



# **Legislative Update**

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# Political Update

- **Governor Whitmer won re-election by 10.5% - bigger margin than 2018.**
- **Democrats also won SOS and AG races.**
- **Democrats won the open state board seats and UM and MSU boards.**
- **MI Supreme Court held steady - 4-3 democratic majority**

# Political Update

- **State Senate- In democratic control for the first time since 1983.**
  - 20-18 margin
- **Majority Leader Winnie Brinks**
- **Minority Leader Aric Nesbitt**

# Political Update

- **State House- In democratic control for the first time since 2010.**
- **56-54 margin**
- **Speaker of the House Joe Tate**
- **Minority Leader Matt Hall**

# Political Update

- **All Michigan ballot proposals passed - big implications**
- **Prop 1- New term limits and disclosure**
- **Prop 2- Voting overhaul**
- **Prop 3- Roe v. Wade codification**

# Political Update

- **U.S. Senate - Democrats retained majority. 50 or 51 seats.**
- **U.S. House- Republicans take majority, albeit a much slimmer margin.**
  - Will be difficult to get anything done.

# Next Year

- **House and Senate under democratic control, along with the executive office- “the trifecta.”**
  - Could see some non partisan changes
- **Expect action on a lot of democratic priorities, including education issues.**
  - Third grade reading
  - Educator Evals
  - Collective Bargaining

# Vouchers

- **Legislative option is dead with the change of control in the legislature.**
- **Could focus on the full ballot proposal campaign in 2024.**

# Lame Duck

- **Starts after Thanksgiving- ends around 12/15 - if not earlier.**
- **Right now, 5-6 session days**
- **Do not expect much action given what happened.**
  - Governor Whitmer has little incentive to negotiate with the majority party.
- **Possibly a supplemental**

# Lame Duck

- **Other possible issues**

- Dyslexia legislation

- Has passed the Senate, currently stuck in House Ed committee

- School Safety

- House package

- Possible supplemental spending

# Lame Duck

- **Other possible issues**
  - Retirement changes
    - 6 month situout or this year only.
  - Smaller less controversial items.
    - Work keys, 21st century job skills

# PA 184 continued

- **Possible change in Lame Duck:**
- **Reduce sit out period to 6 months from effective date of the act, for this year only.**
- **Would make it so employees who retired before the new school year would be able to come back in January.**

# Policy Update

**What's Happening Under the Dome?**

# School safety

## Reports and Plans

- HB 6320 requires schools to revise their emergency operations plan no later than July 1, 2024, and every three years thereafter
- HB 6321 require a school to adopt a school safety and security training plan that includes a school resource officer be assigned to the school
- HB 6324 establish a standardized response terminology plan and HB 6325 requires this to be adopted by the 23-24 school year.

# School safety

## Training- HB 6322

- For school resource officers
  - Position-specific training which is additive of the training received by the officer to become law enforcement
  - Provide legal updates for the officer to understand his or her scope of authority in a school environment
- Coverage of 3 types of threat assessment guidelines – the Virginia Student Threat Assessment, the United State Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center, and the Salem-Keizer System

# School safety

## Training- HB 6322

- For School Safety, Security Personnel, and school Staff who are not licensed on law enforcement standards – Communication skills, De-escalation techniques, Physical controls, Cultural competence, Mandatory reporting, Target hardening, Crisis prevention and interventions, Mental health services  
Coverage of the 3 types of threat assessment guidelines
- For individuals who carrying firearms in their positions – training is required on decision making in high-stress situations

# School safety

## **New ISD position**

- HB 6323 create a position of one emergency and safety manager and mental health coordinator

## **New Commission**

- HB 6326 create the school safety and mental health commission, which consists of 8 members with a term of 4 years

## **OK2SAY**

- House Bill 6329 requires OK2SAY tips be passed on to the Emergency and Safety Manager of the school and local law enforcement within 24 hours

# FY 23 Budget

# FY 23 Budget

- **\$450** per student increase and brings the target foundation allowance to \$9,150 – the highest ever.
  - **\$222** million increase in At-Risk funding. All districts will receive 11.5% of the target foundation allowance, \$1,050 for each economically disadvantaged student.
  - Special Education saw its biggest ever increase while also changing the funding formula, settling at 75% of the base foundation, plus a 28% reimbursement rate.
- Overall, this is a **\$312** million increase – larger than both the Executive recommendation and the House’s proposed increase (the Senate’s budget did not include any increase).

# Budget continued

## Teacher recruitment and retention proposals

- **\$25 million** for the MI Future Educator Fellowship Program and **\$50 million** for MI Future Educator Student Teacher stipends, which will pay eligible student teachers at \$9,600 per semester.
- **\$175 million** for grow your own programs, allowing districts and ISD's to provide no cost pathways for support staff to become certified teachers.
- **\$280 million** in supplemental appropriations (2021-2022) for an Educator Fellowship Public and Private Provider fund to improve recruitment efforts for public and private educator prep programs.

# Budget continued

## **\$250 million for School wellness and mental health including:**

- \$150 million in per pupil payments to improve mental health— this is meant to be flexible spending for the district and can be used for hiring support staff, implementing screening tools, providing consultations with behavioral health clinicians, and any other mental health service or product.
- \$50 million for the tools for teachers to support wellness (“TRAILS”) program
- \$25 million to increase existing ISD grants (now up to \$62.8 million)
- \$25 million increase for school-based health centers, bringing the total to \$33 million.

# Budget continued

## **More than \$200 million for school safety funding:**

- \$168 million for safety needs – this is meant to be flexible spending for the district
- \$25 million for SRO's
- \$15 million to fund cross system intervention supports
- The budget also establishes a School Safety and Mental Health Commission.

# Retirement- PA 184 (HB 4375)

- Streamlines the requirements for hiring back retired employees.
- **Requires a 9 month sitout period.**
- However, once that 9 month time period has elapsed, all current restrictions go away. No more critical shortage list.
- The bill removes a requirement that school employers pay into the retirement system a portion of rehired retirees' wages to support retiree health care benefits and pensions, and would require school employers to report the rehiring of retirees to ORS.

# PA 184 Continued

- **If you stay away for 9 months, you then can return to work with zero restrictions.** ("The retiree may return to work at a public school reporting unit in any position, either directly or indirectly, with no earnings limit and no effect on their pension or insurance premium subsidy as long as they have a bona fide termination and they've been retired at least nine consecutive months.")
- **If you return before the 9 months, you have to pay the insurance premium and you temporarily forfeit your pension.** (" If you return to work, either directly or indirectly, before you've been retired nine consecutive months you will temporarily forfeit your pension and insurance premium subsidy. This means if you're receiving an insurance premium subsidy, you will have to pay the entire insurance premium until you end your employment at the reporting unit.")

# PA 184 continued

- **Also, your 9 months does not start until you stop working as a retiree.**

("Also, if you return to work before you've been retired nine consecutive months, the nine consecutive months counter will start over when you terminate your employment as a retiree. It will not resume from your retirement effective date

- **If you are currently working as a retiree, you are "grandfathered in".**

("Retirees who are working at a Michigan public school reporting unit when PA 184 of 2022 went into effect will be able to continue working, will have no earnings limit, and any suspended pension or insurance premium subsidy will automatically resume.")



**Questions?**