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USD 415 Board Approves \$139K in Budget Reductions

(KNZA)--The Hiawatha Board of Education has approved around \$139,000 in budget reductions for next school year.

Superintendent Penny Hargrove says the budget reductions, which were approved following an executive session Monday evening, are being made to address a shortfall from the state block grant funding and increased operational costs.

The reductions include the elimination of two library positions and the district's accelerated reader program. In addition, the administrative assistant position at the district office won't be filled and powerlifting program dropped. Also the district will no longer cover the cost of supplemental student insurance and 25 percent will be cut from cleaning supplies.

Hargrove said about \$5,000 in additional budget reductions will need to be made.

She said the district was forced to make more cuts than had been planned after receiving word Monday that the cost of health insurance will increase more than 10 percent. The district had planned for a five percent increase.

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