Match	12/1/2017	3110	(128.01)	Oct
†	6	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(27,311.64)	Year End Mar-May

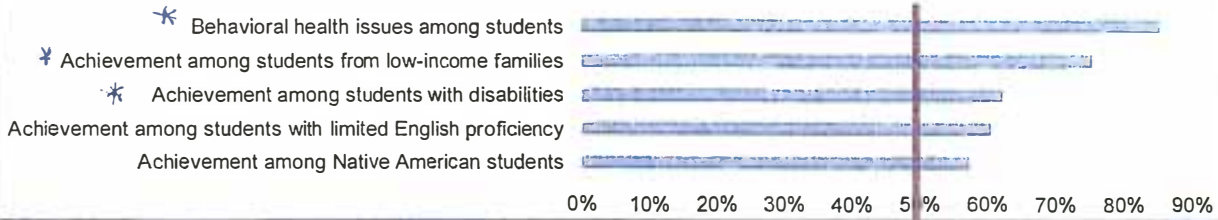
Handwritten note: **65,000 MATCH**

Handwritten number: **4**

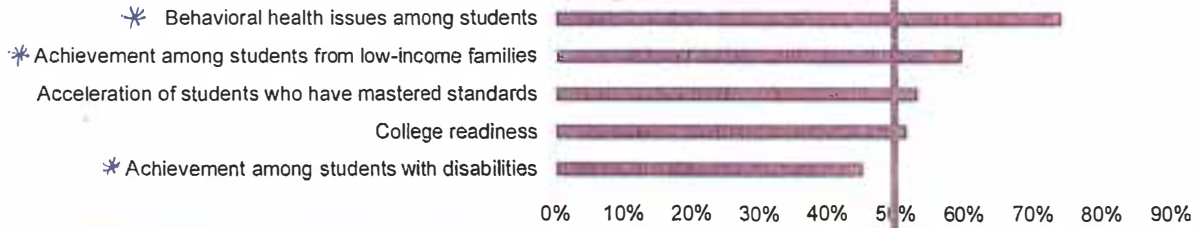


# Top 5 Areas Rated High Priority by District / School Leaders

## Districts with 1000 or more students



## Districts with 300-999 students



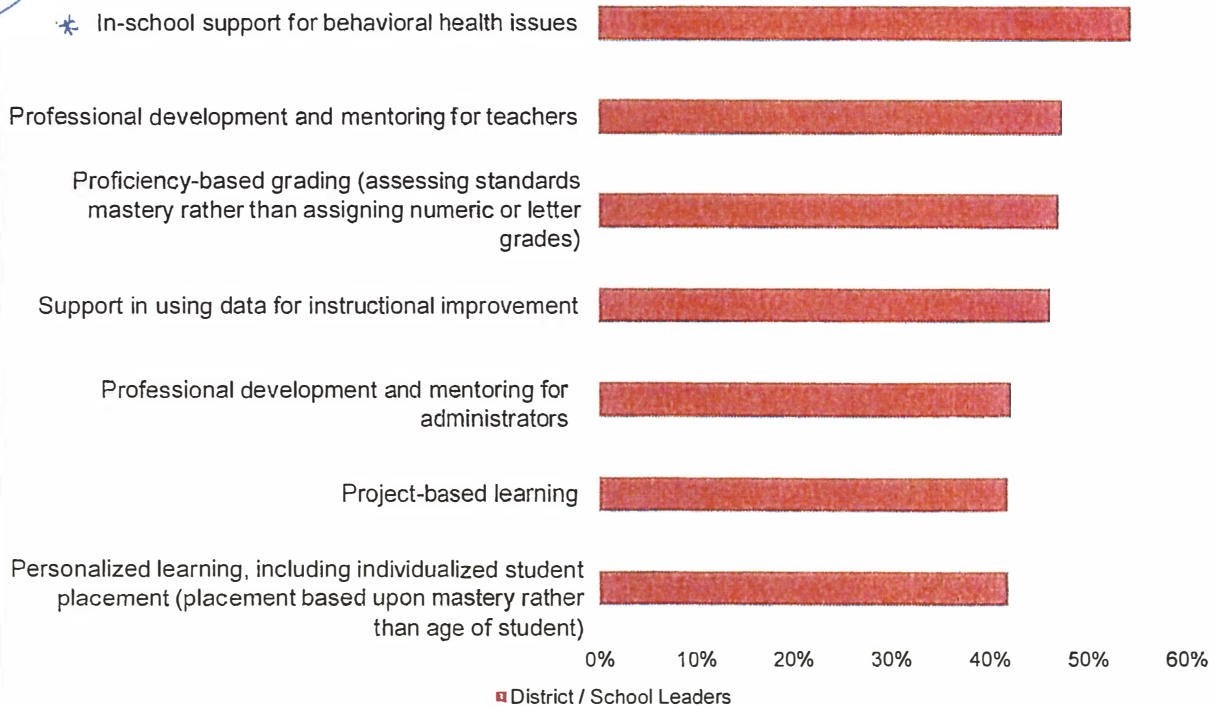
## Districts with fewer than 300 students



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# Increased Support Would Improve Achievement

## Percentage Strongly Agree



5



North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
 Safe & Healthy Schools  
 Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report 2013-2014  
 State Quick Stats

#1  
 SB 2300  
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 CB

61 - Total number of violent & drug-related incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion  
 22- Total number of students involved

