

The House K-12 Education Budget Committee has recommended several major pieces of legislation, including the education funding bill, HB 2512, which also contains several policy provisions, including implementation of Math Nation, virtual schools and more. HB 2512 will next be considered by the full House, although when that will occur will be up to House leadership. Education leaders are encouraged to become familiar with the details of the bill and share any concerns they have with their legislators.

**Recommended HB 2512, containing appropriations for education funding policy provisions on**

***Funding***

Contains Governor's recommendations for funding, with the following differences:

\$100,000 for statewide dyslexia coordinator in KSDE funded by fees for all school districts based on FTE enrollment.

Provides \$100,000 for Communities in Schools grant in KSDE budget but provides no additional funding.

Adds \$5 million to restore school safety and security grants; same purposes as previous year except allows use for new school resource officer positions, requires dollar for dollar district match.

Removes \$1.5 million recommended by the Governor for transportation to career technical education programs.

Specifies that the first priority for the \$3 million increase in school mental health intervention team funding is to expand the program to districts that have not previously participated.

Directs that up to \$4 million be provided for a statewide implementation of the Math Nation program for supplemental math services for grades 7-12. Any district with more than 50 percent of students scoring in Levels 1 and 2 on the 2019 state math assessment must participate in the program and contribute to the cost based on their grades 7-12 FTE enrollment. (It is estimated that almost all districts will be required to participate, and the cost would be equal to about \$10 per pupil for all students, or about \$17 per 7-12 student.)

***Policy Provisions:***

*Virtual school graduation rate.* Add language that for purposes of accreditation, the State Board of Education is to calculate a four-year graduation rate that separates virtual school enrollment from non-virtual enrollment.

*Prohibiting virtual school incentives.* Add language prohibiting virtual schools from providing financial incentives for enrollment.

*Virtual school funding for drop-outs.* Add provision that amends virtual school funding to provide that certain students who are 19 years old or younger who have dropped out of school and enrolled in a virtual school part-time may be funded at a rate of \$709 per credit hour passes. (This is the funding model for students over 19 years of age, and provides higher funding than part-time enrollment for students under 19.)

*School budget needs assessment.* Add provisions of SB 362 concerning school district needs assessments as passed by the Senate but specify that proficiency on state assessments is above level 2 (sometimes referred to as college ready) rather than level 1 (sometimes referred to as grade level).

*KSHSAA mandatory reporters.* Add provision that that Kansas State High School Activities Association officers and staff are mandatory child abuse and neglect reports, but does NOT require allowing home school and private school students to participate in activities under direction of KSHSAA.

*Required enrollment of part-time students.* Add provision requiring school districts to admit part-time students, currently not required but allowed by most districts.

*Academic Achievement statement.* Add provision from HB 2690 that is a legislative statement on education and academic achievement.

*Districts policies and programs for literacy.* Add provision from HB 2690 called the Every Child Can Read Act, which directs school boards to measure student achievement, provide targeted interventions to promote student literacy, especially for students at or below third grade identified with a literacy deficit, provide communication with parents and make reports to the State Board.

*Academic achievement reports.* Add a provision from HB 2690 specifying an annual report from the State Department of Education to report on academic achievement, including state assessment results and other measures.

(It does NOT include provisions of HB 2690 concerning high density at-risk weighting and legislative awards for merit pay.)

*Educational opportunities outside the classroom.* Add a provision from Substitute HB 2615 allowing districts to adopt policies to allow students to earn course credit in grades 6 through 12 in educational opportunities that occur primarily outside of the classroom but managed and directed by a licensed teacher, such as work-based, apprenticeships, internships, industry certification or community programs. It also allowed the State Board of Education to approve such programs to be applicable across multiple districts. (Such district programs are currently allowed; this would be a specific legislative recognition.)

*Private school scholarships age of eligibility.* Add an amendment to the Tax Credit for Low Income Student Scholarship program for private schools that allows students to receive a scholarship if first applying at age 7 or under.