

**BELDING AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**

MAY 18, 2026

VOLUME LXIII

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: Resolution to OPT OUT of Section 105 (State In-County Schools of Choice Program)

Background and Findings:

In order to give families residing within the Ionia County Intermediate School District choices for educational opportunities they feel best fit their children's needs at any time in the school year, Belding Area Schools does not "opt in" to the State's restricted plan. The past practice is to follow a county policy that allows our district to better meet the needs of families within the Ionia County Intermediate School District. This reciprocal policy will be followed by all Ionia County districts.

In order to continue with this policy, the Board of Education must pass a resolution overtly declaring that we will "opt out" of the State's plan in favor of the local county plan.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the following motion be adopted to "opt out" of the Section 105 State Schools of Choice program:

Board member _____ moved, seconded by Board member _____, that the Board of Education of the Belding Areas School District, exercising the option permitted by *Section 105* of the State School Aid Act of 1979, as amended by Public Act 300 of 1996, will not accept *Section 105* applications of non-resident students from outside our district, for purposes of operating an intermediate school district-wide schools of choice program in accordance with Section 105 for the 2026-27 school year.