



Ionia County Intermediate School District
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Partners in building full potential

COLLABORATION INTEGRITY INNOVATION SERVICE ACCOUNTABILITY DATA-DRIVEN

Board Report — May 14, 2026

- **Special Education Millage Renewal & Restoration:** Formal communications continue to be developed but that has not hindered various presentations and opportunities to share information with various community stakeholders. We have been able to share with staff at meetings, local school boards at their meetings and at various community organization meetings. We are preparing to have materials sent in each local school district's end-of-the-year newsletter and are planning to mail postcards to all residents in June.
- **Policy Update:** We have two recommended policy adoptions on this month's agenda. One is the second reading of the new policy on wireless communication devices. This is necessary to be in compliance with recently enacted law prior to next school year. Second is a slight language change of one word to be compliant with Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA) provisions. This is recommended for immediate adoption since it is not a new policy nor does it substantially change existing policy.
- **Legislative Update:** The Senate recently passed SB 860, the omnibus budget bill providing appropriations for School Aid, Higher Education, and Community Colleges. Please see below for some of the summarized highlights as provided by MASA analysis with comparisons between the Executive, House and now Senate proposals.

Budget Highlights

- All three budgets include the same 2.5% foundation allowance increase to \$10,300.
- The Senate budget appropriates an additional \$500 million of SAF revenue beyond the House and Executive budget proposals, taken from School Aid reserve funds.
- All three budgets include additional spending for at-risk, special education and ELL.
 - The Executive budget includes a weighted formula for the 26/27 school year.
 - The Senate budget includes a more detailed weighted formula over the next 15 years with a proposal to tie-bar the School Aid Act to Senate Bills 903 and 904, which would place a new formula within the Revised School Code that would seek to guide appropriations in the future.
 - The House budget has increases in the sub-categories, but they are not

in a weighted formula as described in the other two budgets.

- The Senate Budget is heavily focused on the weighted funding model, early childhood education, and includes “Grow Your Own” dollars. The Senate budget in particular would start the weighted foundation allowance with a significant 25% boost to at-risk and ELL funding, with an additional \$339.7 million combined with the existing foundation to set a new baseline going forward.
- The House Budget included focus areas on literacy and numeracy supports, high-impact tutoring and additional priorities such as parental choice, cyber school parity, inclusion of supports for nonpublic schools.
- All three budgets continue free breakfast and lunch as well as transportation categorical funding.
- The House budget includes \$50 million in additional money compared to current year funding (\$100 million) for critical infrastructure grants to school districts in Section 12e. The Senate and Executive budget proposals do not include 12e funding.
- All three budgets include increases for special education as well.
- The House budget proposes new penalties for districts that implement gender neutral restrooms and/or have curricula that include materials that would be considered promoting diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI)

In other legislative news, the House Education and Workforce Committee recently heard about HB 5480, HB 5810, and HB 5822. There were no votes taken on these bills. HB 5480 allows for certain transfers between schools when a bullying incident has been determined, HB 5810 requires the presidential fitness test to be administered and HB 5822 would add post-secondary credentials to the list as an authorized expense under the Michigan Education Savings Program.