	<u>Removal days</u>
* 608 Reported Fighting/Mutual Altercation	1,644.90
274 Reported Tobacco	695.30
* 200 Reported Simple Assault	537.08
189 Reported Drugs (excluding alcohol and tobacco)	1,500.00
58 Reported Alcohol	182.00
63 Reported Terrorizing	386.75
45 Reported Knife, Blade 2.5" or greater	403.00
82 Reported Assault	557.00
11 Reported Other Objects (chain, brass knuckles, BB or pellet gun)	172.00
21 Reported Reckless Endangerment	28.00
10 Reported Hazing	24.00
27 Reported Robbery	151.20
3 Reported Incidents (not listed above) requiring 10 days or more removal	30.00
3 Reported Handgun	481.00
2 Reported Multiple Weapons	2.00
1 Reported Serious Bodily Injury	5.00
8 Reported Sexual Imposition	16.50
3 Reported Shotgun/rifle	18.00
7 Reported Other Firearm (zip guns, starter guns, flare guns, bomb or grenade)	46.00
3 Reported Aggravated Assault	104.00
4 Reported Murder, Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide, Kidnapping, Felonious Restraint, Inciting a Riot, or Gross Sexual Imposition/Rape incidents	87.00
<b>Optional reporting incidents:</b>	<u>Total days:</u> <u>7.070.7</u>
59 Reported Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	130.50
257 Reported Bullying	511.25
1,165 Reported Other	2,455.80
	<b><u>Total days:</u> <u>10.168.3</u></b>

59 - total number of students expelled in 2013-2014  
**Bold** indicates increase from previous year  
 Total Public/Nonpublic K-12 enrollment 2013-2014: 109,876

**Incident Demographics:**

Males: 1,275; Females: 347 \* By grade: K-5: 286 6-8: 492 9-12: 844

Top 5 Locations:  
 Classroom (1126) Hallway or Stairs (410) Cafeteria (158) Other (147) Other inside area (145)

Students served by an IEP: 934

\*\*\*\*\*

**2013-2014 Truancy incidents reported:**  
 7,891.78 days ND students were truant  
 2,153 students truant  
 State truancy rate: 3.67 days (based on average of elementary/high school)

**Safe & Healthy Schools  
Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report 2017-2018  
State Quick Stats**

#1  
SB 2300  
2-12-2019  
A9

2,610 - Total number of violent & drug-related **incidents** resulting in suspension or expulsion  
 1,107 - Total number of **students** involved

<u>Incidents Reported</u>		<u>Removal days</u>
13	Burglary	26.50
279	Harassment	659.50
<b>5</b>	Other Firearm	109.50
235	Other incident RELATED TO drug or alcohol use, weapons possession, or violence	409.00
<b>19</b>	Other Objects	54.50
* <b>1,103</b>	Fighting/Mutual Altercation	2,692.10
421	Tobacco	1,052.50
230	Simple Assault	623.95
246	Drugs (excluding alcohol and tobacco)	2,642.50
75	Alcohol	263.50
79	Terrorizing	501.84
<b>48</b>	Knife, Blade 2.5" or greater	464.50
69	Assault	201.60
1	Reckless Endangerment	3.00
14	Hazing	33.00
<b>20</b>	Robbery	57.50
7	Incidents (not listed above) requiring 10 days or more removal	175.00
6	Handgun	183.00
3	Multiple Weapons	72.00
7	Serious Bodily Injury	6.50
14	Sexual Imposition	68.00
4	Shotgun/rifle	15.00
7	Aggravated Assault	24.50
2	Murder, Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide, Kidnapping, Felonious Restraint, Inciting a Riot, or Gross Sexual Imposition/Rape	13.00
		<u>Total days: 10,352.00</u>
<b>Optional reporting incidents:</b>		
74	Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	148.70
205	Bullying	472.00
929	Other	1,834.33
		<u>Total days: 12,807.00</u>

59 - students expelled in 2017-2018

**Bold indicates increase from previous year**

Total Public/Nonpublic K-12 enrollment 2017-2018: 117,099

**Incident Demographics:** \*  
 Males: 2,093; Females: 814 By grade: K-5: 766 6-8: 996 9-12: 1,145 Students served by an IEP: 1,299  
 Top 5 Locations: Classroom (1263); Hallway/Stairs (600); Playground (276); Cafeteria (215); Locker room/gym (202)

\*\*\*\*\*

**2017-2018 Truancy**

2,200.70 days 882 students truant

State truancy rate: 13.83 days (based on average of elem/high school)

**Testimony on SB 2300**  
**Presented to the Senate Education Committee**  
**By Mark Lemer, Business Manager, West Fargo Schools**  
**January 21, 2019**

# / SB 2300  
2-12-2019  
A910

1 NDCEL / Mark Lemer West Fargo Testimony

2 SB 2300 – Medicaid / Reading Grant Funding

3 Chairman Schaible and members of the Senate Education Committee, I offer  
4 this testimony in support of the provisions of SB 2300 related to funding the  
5 Medicaid Match for school districts.

6 Public School Districts have the opportunity to bill Medicaid for medically  
7 necessary services that are required by an eligible student's Individualized  
8 Education Plan, and that are included in the State's school-based Medicaid Services  
9 plan.

10 The Medicaid program provides federal support for these services, but there  
11 is a required match from non-federal funds. The current provisions of Medicaid  
12 pass the required match on to public school districts for provided services.

13 This bill provides a General Fund Appropriation that would be accessed to  
14 meet the Medicaid match requirements, and would free up resources for local  
15 school districts to provide other needed services to students.

16 The West Fargo School District was assessed \$164,024.97 in 2016-2017 and  
17 \$151,409.90 in 2017-2018 for Medicaid matching funds. With the additional State  
18 Support that is included in this bill, we would be able to reallocate those funds for  
19 additional school psychology services, student nursing services, behavioral  
20 supports and a myriad of other underfunded areas of our budget.

21 We ask for your consideration of a Do Pass recommendation from the  
22 committee.

#1

SB 2300  
2-12-2019



Ag 11

**TO:** Senator Kyle Davison, District 41, Fargo

**FROM:** Thomas Hill, Community Impact Director, United Way of Cass-Clay

**RE:** Letter of Support for SB 2300

Dear Sen. Davison and members of ND Legislative Assembly:

**Locally, according to the 2017 North Dakota Youth Risk Behavior survey:**

- 1 in 4 kids in North Dakota is struggling with a mental health issue
- Nearly 1 in 10 kids in North Dakota has attempted suicide
- Only one-third of students in North Dakota feel comfortable talking to an adult about how they feel

In response to the growing behavioral and mental health needs of students in our local rural school districts, United Way of Cass-Clay has partnered with Burgum Foundation and school superintendents to provide mental health services on site to students in three schools in Cass County: Northern Cass, Central Cass and Kindred School District. In addition, Burgum Foundation is partnering with an additional three schools in greater North Dakota: Hillsboro, Milnor, and Wyndemere Public School Districts to provide mental health services on site to students in rural North Dakota. The partnership will impact a total of six rural school districts throughout North Dakota serving ~~more~~ almost 3,300 students.

