

LegislativeUpdate

Michigan Association of School Administrators | March 23, 2018



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Summary

As the last week before Spring Break, it was an eventful few days in Lansing. The Senate released their K-12 budget on Tuesday which includes about \$100 million more than Gov. Rick Snyder's proposal. This means many line items were increased or restored and it assumes better than expected revenue numbers for the May 16 Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference (CREC).

The House didn't move their version before break. We anticipate movement shortly after the Legislature returns on April 9.

As always, please contact [MASA](#) with any questions or concerns.

ICYMI: MASA, Partners Unveil School Safety Reform Plan

Over the past few weeks, MASA has worked to meet our members' needs regarding school safety and student walkouts. This week, we took that effort to the next level. MASA joined a broad coalition including law enforcement, school mental health professionals and education partners to call for a comprehensive school safety plan that will bring about meaningful change to address the infrastructure, law enforcement and mental health reforms that will protect our students and make our schools safer.

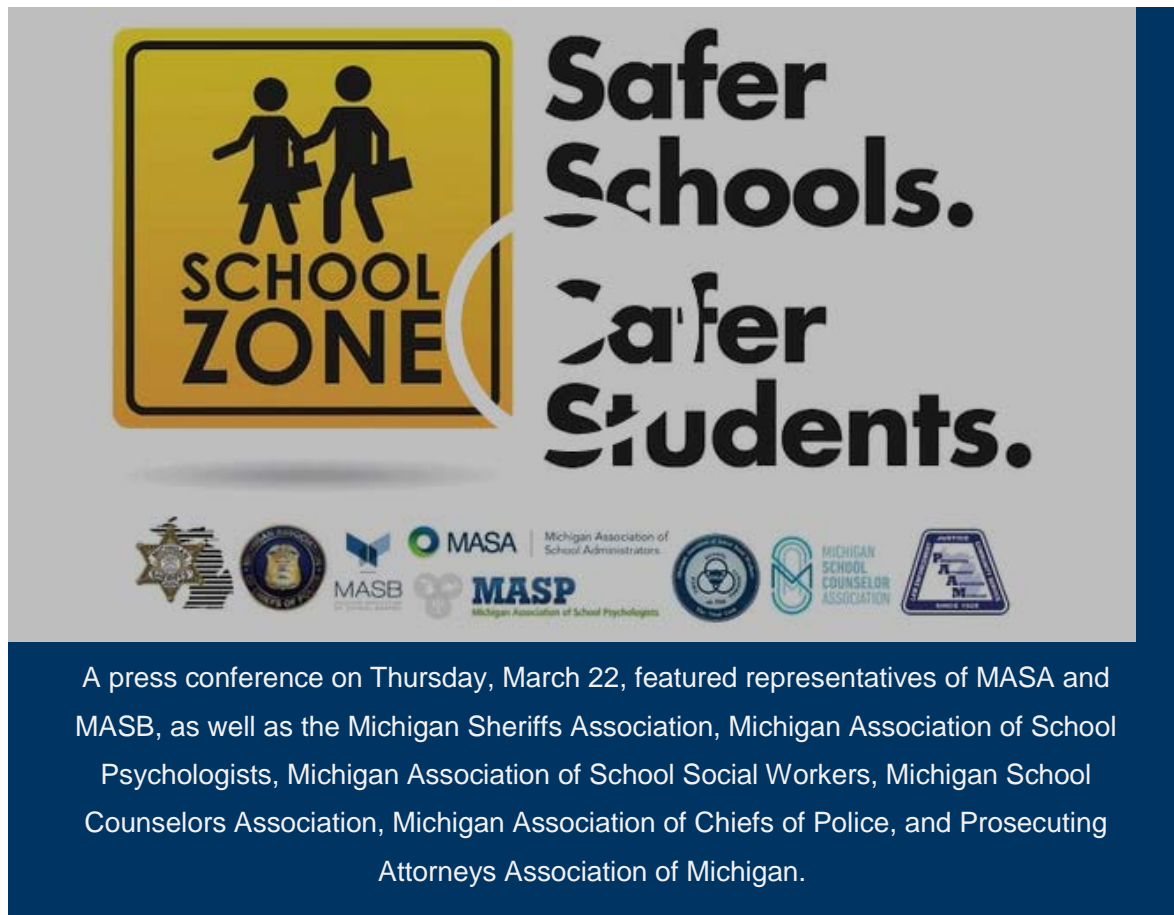
The Michigan School Safety Reform Plan calls for a new \$100 million grant program for personnel, a \$20 million grant program for safety infrastructure, and other reforms, including:

