In this update:

- MASA Budget Resources
- Committee Assignments Finalized
- House Committee Structure Changes
- School Board Recognition Month

Summary

MASA Budget Resources

As you’re aware, we are several weeks away from Gov. Whitmer’s budget presentation. This will be the first state budget to be proposed and developed
under shared power in nearly a decade. Capitol insiders aren’t exactly sure when we can expect final budget passage until the process starts moving. In the meantime, MASA has assembled a budget resource center on our website to collect all relevant documents and details. Please make sure to bookmark this page and visit it regularly to stay up to date on numbers, proposals, and gossip surrounding the state budget. The page can be found at gomasa.org/budget.

Committee Assignments Finalized

This week the House announced committee assignments for the 100th session. With so many new faces in the Legislature, it was anticipated that we would see many new members on the committees with the most direct oversight of education policy and budget. Below are the members of the House and Senate policy and appropriations committees.

House Education Committee

Rep. Pamela Hornberger (R-Chesterfield) will serve as chair. Ms. Hornberger served as vice chair last session. Rep. Brad Paquette (R-Berrien Springs) will serve as vice chair. Prior to his election to the House in November, Mr. Paquette was a teacher at Niles New Tech Academy. Rep. Darrin Camilleri (D-Brownstown Twp.) returns to the Education Committee this session as minority vice chair.

(D-Detroit), Rep. Matt Koleszar (D-Northville) and Rep. Lori Stone (D-Warren)

House School Aid Appropriations Committee

Rep. Aaron Miller (R-Sturgis) will serve as chair and Rep. Pamela Hornberger (R-Chesterfield) as vice chair of the School Aid Appropriations Subcommittee. Rep. Kristy Pagan (R-Canton Twp) will serve as minority vice chair.


Senate Education and Career Readiness Committee

Sen. Lana Theis (R-Brighton) will serve as chair. Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) as vice chair. Sen. Erika Geiss (D-Taylor) will serve as minority vice chair. The remaining of the committee will consist of Sen. Jon Bumstead (R-Newaygo), Sen. Jim Runestad (R-White Lake), Sen. Kevin Daley (R-Lapeer) and Sen. Dayna Polehanki (D-Livonia)

Senate K-12 Appropriations Subcommittee

Sen. Wayne Schmidt (R-Traverse City) will serve as chair, Sen. Rick Outman (R-Six Lakes) will serve as vice chair. Other members of the committee include Sen. Jon Bumstead (R-Newaygo), Sen. Kevin Daley (R-Lapeer) and Sen. Rosemary Bayer (D-Bloomfield Twp.)
House Committee Structure Changes

Earlier this year, Speaker Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) announced a new committee process for the House of Representatives. Most legislation will now be reviewed a second time before being sent to the House floor. The second review will be conducted by one of four committees - House Appropriations, Government Operations, Judiciary, or Ways and Means. This means most bills will be referred to a first committee that handles that respective topic, and then be referred to a second committee before being sent to the House Floor. Bills may also be sent directly to one of the four committees that can send bills directly to the floor.

The Appropriations Committee will review bills that include an appropriation, the Judiciary Committee will review any legislation that creates or changes criminal penalties, and the Ways and Means Committee will review all other legislation after it leaves its original committee. House Leadership stated that the intent of this change is to both encourage more debate and give bills a careful review in order to understand how every bill impacts the entire state.

Other changes from last term also include removing the Michigan Competitiveness, Financial Liability Reform, Law and Justice and Workforce and Talent Development committees. The former Education Reform Committee was renamed as just Education. The Local Government Committee is being broadened to also include Municipal Finance. Similarly, Military and Veterans Affairs is being expanded to include Homeland Security. Another important note is that on a number of committees, the ratio of Republicans to Democrats is narrower.

Back to top.

School Board Recognition Month
January is School Board Recognition Month. We are pleased to recognize the service of the board members and take this opportunity to build community awareness and understanding of the crucial role that an elected board of trustees assumes in a representative democracy.

The Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) has compiled a tool kit to help recognize School Board Recognition Month. Please visit https://www.masb.org/sbrm to learn more.