**The goal is to increase access and remove barriers for students needing services by bringing a mental health professional on site within the school throughout the school year.**

What began as a pilot project in Northern Cass Schools to provide services one day per week during the 2017-2018 school year, has now grown in scope to provide services multiple days per week in six school districts in rural North Dakota during the current 2018-2019 school year. The mental health services are made possible through collaborative financial support from United Way of Cass-Clay, Burgum Foundation and the local school districts. We feel strongly this pilot effort can be used to demonstrate how collaborative efforts can lead to more students receiving services for mental/behavioral health.

The mental health professional will impact both the students and families needing mental health support. By providing services in the schools, the barrier of transportation is eliminated for students to access mental health services - students no longer need to interrupt their school day and miss valuable educational time to travel to the Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo metro community to receive services, and in addition, parents do not have to leave their place of employment to transport and support their child, therefore impacting local workforce across rural North Dakota.

*United Way of Cass-Clay connects people to people, needs to resources, and experts to advocates to advance the common good throughout Cass and Clay County*

United Way of Cass-Clay | 219 7<sup>th</sup> Street South | Fargo, ND 58103 | 701.237.5050 | [www.unitedwaycassclay.org](http://www.unitedwaycassclay.org)



The following is a quote from a parent whose child receives services through this pilot effort:

*I have a daughter who is 13 and currently attends therapy sessions with a counselor each week at Northern Cass School. Due to the trauma she endured when she was very young, we are grateful that the services are available at her school, as we feel she will need on going therapy at this point. We have so appreciated that the therapy is now available at her school. Before it was available, I was picking up my daughter and taking her to Fargo every week, and it was cutting into my time for working, and also her time for classes. Our daughter has connected with the therapist well and because the therapist is in the school, she is also able to get a feel for what goes on at the school, too. Thank you for the services you provide for our daughter and our family.*

“We are so thankful for United Way of Cass-Clay and Burgum Foundation. We know that bringing mental health services onsite to our schools is instrumental in connecting students to the services they need, and benefits the community by increasing access to and awareness of mental health services and resources,” said Cory Steiner, Northern Cass Public School Superintendent.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, up to one in five kids living in the U.S. shows signs or symptoms of a mental health disorder in a given year. In a school classroom of 25 students that may mean five students may be struggling with the same issues many adults face such as depression, anxiety and substance abuse.

Two of United Way of Cass-Clay’s BOLD Goals are to Prepare Children to Succeed and Help Individuals Be Independent. Collaborating with funders and educational leaders to provide mental health services on site within our rural school districts will prepare children and students to be successful in school and provide a foundation of support for independence and future success as members of our community and workforce.

Respectfully,

Kristi Huber  
President

Thomas Mill  
Community Impact Director

*United Way of Cass-Clay connects people to people, needs to resources, and experts to advocates to advance the common good throughout Cass and Clay County*

United Way of Cass-Clay | 219 7<sup>th</sup> Street South | Fargo, ND 58103 | 701.237.5050 | [www.unitedwaycassclay.org](http://www.unitedwaycassclay.org)

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Pg 1

Senate Appropriations - SB 2300  
02/12/2019

**Prairie Learning Center- Toinette Banks, Administrative Director**

Senator Holmberg and members of the committee, for the record my name is Toinette Banks and I am the Administrative Director at Prairie Learning Center, Raleigh ND. Prairie Learning Center, otherwise known as PLC, is a Residential Childcare Facility located in rural North Dakota about 60 miles southwest of Bismarck. We serve up to 24 males ages 12-18 from across the whole state of North Dakota. Our youth come to PLC through either the Division of Juvenile Services or County Social Services with an average stay of 4-6 months. We have on-site addiction services as well as our own school where the youth attend classes year-round. Our youth come to PLC to work on behavioral, addiction, cognitive thinking, to address the legal issues they have, mental health, functioning in school, and family relationships.

We endeavor to collaborate with the youth's sending school to know the student's struggles and what they have tried with success or failure to support the methods that work for the individual. We receive the youth's transcripts to keep the youth in the classes they need to be able to transition back to his home-school.

Each youth at the program is assigned a case manager, who tracks them as a whole to make sure all areas needed are being addressed. We access mental health services throughout the Bismarck area and have a mental health provider who comes on- grounds one time per week.

In response to the increased negative behaviors we are experiencing with the youth in our care, especially in the classroom setting, we would like to hire a Behavior Interventionist. This person would complete Functional Behavior Assessments on youth who are having difficulties on a regular basis so we can target more closely the specific need for the difficulty. This staff would work closely with the assigned case manager, the therapist, and the teaching staff. They would create a behavior intervention plan; in the case the youth may already have a behavior intervention plan when they arrive at PLC, this staff would monitor that plan to keep following it or modify it to fit any needs the youth may have as they are moving through the program. Currently, we are trying to do this through the youth's assigned case manager at the facility, the case manager keeps track of the youth's progress and when the youth is ready to leave, this information is given to the youth's community worker so that everyone who is continuing services with the youth, including the school, has all of this information. We would like to enhance this part of our program.

With the new federal family first act we will be changing our license to a qualified residential treatment facility; part of the standards for this level of care is 6-month aftercare once the youth leaves our facility and goes home. The Behavior Interventionist would be part of the youth's aftercare team and work with the home- school, ensuring any assessments and plans created are given to the school as a resource for them to continue using. This person would also be a resource, if relapses or problems start reappearing, to offer their services remotely in an effort to assist the home school create revisions to the behavior plan and get the youth get back on track in a timely manner. Thank you and I will try to answer any questions you may have.

SB 2300  
2-27-19  
#1

**Senator Kyle Davison  
Testimony 2300**

I'm Senator Kyle Davison representing District 41 in south Fargo. I'm here today to introduce and provide support for SB 2300. The focus of the bill is to provide financial resources to support behavioral health issues through the funding of the non-federal Medicaid match.

