

April 13, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Joy Frank

RE: Legislative Update – Week of April 10th

Due to Passover and Easter, the Legislative week was reduced to basically two days.

The House and Senate passed their respective budgets, implementing bills, conforming bills, etc. and are getting ready for the budget conference. Included in the budget conference process are charter school funding, the Best & Brightest Scholarship Program and general education funding issues. Budget conferees have not yet been named.

As I reported last night, the Senate amended SB 376 relating to charter school funding and maintained the discretion of school boards to share capital outlay with charter schools. However, later in the bill school districts are still required to share funds from capital outlay discretionary millage or another funding source. This section also needs to be amended. Needless to say, capital outlay funding for charter schools will be a conference issue.

SB 642 by Garcia relating to Public Educational Facilities was amended to clarify the July 1, 2017 effective date of the inclusion of locally generated dollars in the cost per student station caps.

The Senate Education Committee will be meeting on Monday and will take up SB 796 by Bean relating to charter schools, among other bills. The House Education Committee will meet later in the week, but the agenda has not yet been announced.

In general, the committee process is winding down except for Appropriations Committee meetings. Remaining reports will focus on major amendments to priority legislation. The final legislative report issued after session will include an analysis of all of the education related bills that pass and also include extensive budget information.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.