Ohio State Board of Education Legislative Update

To: State Board of Education
Re: Legislative Update
Date: April 27, 2012

State Activity

Introduced Bills

House Bill 525 (Williams, D-Cleveland and Amstutz, R- Wooster), to revise management of municipal school districts and community schools located within municipal school districts to levy property taxes the revenue of which may be shared with qualifying community schools

Senate Bill 335 (Turner, D-Cleveland and Lehner, R-Kettering), to revise management of municipal school districts and community schools located within municipal school districts to levy property taxes the revenue of which may be shared with qualifying community schools

House Activity

The House met on Tuesday and passed House Bill 375 (Butler, R-Oakwood) by a vote of 77-17. This legislation would allow school districts to sell real property to private, nonprofit institutions of higher education.

The House met again on Wednesday and passed House Bill 437 (Roegner, R-Hudson and Patmon, D-Cleveland) by a vote of 95-0. This legislation would increase the number of miles a school district board may authorize its motor vehicles for out-of-state travel. The House also passed House Bill 487, the mid-biennium budget review, (Amstutz, R-Wooster) by a vote of 61-33. ***Please see the attached summary of provisions in the bill.***

This Week's Committees

House Finance and Appropriations Committee

The House Finance and Appropriations Committee met on Tuesday and passed House Bill 487 (Amstutz, R- Wooster), the mid-biennium budget review. *Please see the attached summary.* The committee added one education related amendment to the bill which does the following:

- Abolishes the eTech Ohio Commission, effective July 1, 2012.
- Transfers to the Chancellor of the Board of Regents the Commission's duties for educational telecommunications activities and teacher professional development
- Transfers to the Department of Education the Commission's duties for technology assistance for schools
- Eliminates the requirement for the development of a state educational technology plan
- Eliminates the Interactive Distance Learning Pilot Project
- Eliminates the Educational Technology Trust Fund
- Eliminates the Information Technology Service Fund

Senate Education Committee
The Senate Education Committee met on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to hear testimony on Senate Bill 316, the education MBR. The committee heard testimony from the following witnesses:

- Debra Skul, Chief Academic Officer at Summit Academy Management
- Daniel Trujillo, Director and Superintendent of Lighthouse Community School
- Jody Ernst, Senior Director of Research and Evaluation for the Colorado League of Charter Schools
- Dave Cash, President of Ohio Association of Charter School Authorizers
- Matt Cohen, Chief Research Officer, Ohio Department of Education
- Lori Ward, Superintendent of Dayton Public Schools
- Rhonda Johnson, Ohio 8
- Terry Ryan, Thomas B. Fordham Institute
- Bills Sims, Ohio Alliance for Public Charter Schools
- Tom Lasley, Learn to Earn Dayton
- Gene Harris, Superintendent of Columbus City Schools
- Patricia Levesque, Foundation for Excellence in Education
- Marcus Winters, Manhattan Institute
- Rusty Clifford, Superintendent of West Carrollton City Schools
- David Estrop, Superintendent of Springfield City Schools
- Brent Welker, Superintendent of Eastwood Local School District
- Julie Davis, Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators/ Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators
- Karen Boylan, Principal at Pleasant Street Elementary in Mount Vernon
- Ken Bernake, Middle School Principal
- Greg Mild, Teacher
- Julie Seller, Cincinnati Federation of Teachers
- Ann Brennan, Ohio School Psychologists Association
- Charlotte Andrist, Central Ohio Branch of the International Dyslexia Association

House Education Committee
The House Education Committee met on Wednesday and held their third hearing on House Bill 233 (Letson, D-Warren and Huffman, R-Lima) which would authorize school districts to sell commercial advertising space on school buses. Scott Fonzaglia with Associated Graphics offered proponent testimony.

The committee also held a third hearing on House Bill 377 (Duffey, R-Worthington and Stinziano, D-Columbus) which would grant student members of the board of trustees of state universities and the Northeast Ohio Medical University voting power and the authority to attend executive sessions. The following individuals offered testimony on the bill:

- Paul Nick, Ohio Ethics Commission
- Evan Michael Gildenblatt, Undergraduate Student Government at Kent State University
- Andrea Pavllichich, University of Akron Student Government

The committee accepted an amendment to the bill that would make granting voting powers to student members of the board a permissive authority. The bill passed the committee by a vote of 12-11.

The final piece of business before the committee was the 7th hearing on House Bill 191 (Hayes, R-Harrison Township and Patmon, D-Cleveland) which would establish a minimum school year based on hours, rather than days, of instruction. The committee passed the bill by a vote of 16-7. The following individuals offered testimony:

- Dan Stewart, Working America
- Rabbi A.D. Motzen, Agudath Israel of America

Next Week's Committees

Senate Education Committee
The Senate Education Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 1 at 9:30 AM in the South Hearing Room to hear testimony on the following bills:

Senate Bill 335 (Turner, D-Cleveland and Lehner, R-Kettering), to revise management of municipal school districts and community schools located within municipal school districts to levy property taxes the revenue of which may be shared with qualifying community schools- 1st hearing- sponsor testimony

Senate Bill 316 (Lehner, R-Kettering), education mid-biennium budget review- 6th hearing- all testimony- possible amendments/ possible vote

The Committee will meet again on Wednesday, May 2 at 10:30 AM in the Senate Finance Hearing Room if needed for a hearing on Senate Bill 316.

House Education Committee
The House Education Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 2 at 5:00 PM in Room 313 of the Statehouse to hear the following bill:

House Bill 525 (Williams, D-Cleveland and Amstutz, R- Wooster), to revise management of municipal school districts and community schools located within municipal school districts to levy property taxes the revenue of which may be shared with qualifying community schools- 1st hearing- sponsor testimony- Mayor Jackson, Eric Gordon and David Quolke will also be testifying

Senate Finance Committee
The Senate Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 1 at 2:30 PM in the Senate Finance Hearing Room to hear the following bill:

House Bill 487 (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the mid-biennium budget review- 1st hearing- sponsor testimony

The Senate Finance Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 2 at 2:30 PM in the Senate Finance Hearing Room to hear the following bill:

House Bill 487 (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the mid-biennium budget review- 2nd hearing- all testimony

The Senate Finance Committee will meet on Thursday, May 3 at 11:00 AM in the Senate Finance Hearing Room to hear the following bill:

House Bill 487 (Amstutz, R-Wooster), the mid-biennium budget review- 3rd hearing- all testimony

House Finance and Appropriations Committee
The House Finance and Appropriations Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, May 1 at 1:30 PM in Room 313 of the Statehouse to hear a presentation on school funding by Paolo DeMaria.

The House Finance and Appropriations Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, May 8 at 9:00 AM in Room 313 of the Statehouse to hear the second part of a presentation on school funding by Paolo DeMaria.

Federal Activity

There is no federal activity to report for this week.