What do we mean by behavioral health in schools? Behavioral health is the scientific study of the emotions, behaviors and biology relating to a person's mental well-being, their ability to function in everyday life and their concept of self. A person struggling with his or her behavioral health may face stress, depression, anxiety, relationship problems, grief, addiction, learning disabilities, mood disorders and other psychological concerns. How do schools work with students who come into their schools everyday with behavioral health issues?

So, before I get into funding mechanism let's look at the behavioral health challenges in our schools. One of the goals within our K-12 strategic vision framework is safe and healthy schools. If you look at pages 3-5 we can briefly review some survey data collected within the last 18 months from school administrators. It shows behavioral health issues as the highest priorities at nearly every level of school.

In addition, Superintendents prioritized increasing achievement of students with low income and students with disabilities. So, the funding stream is aligned to those needs too.

On pages 6-7 you'll see data on suspension/expulsion & truancy which is collected annually by DPI. Please note the significant increases in these incidents from 2013-14 to school year 2017-18 most notably in our elementary schools.

Funding for SB 2300, Every school or schools who are part of a special education unit can bill for Medicaid-eligible children who receive Medicaid-covered services that are authorized or prescribed through the students Individualized Education Plan (IEP), per the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

SB 2300  
2-27-19  
11

So, in North Dakota, last year schools were directly reimbursed from Medicaid for nearly \$2,000,000 for Medicaid eligible services. So, on page 8, you see a total of \$998,530.03 and that is the nonfederal portion of Medicaid reimbursement. The Department of Human Services receives payments from DPI to certify the 50% match needed for Medicaid. Please note the flow chart in your handouts.

SB 2300 rewards district who currently do Medicaid billing and incentivizes those districts who don't bill to get their ducks in a row and help their neediest students. The bill is saying for those schools who bill Medicaid in the 2019-2020 school year, the legislature is going to appropriate \$1,300,000 to the Department of Human Services and you can write a grant up to your nonfederal portion of Medicaid reimbursement to focus on behavioral health interventions in your school or collaboratively in your region.

In closing, SB 2300 is the only bill in the legislature that has funding which goes directly to schools this biennium to deal with the behavioral health crisis. There are many things Human Services is working on structurally which will have an impact 2-3 years out. A very good example is the work on the 1915i amendment for targeted supports for youth. But schools need some funding now.

I've attached some additional testimony from Thomas Hill, United Way Fargo and Mark Lemer, Business Manager West Fargo.

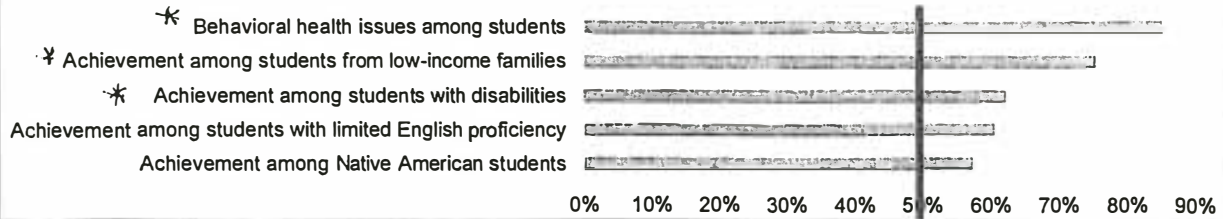
I ask for your support on SB 2300 and will take any questions...



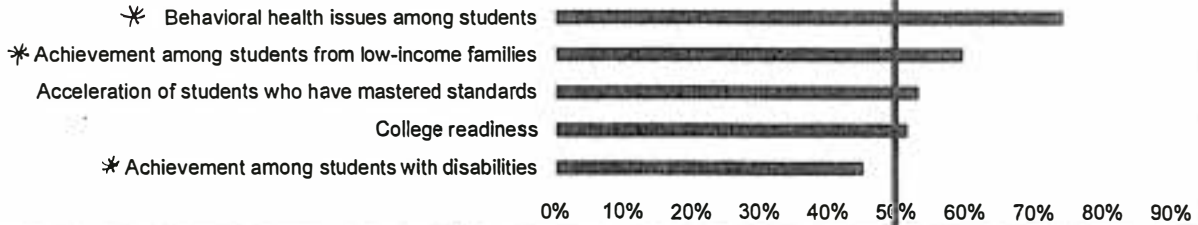
SIB 2300  
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#1

## Top 5 Areas Rated High Priority by District / School Leaders

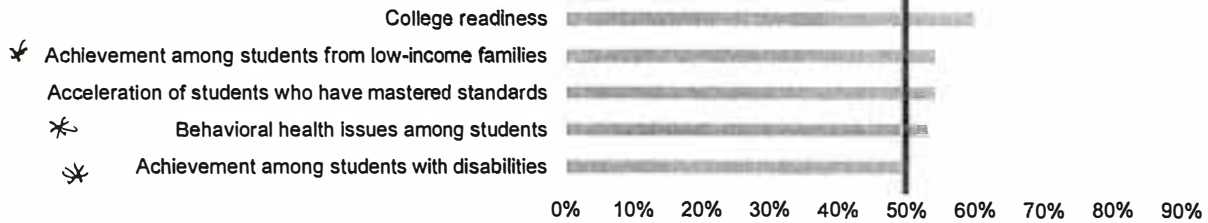
### Districts with 1000 or more students