- More school resource officers—sheriffs and police—working in school facilities through a new state grant program;
- More school mental health professionals to identify problems early through the same new state grant program;
- Grants to ensure safer buildings for students and teachers; and

- Mandatory reporting of threats and graduated penalties to help prevent violence.

You can review more details of the plan in this [press release](#) and [handout](#), and you can watch the press conference in the video below.

MASA looks forward to working with our partners in this effort, as well as the governor's office and the legislature, to move this plan forward.



The banner features a yellow school zone sign on the left with two black silhouettes of children walking and the words "SCHOOL ZONE" in bold black letters. To the right of the sign, the text "Safer Schools. Safer Students." is written in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below the main text, a row of logos for various Michigan organizations is displayed, including the Michigan Sheriff's Association, Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA), Michigan Association of School Social Workers (MASB), Michigan Association of School Psychologists (MASP), Michigan School Counselor Association, and the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan.

A press conference on Thursday, March 22, featured representatives of MASA and MASB, as well as the Michigan Sheriffs Association, Michigan Association of School Psychologists, Michigan Association of School Social Workers, Michigan School Counselors Association, Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, and Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan.

Senate Budget Released

Governor Rick Snyder presented his budget to the Legislature on February 7, 2018. MASA has been involved in negotiations and discussions with lawmakers and stakeholders to craft a legislative budget that reflects shared priorities. On

March 20, 2018, the Senate K12 Appropriations Subcommittee met to report out its version of the School Aid Budget.

Senate Bill 863 reflects some changes from the Governor's recommendation, but many areas remain largely unchanged. Below are the key areas that we've been tracking. The list is not exhaustive. For more details visit the MASA Budget Resource Center [here](#).

Major highlights include:

- The Senate foundation allowance proposal is \$115-\$230
- The Senate restores shared time and cyber school cuts
- Overall \$96 million increase over the Governor's proposal

Line Item	Governor	Senate
Foundation Allowance	\$120 to \$240 per pupil (2X)	\$115 to \$230 per pupil (2X)
Cyber Schools	25% foundation reduction	Full Funding
Shared Time	Eliminates kindergarten and caps shared time enrollment at 5% of district enrollment.	.67 FTE Cap (restores most cuts) eliminates kindergarten
ISD Operating (Sec. 81)	No increase	1% increase
Isolated District Funding (Sec. 22 d)	No increase	\$1 million increase. The 7.3 or fewer pupils per square mile would increase to 7.7, and the per-pupil grant would increase to roughly \$50
Private School Funding	Did not include	Did not include
Legal Action Against the State	Did not include	Includes a financial penalty for districts that initiate legal action against the state
Collective Bargaining Penalty	Did not include	Includes a penalty for certain items included/not included in a collective bargaining agreement (merit pay, etc.)
At-Risk (Sec. 31a)	No funding changes, but includes changes to the language	No funding changes, but the language returns to last year's language, status quo.
CTE Per Pupil	Includes a \$25 per pupil CTE premium and a \$25 additional premium for CTE programs in high demand.	Does not include, rather an equal appropriation to the career education planning districts (CEPDs) with no CTE millage and mandates that at least 50% of the funds must be spent on equipment

Senate Education Committee Discusses Labor Day Start

This week the Senate Education Committee revisited the Labor Day issue, with a recently introduced bill. SB 885, sponsored by Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Hillsdale), would allow schools that receive waivers to begin a school year before Labor Day to continue to do so until the school district or ISD notifies MDE that they no longer wish to do so.

