Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

To: Indiana State Board of Education

From: Brenda Erbse, Senior Director, Office of School Finance

Date: October 15, 2025

Subject: 2025 Summer School Distributions

In 2022, Indiana partnered with Lilly Endowment, Inc. to make an historic investment in literacy ($170 million). This funding has helped to train educators across Indiana in utilizing instructional practices aligned to science of reading and has provided targeted interventions and supports to students most in need. Our commitment to these evidence-based strategies is making a difference for students. Just a few months ago we celebrated unprecedented improvement in IREAD scores, where the statewide pass rate increased nearly five percentage points in a single year. This is the result of the hard work of educators across our state, and we must remain committed to providing targeted supports to help all young Hoosiers read by the time they complete third grade.

During the 2023 legislative session, Indiana Code 20-30-7-1(b) was amended to require the State Board of Education (SBOE) to provide priority reimbursement to summer school reading courses serving students in second and third grades. Indiana Code does not define priority reimbursement, deferring that to SBOE.

IDOE annually collects summer school costs for each school, broken down by course. The total summer school costs submitted for 2025 totaled over $25,200,000, with almost 34% of the costs reported for second and third grade reading courses. The appropriation for fiscal year 2025 summer school is $17,442,000.

In alignment with statute, it is our recommendation that second and third grade reading courses be reimbursed 100%, and that all other courses receive partial reimbursement at approximately 53%. This reflects our state's strong commitment to literacy and allows schools to receive full reimbursement for the critical courses they provide second and third grade students who need additional reading support after participating in the spring administration of IREAD.