### Districts with 300-999 students

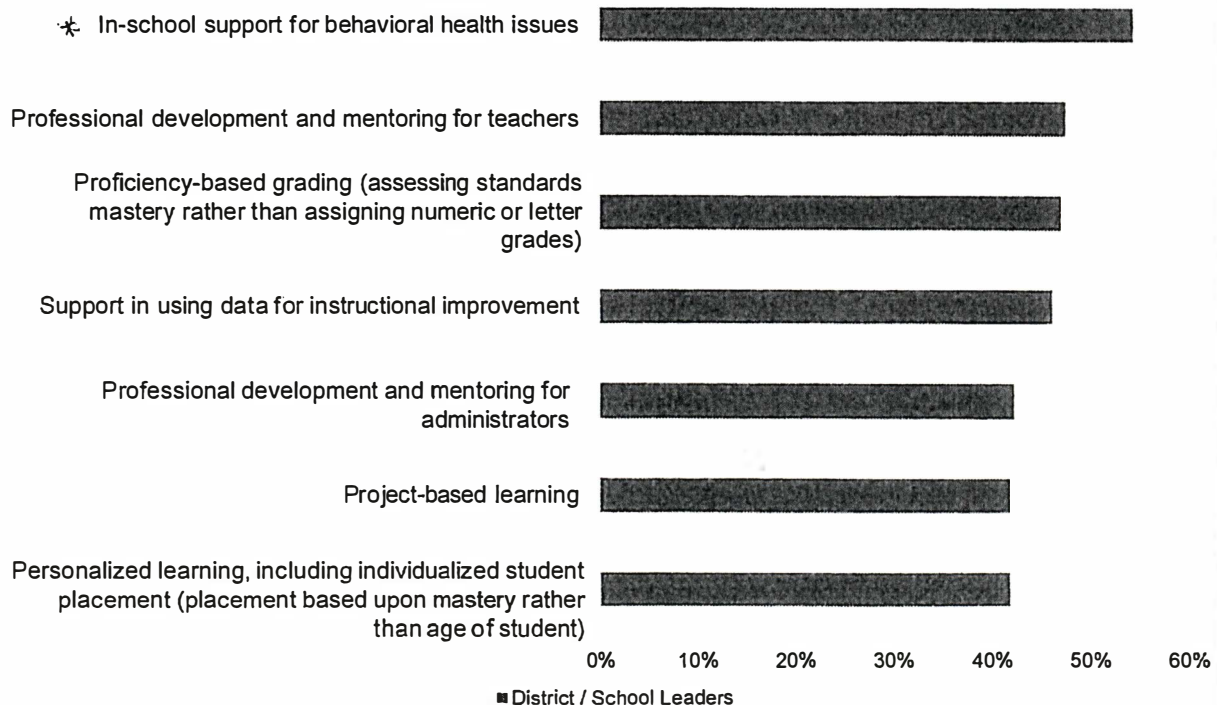


### Districts with fewer than 300 students



## Increased Support Would Improve Achievement

### Percentage Strongly Agree



North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
 Safe & Healthy Schools  
 Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report 2013-2014  
 State Quick Stats

SB 2300  
 2-27-19  
 #1

61 - Total number of violent & drug-related incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion  
 22- Total number of students involved

	<u>Removal days</u>
* 608 Reported Fighting/Mutual Altercation	1,644.90
274 Reported Tobacco	695.30
ψ 200 Reported Simple Assault	537.08
189 Reported Drugs (excluding alcohol and tobacco)	1,500.00
58 Reported Alcohol	182.00
63 Reported Terrorizing	386.75
45 Reported Knife, Blade 2.5" or greater	403.00
82 Reported Assault	557.00
11 Reported Other Objects (chain, brass knuckles, BB or pellet gun)	172.00
21 Reported Reckless Endangerment	28.00
10 Reported Hazing	24.00
27 Reported Robbery	151.20
3 Reported Incidents (not listed above) requiring 10 days or more removal	30.00
3 Reported Handgun	481.00
2 Reported Multiple Weapons	2.00
1 Reported Serious Bodily Injury	5.00
8 Reported Sexual Imposition	16.50
3 Reported Shotgun/rifle	18.00
7 Reported Other Firearm (zip guns, starter guns, flare guns, bomb or grenade)	46.00
3 Reported Aggravated Assault	104.00
4 Reported Murder, Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide, Kidnapping, Felonious Restraint, Inciting a Riot, or Gross Sexual Imposition/Rape incidents	87.00
<b>Optional reporting incidents:</b>	<b><u>Total days:</u></b>
59 Reported Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	130.50
257 Reported Bullying	511.25
1,165 Reported Other	2,455.80
	<b><u>Total days:</u></b> <b><u>10,168.3</u></b>

59 - total number of students expelled in 2013-2014

**Bold indicates increase from previous year**

Total Public/Nonpublic K-12 enrollment 2013-2014: 109,876

**Incident Demographics:**

Males: 1,275; Females: 347  
 Top 5 Locations:

\* By grade: K-5: 286 6-8: 492 9-12: 844

Classroom (1126) Hallway or Stairs (410) Cafeteria (158) Other (147) Other inside area (145)

Students served by an IEP: 934

\*\*\*\*\*

**2013-2014 Truancy incidents reported:**

7,891.78 days ND students were truant  
 2,153 students truant  
 State truancy rate: 3.67 days (based on average of elementary/high school)

**Safe & Healthy Schools  
Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report 2017-2018  
State Quick Stats**

SP#2300  
2-27-19  
#1

2,610 - Total number of violent & drug-related incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion  
107 - Total number of students involved

<u>Incidents Reported</u>		<u>Removal days</u>
13	Burglary	26.50
279	Harassment	659.50
5	Other Firearm	109.50
235	Other incident RELATED TO drug or alcohol use, weapons possession, or violence	409.00
19	Other Objects	54.50
<b>* 1,103</b>	Fighting/Mutual Altercation	2,692.10
<b>421</b>	Tobacco	1,052.50
230	Simple Assault	623.95
246	Drugs (excluding alcohol and tobacco)	2,642.50
75	Alcohol	263.50
79	Terrorizing	501.84
<b>48</b>	Knife, Blade 2.5" or greater	464.50
69	Assault	201.60
1	Reckless Endangerment	3.00
14	Hazing	33.00
<b>20</b>	Robbery	57.50
<b>7</b>	Incidents (not listed above) requiring 10 days or more removal	175.00
6	Handgun	183.00
3	Multiple Weapons	72.00
7	Serious Bodily Injury	6.50
14	Sexual Imposition	68.00
4	Shotgun/rifle	15.00
7	Aggravated Assault	24.50
2	Murder, Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide, Kidnapping, Felonious Restraint, Inciting a Riot, or Gross Sexual Imposition/Rape	13.00
		<b>Total days: 10,352.00</b>
<b>Optional reporting incidents:</b>		
74	Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	148.70
205	Bullying	472.00
929	Other	1,834.33
		<b>Total days: 12,807.00</b>

