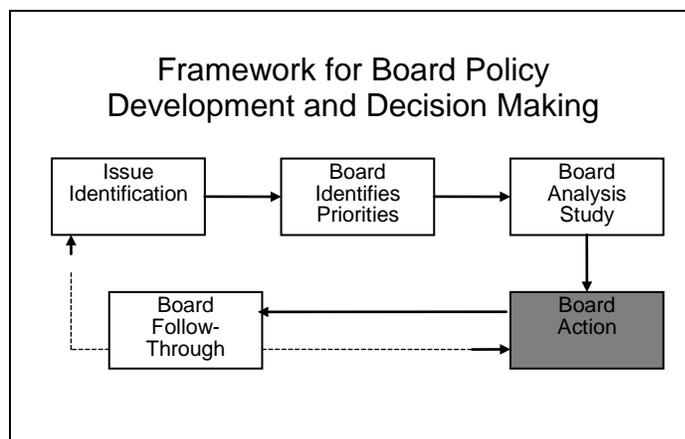


# Iowa State Board of Education

## Executive Summary

January 31, 2013



**Agenda Item:** Iowa School Business Management Academy (ISBMA) -- Program Approval

**Iowa Goal:** All

**State Board Role/Authority:** Iowa Code section 256.7(30) directs the State Board to set standards and procedures for the approval of training programs for individuals who seek an authorization issued by the board of educational examiners for employment as a school business official responsible for the financial operation of a school district.

**Presenters:** Jeff Berger, Deputy Director  
Deb Van Gorp, Director, ISBMA

**Attachments:** 1

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the State Board of Education grant two-year approval for the ISBMA program. The approval will run through June 30, 2014. (Note: Statute permits approval for up to seven years, but since this is the first cycle of course implementation, the Department would like the opportunity to reexamine the program after one full cycle of coursework is completed.)

**Background:** In 2011, the legislature enacted provisions to establish a School Business Official (SBO) authorization through the Board of Educational Examiners. That legislation required the State Board to set standards and procedures for the approval of training programs and the Department of Education to create a process by which interested parties could apply to be a provider of SBO training to new School Business Officials.



# STATE OF IOWA

TERRY BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR  
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
JASON E. GLASS, DIRECTOR

January 11, 2013

Dr. Deb Van Gorp  
Director, ISBMA  
Educational Leadership and Policy Studies  
Iowa State University  
N227 Lagomarcino  
Ames, IA 50011

Dear Dr. Van Gorp:

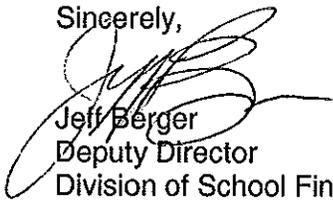
Thank you for your submission of the curriculum supplements to your original application requesting approval of a School Business Official Authorization program. The Department will be recommending a two-year approval of the program at the January 31, 2013 meeting of the State Board of Education. That two-year approval will run through June 30, 2014.

The reason for the recommendation for a two-year approval is simply that this is a new program and we wanted the ability to review the program again once one full training cycle was completed. There were no deficiencies that prompted the recommendation for a shorter period than allowed in statute.

I also appreciate your willingness to ensure that DE School Finance Team staff members receive course curriculum and presentation materials in advance of the course delivery. There is an obvious interest on the part of the Department to ensure that information delivered to new School Business Officials is current and accurate. We do understand the logistics of delivering a two-year sequence of programming and that coursework is developed at various points in that cycle, which is why your willingness to continue to forward these materials for review is greatly appreciated.

We do appreciate your continued effort and patience as we worked through the process. I'm very satisfied that we've developed a training sequence that will serve to enhance the skills of School Business Officials statewide. Thanks again and do not hesitate to contact me with additional information or concerns.

Sincerely,



Jeff Berger

Deputy Director

Division of School Finance and Support Services

Iowa Department of Education

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