OSBA Town Hall
Legislative Update
6/10/2020
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OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio’s public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.
2020-2021 School Year

• Guidance and potential directives forthcoming from ODE, ODH, DeWine

• Schools are planning variety of scenarios

• Legislation is needed to facilitate those planning and implementation efforts
Joint Recommendations

- OSBA/BASA/OASBO
- Based on feedback from members
- Distributed to House and Senate
- Several standalone bills on individual issues
- One large, multifaceted bill emerged on June 2
Senate Bill 319

- Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima)
- First hearing yesterday
  - OSBA/BASA/OASBO provided proponent testimony
- Second hearing today
- **Call-to-action issued** to members last Friday urging support of the bill
Senate Bill 319

• Management and employee components
  – Permissive furlough authority for 20-21 SY
  – Modifies teacher and administrator evaluations for 20-21 SY
  – Eliminates required qualifications for teachers assigned to provide intense remediation reading assistance for 20-21 SY
  – Permits certain state-licensed individuals to provide services electronically to students with disabilities for 20-21 SY
Senate Bill 319

- Student-based components
  - High school students may use final course grades in lieu of the corresponding end-of-course exam if that exam was not administered in the 2019-20 school year;
  - TGRG cut score for 20-21 SY remains at 19-20 SY level
  - Exemption from RIMPs for 20-21 SY based on test results from 19-20 SY;
Senate Bill 319

• Other components
  – Additional state aid payment to certain districts with decreases in their PUTPP value or had state aid deductions due to PUTPP increases (SB 313, HB 651)
  – Online 30-day bus driver training program to satisfy the classroom portion of pre-service and annual in-service training for school bus driver certification for the 20-21 SY
House Bill 164

- New vehicle for 20-21 SY legislation
- Originally pertained to religious expression in schools - Rep. Timothy E. Ginter (R-Salem)
- Senate Education Committee made four amendments today (6/10/20)
- Key education provisions take immediate effect upon governor’s signature
- Bill is currently being considered on the Senate floor; if passed, will return to House for concurrence vote
House Bill 164

- Incorporates provisions of SB 319 with the following changes:
  - Removes SB 319's furlough language
  - Includes SB 313, As Passed by the Senate Finance Committee
  - Includes SB 248, which extends the storm shelter moratorium to Nov. 30, 2022
  - Prohibits retention of third-graders who fail to attain a passing score on the TGRG provided that:
    - The student's principal and reading teacher agree that other evaluations of the student's skill in reading demonstrate they are academically prepared to be promoted to the fourth grade.
House Bill 164 changes

• $24 million appropriation in FY20 for 70 districts to offset Gov. DeWine’s budget reductions in foundation payments to districts
  – Average payment of $333,500, ranging from $182 to $2 million
  – Factors in CARES allocations for eligibility for payment
House Bill 164 changes

- Licensed teachers may be employed or reassigned to teach a subject area or grade level for which the teacher is not licensed for 20-21 SY under the following conditions:
  - Teacher must have a licensure grade band that is within two grade levels of the grade to be taught out of license; and
  - Teacher must have three or more years teaching experience
House Bill 164 changes

• Remote learning models
  – Permits districts that have not yet adopted a blended learning model to adopt plans for “remote learning” for 20-21 SY
    • Plan must include specific items from the bill
    • Plan is due to ODE by July 31; not needed to be approved
• “30-day” removed from ODE bus driver online training program
• Adds school psychologists licensed by SBOE to the list of nonclassroom personnel permitted to provide services electronically to students with disabilities
• Revisions to qualifications for preschool special education teachers
House Bill 164

- House must concur with Senate’s changes
- If no concurrence, bill goes to conference committee; if concurrence occurs, bills goes to Gov. DeWine
- Expect eAlert tomorrow with details and information
Senate Bill 320

- Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima)
- Requires districts to determine whether its school buildings will be open for instruction with students in attendance for the 20-21 SY
- For those that open with students in attendance, requires districts to determine what health safety measures and guidelines to implement in its schools to address COVID-19
- Permits those districts to close buildings during the school year
Senate Bill 320

• “For the 2020-2021 school year, no other public official shall prohibit a district or school from opening its school buildings for instruction with students in attendance, cause a district or school to close its school buildings, or require the district or school to adopt health safety measures and guidelines to address COVID-19.”

• Bill would take immediate effect
Senate Bill 320

- OSBA’s Legislative Platform strongly supports local control
- OSBA is currently evaluating the bill, and also evaluating the bill’s impact on the safety of students and staff and on school district liability
- Bill is not currently included in any other piece of legislation that is expected to be enacted in the next hours or days
Immunity bills

• HB 606
• SB 308
• Expected for passage
Thank you!

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