59 - students expelled in 2017-2018

**Bold indicates increase from previous year**

Total Public/Nonpublic K-12 enrollment 2017-2018: 117,099

**Incident Demographics:**

Males: 2,093; Females: 814 By grade: K-5: 766 6-8: 996 9-12: 1,145 Students served by an IEP: 1,299  
Top 5 Locations: Classroom (1263); Hallway/Stairs (600); Playground (276); Cafeteria (215); Locker room/gym (202)

\*\*\*\*\*

**2017-2018 Truancy**

200.70 days 882 students truant

State truancy rate: 13.83 days (based on average of elem/high school)

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
 Safe & Healthy Schools  
 Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report 2013-2014  
 State Quick Stats

SB 2300  
 2-27-14  
 #1

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	<u>Removal days</u>
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274 Reported Tobacco	695.30
* 200 Reported Simple Assault	537.08
189 Reported Drugs (excluding alcohol and tobacco)	1,500.00
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<b>Optional reporting incidents:</b>	<b><u>Total days:</u></b>
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	<b><u>Total days:</u></b> <b><u>10,168.3</u></b>

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**Safe & Healthy Schools  
Suspension/Expulsion & Truancy Report 2017-2018  
State Quick Stats**

9B2300  
2-27-19  
#1

2,610 - Total number of violent & drug-related incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion

1,077 - Total number of students involved

<u>Incidents Reported</u>		<u>Removal days</u>
13	Burglary	26.50
279	Harassment	659.50
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235	Other incident RELATED TO drug or alcohol use, weapons possession, or violence	409.00
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7	Serious Bodily Injury	6.50
14	Sexual Imposition	68.00
4	Shotgun/rifle	15.00
7	Aggravated Assault	24.50
2	Murder, Manslaughter, Negligent Homicide, Kidnapping, Felonious Restraint, Inciting a Riot, or Gross Sexual Imposition/Rape	13.00
		<b>Total days: 10,352.00</b>
<b>Optional reporting incidents:</b>		
74	Vandalism/Criminal Mischief	148.70
205	Bullying	472.00
929	Other	1,834.33
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Top 5 Locations: Classroom (1263); Hallway/Stairs (600); Playground (276); Cafeteria (215); Locker room/gym (202)

\*\*\*\*\*

**2017-2018 Truancy**

2,200.70 days 882 students truant

State truancy rate: 13.83 days (based on average of elem/high school)

52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-416.1	Jan
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-58314.5	Jan
47-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-1987.68	Jan
47-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-10783.38	Jan
47-714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-3282.61	Jan
30-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-1023.76	Jan
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-2862.92	Jan
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-921.7	Jan
11-041	Oakes 41	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-429.65	Jan
39-728	South Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-5164.79	Jan
50-729	Upper Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-2141.87	Jan
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-10912.42	Jan
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	-20788.24	Jan
16-049	Carrington 49	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(978.07)	Feb
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,041.93)	Feb
08-001	Bismarck 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(26,702.94)	Feb
45-001	Dickinson 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(3,488.56)	Feb
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(40,204.08)	Feb
18-001	Grand Forks 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(6,880.19)	Feb
47-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(7,272.21)	Feb
36-714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(5,040.46)	Feb
30-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,864.12)	Feb
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(1,060.44)	Feb
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(10,383.96)	Feb
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(15,473.46)	Feb
11-041	Oakes 41	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(441.80)	Feb
52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(693.98)	Feb
47-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(2,144.77)	Feb
18-001	Bismarck 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(47,194.67)	Year End Mar-May
14-712	East Central Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(2,129.48)	Year End Mar-May
52-025	Fessenden-Bowdoi	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(1,308.85)	Year End Mar-May
09-001	Fargo 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(69,194.86)	Year End Mar-May
18-001	Grand Forks 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(5,923.80)	Year End Mar-May
47-001	Jamestown 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(27,311.64)	Year End Mar-May
47-701	Jamestown Specia	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(33,673.66)	Year End Mar-May
36-714	Lake Region Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(30,856.21)	Year End Mar-May
30-001	Mandan 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(2,197.83)	Year End Mar-May
51-701	Minot Special Educ	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,429.47)	Year End Mar-May
29-715	Oliver-Mercer Spec	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(4,309.84)	Year End Mar-May
51-001	Minot 1	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(38,381.10)	Year End Mar-May
02-002	Valley City 2	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,613.65)	Year End Mar-May
02-727	Sheyenne Valley S	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(1,220.94)	Year End Mar-May
39-728	South Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(28,335.70)	Year End Mar-May
50-729	Upper Valley Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(19,024.42)	Year End Mar-May
39-037	Wahpeton 37	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(9,690.18)	Year End Mar-May
39-737	Wahpeton Special	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(24,446.85)	Year End Mar-May
09-006	West Fargo 6	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(59,101.96)	Year End Mar-May
47-702	James River Speci	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(7,400.51)	Year End Mar-May

