



AMPHITHEATER

P u b l i c S c h o o l s

April 13, 2021 Governing Board Meeting

Legislative Update

Session Statistics*

*As of Friday, April 9, 2021

- Total Days of Session: 89
- Bills Posted: 1708
- Bills Passed: 252
- Bills Vetoed: 0
- Bills Signed: 189
- Resolutions Posted: 121
- Resolutions Passed: 7



Deadlines

- **April 16:** Last day for consideration of bills in conference committees
- **April 20:** 100th Day of Session
Sine Die adjournment unless leadership extends



Education Bills Signed by Governor



HB2018

Schools; Audits; Financial Records; Budgets

- School districts and charter schools must send a copy of audit reports to the county school superintendent and ADE
- ADE will must publish the report
- School district governing boards must publicly accept by roll call vote



HB2023

Schools; Employees; Employment; Discipline

- ADE will now also investigate complaints of immoral or unprofessional conduct by a noncertificated employee
- Schools must search the ADE educator information system on the prospective employee
- School districts and charter schools cannot employ:
 - A certificated person in a position that requires a valid fingerprint clearance card if the person's card has been suspended, surrendered or revoked and not subsequently reinstated, or
 - A noncertificated person who has been prohibited from employment at a school district or charter school by the Board under this legislation



SB1028

Alternative Assessment; Special Education

- SBE will adopt rules that allow students who qualify for special education services to participate in alternative statewide testing
- Establishes an “Alternative Assessment Study Committee” to discuss the alternative assessments and related issues



SB1097

Pupils; Excused Absences; Mental Health

ADE will create criteria to permit an excused absence for students due to the mental or behavioral health of a pupil as an excused absence



SB1114

Schools; Required Posting; Abuse Hotline

Schools must post a clearly visible sign that contains:

- Telephone number of the centralized intake hotline concerning suspected abuse and neglect of children,
- Instructions to call 911 for emergencies, and
- Directions for accessing the website of the Department of Child Safety for more information



SB1139

Classroom Site Fund; Distribution

- Removes the requirement that school districts and charter schools spend CSF monies in the below manner:
 - 40% for increased teacher compensation based on performance and employment related expenses
 - 40% for maintenance and operation purposes
 - 20% for teacher base salary increases and employment-related expenses
- The performance based compensation system adopted by school district governing boards is no longer required to have individual teacher performance account for 33% of the 40% allocation for teacher compensation



SB1165

Schools; Performance Evaluations

- Gives the option for school districts not to conduct performance evaluations of principals and certificated teachers in SY 20-21
- The absence of a performance evaluation in SY 20-21 does not disqualify a teacher from being eligible to receive performance pay from the Classroom Site Fund



SB1377

Civil Liability; Public Health Pandemic

- Provides liability protections for public school districts during pandemic
- Public school districts would not be liable for injury from the public health pandemic where it has acted in good faith to protect against the pandemic
- Places burden on the claimant to prove by clear and convincing evidence that the person or provider failed to act or acted with willful misconduct or gross negligence



SB1404

State Seal of Biliteracy; Assessment

- Started as bill affecting elections for School District Governing Boards and CTEDS
- Strike everything amendment
- Modifies the requirements for a student to obtain a state seal of biliteracy on their high school diploma to require the student to pass an examination in English language arts, instead of pass the standardized end-of-course examinations in English language arts
- Retroactive to July 1, 2020



Final Thoughts

- No Budget Yet
- No indication of a plan to fund schools fully for FY 21
- State appears to be focused on tax cuts right now
- Next Update: May 11th