As expected, various tourism associations opposed the bill. The Michigan Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus testified in opposition. A point of contention occurred when MACVB stated their opposition to the bill and their willingness to find compromise. Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy) has sponsored similar Labor Day start bills in the past, and countered the MACVB testimony with several questions, notably that he has not received any information from them on what this compromise would look like.

MASA testified in support of the bill as part of our ongoing effort to build more flexibility into the district calendar.

Senate Discusses Open Meeting Rules

The Senate Oversight Committee took up a bill this week to revise the Open Meetings Act requirements for school boards. SB 882 sponsored by Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) will allow for school boards to have closed meetings to consider security planning to address existing threats or prevent potential threats to the safety of students and staff. With school safety on the minds of many, this bill makes necessary changes to keep schools safe. The bill was reported unanimously from committee and now will await a vote on the Senate Floor.

House Acts on Teacher Preparation Bills

On Thursday, the House Education Reform Committee reported a package of bills aimed at Teacher Preparation Programs. As summarized in prior legislative updates, the 8-bill package revises a number of requirements for teacher preparation programs including credit requirements and continuing education. The bill sponsors include the majority of the Republican members of the committee so it was no surprise that the bills were reported favorably. Several of the bills had been amended since initial discussions.

A major change to HB 5601 sponsored by Rep. Kathy Crawford (R-Novi) increased the hours of classroom experience required during a practicum experience to 400 hours. In the initial version of the bill, the requirement for practicum experience was 90 hours of classroom experience. The 400 hours are in addition to a student teaching requirement, however an institution must include a student's clinical and student teaching experience towards this revised requirement. The primary sponsor of the package, Rep. Daniela Garcia (R-Holland) stated that this increase was made after many universities testified their teacher preparation programs had significant requirements already in place for clinical experiences, yet testimony from teachers in the field said that current practice is not sufficient.

Rep. Jeff Noble (R-Plymouth) offered an amendment to HB 5600 to add language that stipulates teacher preparation institutions may not raise tuition or fees to offset any costs associated with offering the stipends. The amendment was adopted.

HB 5603 sponsored by Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw) was amended to require at least 12 early elementary credits and at least 9 later elementary credits in the teaching of reading for a provisional teaching certificate. The initial version of the bill only required the early elementary credits.

HB 5604 sponsored by Rep. Pamela Hornberger (R-Chesterfield) was revised to require teacher preparation programs to include all of the specific student teaching or clinical experiences named in the bill, rather than the earlier version that only required 2. This change will require students to have experiences with rural and urban settings, students with disabilities, English language learners, among others. The revised bill additionally requires formal partnership agreements with local districts and teacher preparation programs. Agreements must include standards and requirements for student teaching experiences. Additionally, MDE may make exceptions for situations that prevent a student from completing student teaching. Rep. Adam Zemke (D-Ann Arbor) offered an amendment that passed, adding language to include instruction of social, emotional and restorative learning practices in student teaching experiences.

The bills are now sent to the House floor, it is uncertain when they will be brought up for a vote. MASA has not taken a position due to the evolving nature of the bills. They will be discussed at the April Government Relations & Policy Committee meeting.

AASA Federal Update – Spending Bill Heads to President Trump

On March 21, Congress released H.R. 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of FY18. The bill and its provisions fund the federal government for FY18, which runs from Oct. 1, 2017, thru Sept. 30, 2018. FY18 dollars will be in schools during the 2018-19 school year. Given that we are almost halfway through FY18, Congress has relied on a series of short-term continuing resolutions to keep government funded and running, with two brief shutdowns. The final continuing resolution was set to expire at midnight on March 22/23, meaning the timing of the

bill forced an expedited floor vote schedule in both the House and the Senate. The House and Senate both passed the bill on Thursday/early hours of Friday morning, sending the bill to the President's desk for signature. At the time this memo was posted to the website, the House and Senate had passed the bill and the President had tweeted a threat to NOT sign the bill. (Update: 3/23 9:45 am)

For more details see the [AASA analysis](#).