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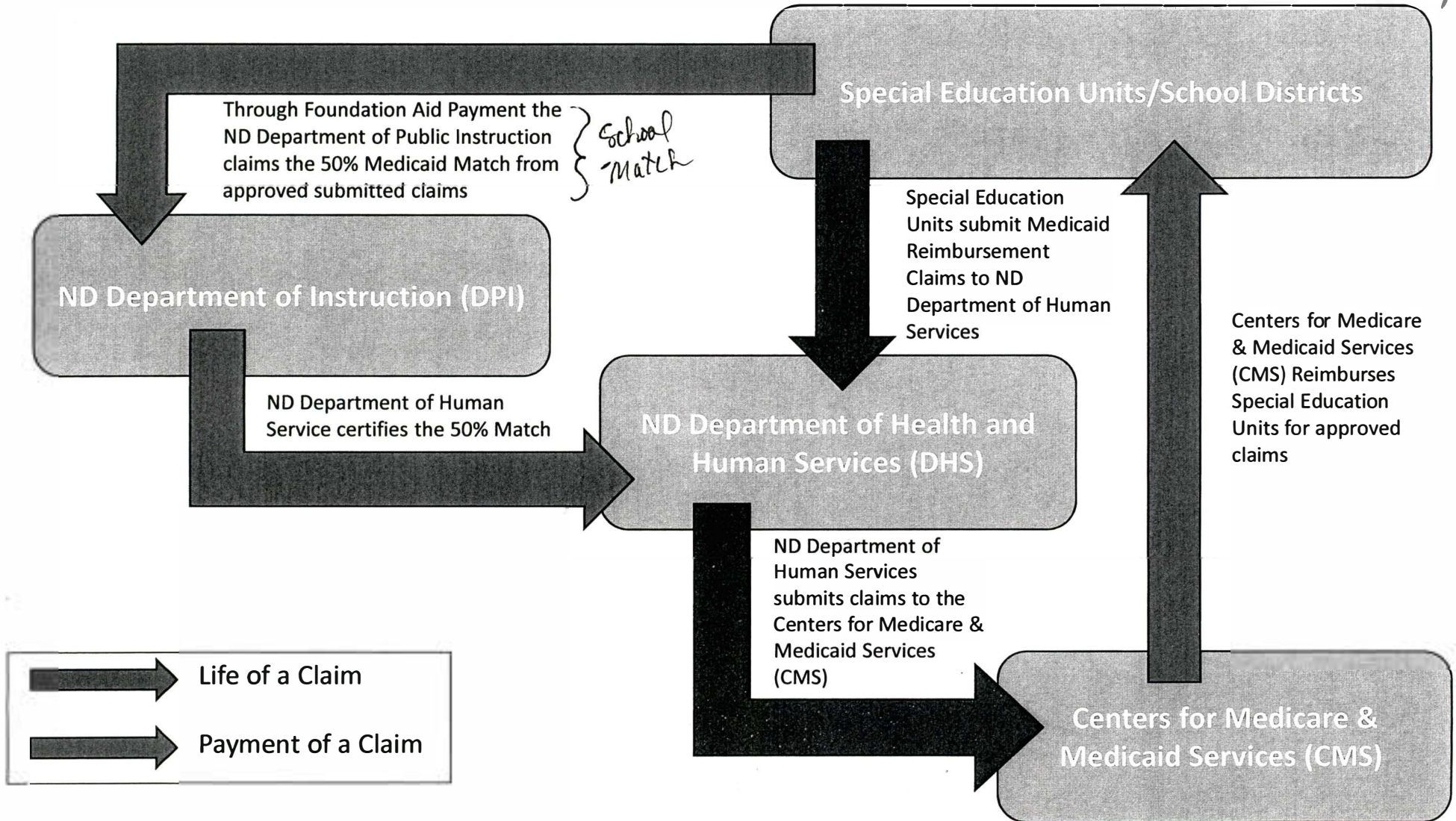
(998,530.03)

2017-18  
match paid by  
schools for Medicaid

WS

# Medicaid Funding Process

SB 2300  
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SB 2300  
2-27-19  
#1



# STATE SCHOOL AID PAYMENT VOUCHER

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction  
Office of School Finance and Organization

School Year 2017-2018  
State Issued ID 47-001  
District Name Jamestown 1  
Payment Month June 06  
Vendor ID 0000008497

Acct Code	Net Entitlement	Adjustments	Annual Total	Prior Payments	June Payment	Year to Date
1 3110 State Aid Formula Payment	19,089,122.59	(107,798.17)	18,981,324.42	19,008,636.06	(27,311.64)	18,981,324.42
2 3130 Transportation	229,703.52	-	229,703.52	229,703.52	-	229,703.52
3 3140 State Child Placement	38,550.84	-	38,550.84	11,239.20	27,311.64	38,550.84
4 3200 Special Education Contracts - Agency	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 3200 Special Education Contracts - School	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 3200 Special Education - Boarding	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 3110 Gifted and Talented	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total State Aid</b>	<b>19,357,376.95</b>	<b>(107,798.17)</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19,249,578.78</b>

## Adjustment Detail

Pmt Line	Adj Code	Description	Date	Acct Code	Adj Amount	Comment
1	2	Payment To REA		3110	(41,670.72)	South East Ed Cooperative
1	6	Medicaid Match	4/1/2018	3110	(7,272.21)	Feb
1	6	Medicaid Match	3/1/2018	3110	(10,783.38)	Jan
1	6	Medicaid Match	11/1/2017	3110	(20,632.21)	Jun-Sept
1	6	Medicaid Match	12/1/2017	3110	(128.01)	Oct
1	6	Medicaid Match	6/30/2018	3110	(27,311.64)	Year End Mar-May

*Handwritten note:* 65,000 match

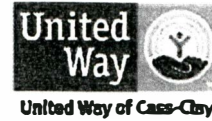
*Handwritten note:* 4

*Handwritten note:* 10





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#1



The following is a quote from a parent whose child receives services through this pilot effort:

*I have a daughter who is 13 and currently attends therapy sessions with a counselor each week at Northern Cass School. Due to the trauma she endured when she was very young, we are grateful that the services are available at her school, as we feel she will need on going therapy at this point. We have so appreciated that the therapy is now available at her school. Before it was available, I was picking up my daughter and taking her to Fargo every week, and it was cutting into my time for working, and also her time for classes. Our daughter has connected with the therapist well and because the therapist is in the school, she is also able to get a feel for what goes on at the school, too. Thank you for the services you provide for our daughter and our family.*

“We are so thankful for United Way of Cass-Clay and Burgum Foundation. We know that bringing mental health services onsite to our schools is instrumental in connecting students to the services they need, and benefits the community by increasing access to and awareness of mental health services and resources,” said Cory Steiner, Northern Cass Public School Superintendent.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, up to one in five kids living in the U.S. shows signs or symptoms of a mental health disorder in a given year. In a school classroom of 25 students that may mean five students may be struggling with the same issues many adults face such as depression, anxiety and substance abuse.

