Ohio State Board of Education Legislative Update

To: State Board of Education
Re: Legislative Update
Date: April 26, 2013

State Activity

This Week's Committees

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee met on Wednesday and held their first hearing on House Bill 8 with Representative Roegner (R-Hudson) and Representative Kunze (R-Hilliard) offering sponsor testimony. The committee accepted a substitute version of the bill that does the following:

- Authorizes a school district, community school, STEM school, or chartered school board or governing authority to incorporate into its school safety plan the designation of employees who may carry concealed handguns in a school safety zone and to do so while in executive session.
- Prohibits the disclosure of the names of designated employees authorized to possess or use a handgun in a school safety zone.
- Grants qualified immunity to a school district, community school, STEM school, or chartered nonpublic school board or governing authority and its designated employees for injury, death, or loss arising from a designated employee's authorized possession or use of the handgun in a school safety zone.
- Authorizes off-duty peace officers to possess deadly weapons or dangerous ordnance in a school safety zone.
- Excludes from collective bargaining the subject of development and implementation of a protocol for the designation of school employees who may carry concealed weapons in a school safety zone.

The committee also held its first hearing on House Bill 14 with Representative Pelanda (R-Marysville) offering sponsor testimony. This legislation addresses a school districts withholding or transferring to another district or school of a child who is alleged or adjudicated an abused or neglected child.

The committee held a second hearing on Senate Bill 21 (Lehner, R-Kettering) regarding the revision of the requirements for reading teachers under the third grade reading guarantee. The following individuals offered proponent testimony:

- Rob Amodio, Superintendent of Norwood City Schools
- Randy Flora, Ohio Education Association
- Deb Tulley, Ohio Federation of Teachers
- Melissa Cropper, Ohio Federation of Teachers

Senate Finance Education Subcommittee

The Senate Finance Education Subcommittee met on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and heard testimony on House Bill 59 from the following:

- Stephanie Davidson, Interim Chancellor for the Ohio Board of Regents
- Dr. Gordon Gee, Chair of the High Education Funding Commission
- Barbara Mattei-Smith, Assistant Director of the Governor's Office of 21st Century Education

- Dr. Richard A. Ross, Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Barbara Shaner, Ohio Association of School Business Officials
- Damon Asbury, Ohio School Boards Association
- Tom Ash, Buckeye Association of School Administrators
- Richard Hickman, Ohio Facilities Construction Commission
- Dennis Berg, Ohio Lottery Commission
- William Carleton, Capitol Square Review Advisory Board
- Linda Hengst, Ohioana Library Association
- Cynthia Johnson, Ohio State School for the Blind
- Janet Gordon, Ohio State School for the Deaf
- Burt Logan, Ohio Historical Society
- John Ware, State Board of Career Colleges and Schools
- Paul Paeglis, Ohio Tuition Trust Authority

Next Week's Committees

House Education Committee

The House Education Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, May 1 at 5:00 pm in Room 121 of the Statehouse to hear the following bills:

- House Bill 14 (Pelanda), with respect to a school district's withholding or transfer to another district or school of the records of a child who is alleged or adjudicated an abused, neglected or dependent child- 2nd hearing- all testimony- possible amendments- possible vote
- House Bill 127 (R. Adams, R-Troy), to designate the month of March as "Career-Technical Education and Skilled Workforce Development Month."- 1st hearing- all testimony- possible vote

Senate Finance Education Subcommittee

The Senate Finance Education Subcommittee will be meeting on the following dates in the South Hearing Room of the Senate Building to hear testimony on House Bill 59, the biennial budget:

Tuesday, April 30 at 11:00 am

- Inter University Council
- Ohio Association of Community Colleges
- Ohio Association of Career Colleges and Schools
- Ohio Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

Wednesday, May 1 at 10:00 am

- Ohio Education Association
- Ohio Federation of Teachers
- Ohio Arts Council
- Ohio Educational Service Center Association
- College Credit Plus
- Dual Enrollment
- Ohio Association for Gifted Children

Thursday, May 2 at 10:00 am

- Auditor Dave Yost on school performance audits
- Discussion on unfunded mandates
- Career Technical Schools
- Career and Vocational Education
- Community Schools

- Non-public schools
- State Library Board

Federal Activity

There is no federal activity to report.