Date: July 20, 2020
To: Chief School Administrators
From: Dale M. Dennis,
Deputy Commissioner
Craig Neuenswander,
School Finance Director

Minimum investment rates banks must offer to secure public funds as prescribed by K.S.A. 75-4210.

USD Budget Reviews continue

Before publishing the Notice of Hearing, superintendents and business officials may request someone in the School Finance office double-check their budget document. Craig Neuenswander, Dale Dennis and Veryl Peter will conduct the reviews. In order to schedule a time, call (785) 296-3871 or (785) 296-3872.

Note: Most review times for Dale Dennis and Craig Neuenswander have been booked for this week (July 20-24).

Several options available to have your budget reviewed:
1. Face-to-face meeting (bring printed copy of budget and laptop with Codes file)
2. Conference call (scheduled meeting time)
3. ZOOM meeting (Craig Neuenswander or Veryl Peter only)
4. Mail-in Budgets (no appt needed) Mail in or electronically send budget for review. Phone reviews often occur outside normal business hours.

If you have an appointment, refer to the July 13th interest letter prior to your visit or conference call. We provide directions to our building, parking options, what to bring, how to mail or email budgets, etc.

To schedule a time for a budget review face-to-face, conference call or ZOOM, please call. There are many openings available after July 27.

Mail-in budgets will be reviewed before and after business hours. While you cannot schedule a time for your return call, we always do our best to complete your budget review by phone before the deadline specified in your cover letter. Refer to July 13th interest letter for instructions to send it.

Thanks for your patience during this busy time of the year!

Dale, Craig and Veryl

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.
Q&A on the 10-Day Rule (USD Budget)

Once your budget is ready for the board to adopt, the Notice of Hearing (Code 99) must be published in your local paper. After it’s published in the newspaper, carefully proof every word and dollar amount for typos. Any errors will require it to be published again. Below are common questions:

Question: When publishing the Notice of Hearing, for compliance with the 10-day rule, are these business days? Or do weekend days count too?
Answer: All days, including weekend days, are counted. K.S.A. 79-2929 provides that “[t]he governing body shall give at least 10 days’ notice of the time and place of the meeting by publication in a weekly or daily newspaper of the county having a general circulation therein.” Publish the Notice of Hearing for one day.

Question: The newspaper publishes once a week. The budget hearing can’t be held until after at least 10 days have passed after publication. In computing the 10 days, does the day of publication count as one?
Answer: No, do not include the day of publication in the 10 days. Day one is the day following publication, and the board meeting can be held on the tenth day.

Question: Our official county newspaper is a weekly paper. The notice of budget hearing was delivered to the paper on July 30th, with the instructions to publish in the August 5th edition in order to meet the 10-day deadline before the hearing scheduled on August 16th. By mistake, the newspaper didn’t publish it on August 5th. They offered to run it the following week on August 12th, but that makes the district in violation of the 10-day period before the public hearing scheduled on the 15th.
Answer: Unfortunately, of all the deadlines, etc. in the budget law, the 10-day rule is the one with which you should make sure you are compliant. Obviously, you did everything you could do to publish on time. Your only option is to change your hearing date to a date at least 10 days following the expected publication date.

If your board hearing will be later than August 25, as soon as you publish the Notice of Hearing in the newspaper, please call your County Clerk(s) to explain the situation and advise what date you will certify the budget to their office. The budget can be certified the same day as it is adopted.

We hope this will be helpful as you prepare for your board meeting. If you need further clarification, call the School Finance office at (785) 296-3872.

Submit Driver Education claim form

Did your district offer a Driver Education program between Sept 1, 2019 - Aug 31, 2020?

If you answered yes, a claim form for must be submitted by August 31 in order to receive a reimbursement payment. Download the Driver Education Data Entry Handbook on the School Finance homepage for complete instructions. The Driver Ed web application to submit your data is now open.

Contact the KSDE Driver Education office - Robyn Meinholdt (785) 296-3379 or email rmeinholdt@ksde.org if you have questions.

State Safety (Driver Ed) state aid payment is anticipated to deposit February 16, 2021.

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.
Due Date Reminders

July 31 ........ Indirect Cost Rates form (all USDs must sign and submit)
Instructions were emailed June 30:
    Subject: SIGN-Indirect Cost Rates for Title and Food Service Programs

Aug 21 ........ 2020-2021 Directory Updates Attn: All USDs, Interlocals, Coops, Serv Centers – KSDE annually requests all Local Education Agencies to update administrative contacts, building addresses, schedule information, etc.
Listserv message: Directory Updates Now Open! sent July 15 from sroot@ksde.org with instructions - Link: Directory Updates User Guide

Aug 31 ........ Drivers Education – web application claim form due - Data Entry Handbook

###