Two of United Way of Cass-Clay’s BOLD Goals are to Prepare Children to Succeed and Help Individuals Be Independent. Collaborating with funders and educational leaders to provide mental health services on site within our rural school districts will prepare children and students to be successful in school and provide a foundation of support for independence and future success as members of our community and workforce.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristl Huber".

Kristl Huber  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Mill".

Thomas Mill  
Community Impact Director

*United Way of Cass-Clay connects people to people, needs to resources, and experts to advocates to advance the common good throughout Cass and Clay County*

United Way of Cass-Clay | 219 7<sup>th</sup> Street South | Fargo, ND 58103 | 701.237.5050 | [www.unitedwaycassclay.org](http://www.unitedwaycassclay.org)

SB 2300  
2-27-19  
#1

**Testimony on SB 2300  
Presented to the Senate Education Committee  
By Mark Lemer, Business Manager, West Fargo Schools  
January 21, 2019**

1 NDCEL / Mark Lemer West Fargo Testimony

2 SB 2300 – Medicaid / Reading Grant Funding

3 Chairman Schaible and members of the Senate Education Committee, I offer  
4 this testimony in support of the provisions of SB 2300 related to funding the  
5 Medicaid Match for school districts.

6 Public School Districts have the opportunity to bill Medicaid for medically  
7 necessary services that are required by an eligible student’s Individualized  
8 Education Plan, and that are included in the State’s school-based Medicaid Services  
9 plan.

10 The Medicaid program provides federal support for these services, but there  
11 is a required match from non-federal funds. The current provisions of Medicaid  
12 pass the required match on to public school districts for provided services.

13 This bill provides a General Fund Appropriation that would be accessed to  
14 meet the Medicaid match requirements, and would free up resources for local  
15 school districts to provide other needed services to students.

16 The West Fargo School District was assessed \$164,024.97 in 2016-2017 and  
17 \$151,409.90 in 2017-2018 for Medicaid matching funds. With the additional State  
18 Support that is included in this bill, we would be able to reallocate those funds for  
19 additional school psychology services, student nursing services, behavioral  
20 supports and a myriad of other underfunded areas of our budget.

21 We ask for your consideration of a Do Pass recommendation from the  
22 committee.

SB 2300  
2.27.19  
#2  
Pg 1



**NDSBA**

**NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL  
BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 7128  
Bismarck ND 58507-7128  
1-800-932-8791 • (701)255-4127  
[www.ndsba.org](http://www.ndsba.org)

**SB 2300**

**Testimony of Amy L. DeKok  
House Education Committee  
February 27, 2019**

Chairman Owens and members of the House Education Committee, my name is Amy De Kok. I am in-house Legal Counsel for the North Dakota School Boards Association. NDSBA represents all operating North Dakota school districts and their boards. I am here today testifying in support of SB 2300.

There is a significant need for additional behavioral health resources and services in our communities and particularly in our public schools. Behavioral health issues have a long-term impact on student academic success, particularly on students from low-income families and students with disabilities. Schools want to do more to address this significant need. SB 2300 provides an immediate, targeted source for much needed funding for schools to do more to address behavioral health issues. The bill also encourages districts to work together to develop student behavioral health interventions. NDSBA hopes that this is just one step among many to come to assist school districts with funding to provide these much needed services.

For these reasons, NDSBA supports SB 2300. I'd be happy to answer any questions. Thank you.



# North Dakota Small Organized Schools

SB2300  
2-27-19  
#3  
Pg 1

Mr. ElRoy Burkle  
Executive Director  
1419 9<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Jamestown, 58401  
Eburklendsos@gmail.com  
701-230-1973

Mr. Brandt Dick  
President  
PO Box 100 – 123 Summit Street  
Underwood, ND 5857  
Brandt.Dick@underwoodschool.org  
701-442-3274

Mrs. Janet Brown  
Business Manager  
925 Riverview Drive  
Valley City, ND 58072  
[janet.brown@k12.nd.us](mailto:janet.brown@k12.nd.us)  
701-845-2910

February 24, 2019

Chairman Owens, and Members of the ND House Education Committee,

For the record, my name is Mr. ElRoy Burkle, Executive Director of North Dakota Small Organized Schools (NDSOS).

NDSOS goes on record of supporting SB 2300. Reasons for supporting this bill: 1) Provides schools districts an opportunity to access dollars in an amount equal to the nonfederal portion of Medicaid reimbursement received by the school during the preceding year through a grant process. 2) This grant process promotes regional collaboration with other school districts regarding behavioral health needs and the use of these grant dollars to develop student behavioral health interventions.

NDSOS supports HB 2300 to promote school collaboration and as a mechanism to address both mental health needs and interventions.

Thank you for your time and I shall stand for questions.

Respectfully,

*s/s Mr. ElRoy Burkle*

Mr. ElRoy Burkle, Executive Director  
ND Small Organized Schools  
1419 9<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Jamestown, ND 58401  
Cell: 701-230-1973 Email [eburklendsos@gmail.com](mailto:eburklendsos@gmail.com)

Revised February 24, 2019

File: HB 2300 19.1030.0300 Grants to schools to address behavioral health need

### Board of Directors

**Region 1**  
Mr. Tim Holte, Supt. Stanley  
Mr. John Gruenberg, Supt. Powers Lake

**Region 2**  
Mr. Jeff Hagler, Supt. North Star  
Mr. Steven Heim, Anamoose & Drake

**Region 3**  
Mr. Frank Schill, Supt. Edmore  
Mr. Dean Ralston, Supt. Drayton

**Region 4**  
Mr. Kelly Koppinger, Supt. New England  
Mr. Jim Gross, Supt. Selfridge

**Region 5**  
Mr. Joel Lemer, Bd. Member Carrington  
Mr. Brandt Dick, Supt. Underwood

**Region 6**  
Mr. Mitch Carlson, Supt. LaMoure  
Dr. Steven Johnson, Supt. Lisbon

The mission of NDSOS is to provide leadership for the small/rural schools in North Dakota and to support legislation favorable to their philosophy while opposing legislation that is harmful.