

JUNE LEGISLATIVE SESSION DEBRIEF TOUR

MREA ADVOCACY

DFL Trifecta Session

- Education
 - Highlights & Challenges
- Other Bills of Education Impact

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DFL TRIFECTA SESSION

Aggressive pace of activity = 75 Chapters of Law Presented to the Governor, 74 signed into law

Walz 'State of the State' confirmed 'blue state' agenda

Record Surplus: \$19B, \$8.5B

Trifecta Budget Targets on March 21st

- 15 Budget bills
- 2 Capital Investment bills = \$2.6B
- Taxes: what makes a good tax bill?!
 - New taxes include: metro sales tax up 1%, gas tax inflator, delivery fee

2024 Session begins February 12, must end by May 20

• \$828 Cash, \$880 GO for next Capital Investment bill

Final Education Bill Highlights

- 4&2, then CPI indexing, bookended between 2-3%
- Special Education CrossX = 44%, 50% as of FY '27 and later
- Shore up School Readiness+ VPK slots
- Cooperative Facilities
- Setting 4 Program Aid
- Student Support Personnel Aid (school counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, or chemical dependency counselor)
- Article 3 "The Read Act" and Literacy Aid
- Article 4 Teacher Development: GYO, Sped Pipeline, Student Teacher, etc.
- Board authority to renew expiring operating levy
- Transportation Sparsity
- CTE Consortia
- School Social Workers MA Billing



Final Other Education Categoricals

- English Learner Aid
- School Library Support Aid
- American Indian Aid
- Full Service Community Schools Aid
- Multi-tiered Systems of Support Aid
- Paraprofessional Training Aid
- Cyber Security Grants



New Education Challenges

- Unemployment Insurance (Para Bill of Rights)
- New Terms & Conditions to be bargained
- Paid Family & Medical Leave
- Earned Safe & Sick Time
- Restrictions on suspension and seclusion rooms
- Government & Citizenship, Personal Finance (others proposed!)



Jobs & Labor (HF 3035)

- New Terms & Conditions to be bargained, including e-learning days
- Earned Safe & Sick Time
- \$10 million for the Drive for Five Initiative, to prepare workers to enter five of the most critical occupational categories in the state with high-growth jobs and family-sustaining wages: technology, caring professions, education, manufacturing, and trades.
- \$3 million for competitive grants to support high school robotics teams and prepare youth for careers in STEM fields with a carve-out for internships for high school students to work at private companies in STEM fields



Paid Family & Medical Leave (HF 2)

- 20 weeks
- Floating .7% payroll tax; could rise to 1.2%
 - can split 50/50 between ER/EE
 - Benefits and payroll tax effective 1.1.26

Taxes (HF 1938)

- Pensions adjustment to age 65: ER up .75, EE up .25
- Several districts received construction sales tax exemptions
- LGA, CPA, Tribal Gov Aid, SCORE
- Ag2School remains intact at 70% credit



Health & Human Services (SF 2995)

- Lead in drinking water 15ppb down to 5 ppb
- School Linked mental health grants
- School based clinics
- Child Care stabilization grants and CCAP
- Creation of the Children, Youth & Families Department

Environment & Climate (HF 2310)

- Solar on Schools
- HVAC Grants (\$50k each)
- Electric School Bus deployment program and funding



Transportation (HF 2887)

- Type III vehicle continued use
- Safe Routes to School funding
- Active Transportation Safety Training
- \$50k for education and awareness campaign on motor vehicles passing school busses
- \$2,000,000 for grants to school districts, nonpublic schools, charter schools, and companies that provide school bus services for the purchase and installation of school bus stop-signal arm camera systems.



Housing (HF2335)

Challenge Grant funding a school district,

State Government (HF1830)

- Repeal of Local Gov Salary Caps
- Hmong special guerrilla units Remembrance Day (May14): Schools are encouraged to offer instruction about Hmong history
- Juneteenth begins this June 19

Agriculture (HF 1955)

Farm2School grants

