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Superintendents Legislative Update **Week of November 2 – 6, 2009**

School Aid – The House passed a K-12 Supplemental bill for FY 2009-10 (HB 4860) Thursday that:

- **reduces** the Executive proration of \$212 million by appropriating the remaining \$184 federal ARRA funds; if enacted, there would be approximately \$27 million subject to proration;
- **restores** \$25.7 million to Section 20j (one-half of FY 2009-10 funding level)*;
- **appropriates** \$25.7 million in (new) Section 20l to add an equity payment for those districts who received less than \$7,356 pp in FY 2009-10*;
- **restores** \$7.5 million for Section 32d (Early Childhood competitive grants)*;
- **restores** \$800,000 in funding for the School Bus Inspection program;
- includes intent language that the budget be enacted no later than June 1 of each year, beginning with FY 2010-11; and
- **postpones** the 5 hours of online professional development in Section 101(10) to FY 2010-11. The requirement would not take effect until after current collective bargaining agreements ended - if those agreements are in conflict with the subsection.

*Please note the \$59 million in total funding for Section 20j, Section 20l, and Section 32d would come from the **Michigan Future Fund – currently an unfunded revenue source**.

The bill now goes to the Senate where it is unclear what, if any, action will be taken on the supplemental. The Legislature has until November 21 to complete action on the proration or the \$127 pp reduction will occur.

Senate Education Committee – The Committee heard testimony from Andy Rotherham, a former education adviser to former President Clinton, that Michigan is in the running for Federal “Race to the Top” dollars but that the state needs to **increase the number of charter schools**. The Committee will begin reporting legislation next week that is expected to be part of the State’s application including Senate Bill 965, providing alternative certification, Senate Bills 925 and 926, allowing highly accredited charter schools to authorize new charters beyond current state cap, and House Bills 4787 – 4789, providing reorganization of failing schools.

SOS at the State Capitol – Many of you are planning to attend the SOS event on Tuesday, November 10, in Lansing. It would be helpful to know the districts participating in the event as well as the number of individuals representing your district (judy.allen@oakland.k12.mi.us or 248.978.5211).

As you know, each district has been asked to meet with their legislators. If you do not have appointments scheduled, please do so as soon as possible. If your legislator is unavailable, ask to meet with a member of his/her staff. If I can provide any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me – 248.978.5211.

SOS will have stickers/buttons and general information available near the State Capitol steps from 10 a.m. until noon.

Our message is clear – **restore the cuts now and work to create a new, more equitable and stable funding system for K-12 education in this state.**

Bring examples of how the current cuts will impact your district – the \$165 per pupil reduction, any vetoes, and the \$127 per pupil proration.

Additionally, be prepared to answer questions about what your district is doing relative to reform / consolidation. The following information provides a summary of non-instructional categories of shared services for Oakland Schools and the 28 local districts (PA 63 Consolidation Executive Summary – *based on 2005-06 & 2006-07 expenditure data*) that may be useful.

“Non-Instructional Service Category MDE Report Final OS Report

- Pupil Transportation **X X**
- Human Resources Administration **X X**
- Business Services **X X**
- Administrative Technology **X**
- Professional Development **X X**
- Improvement of Instruction **X X**
- Legal Services **X X**
- Food and Child Nutritional Services **X X**
- Event Management **X**
- Production Printing and Graphics **X X**
- Technology Assisted Instruction **X**
- Shipping and Receiving **X X**
- Class Scheduling **X X**
- Distance Learning **X X**
- Facilities Maintenance and Operations **X**
- Technology Services **X**

- Collaboration: There is a significant amount of collaboration and sharing of services currently occurring within Oakland County. Districts are sharing services with one another, the ISD and/or local municipalities in some capacity across most categories. Examples include, but are not limited to, sharing of special education transportation services, participation in purchasing consortiums, county-wide involvement in professional development and improvement of instruction activities, sharing of technology systems, county-wide applicant tracking and substitute system (AESOP), and regionalized fingerprinting services and production printing and graphics.”

Additional information on Tuesday’s event can be found at the SOS website:

www.SOSMichigan.org.

Recently Introduced Legislation - HB 5572 School Pensions, sponsored by Rep. Miller, would modify the criteria for final average compensation on school employee pensions