ND Children’s Cabinet Meeting

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

67th Legislative Assembly

Summary of Bills with an Impact on Students and Families
One of the sections of this bill calls for schools receiving ESSER funds to submit two narrative summary reports to NDDPI on learning loss and how ESSER funds have been used to assist in learning recovery

- First report due December 1, 2021
- Second report due June 1, 2022

- Superintendent of Public Instruction will give an aggregate report to the 2023 Legislative Assembly

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on May 10
One of the sections of this bill will require elementary schools to employ a school counselor starting with the 2022-2023 school year.

- Ratio of 1 full-time school counselor for every 300 students
  - Can be prorated if school has under 300 students

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on May 10
SB 2311 - Behavioral Health Resources

- Calls for behavioral health resources to be provided for schools
  - Virtual mental health training
  - Virtual suicide prevention training
  - Simulated training with interactive role-playing and feedback

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on April 23
Calls for legislative management to study state and federal laws regarding developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorder

- Study during 2021-2022 Interim
  - Pathways for those that have a disorder but do not meet existing criteria for program eligibility
  - Funding recommendations
  - What other states are doing

- Make any suggestions on new laws to the 2023 Legislative Assembly

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on April 30
HB 1478 – “Learn Everywhere” Bill

- Allows school districts to partner with a sponsoring entity (such as a business, community organization, etc.) to allow students to earn course credit outside the walls of a school building

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on April 20

- Administrative Rules are currently being written for this program; first draft of rules expected to be completed by July 30
SB 2196-Learning Continuum

- Calls for the State Board of Public Education to establish a learning continuum to allow a district-approved masters framework to replace instructional time requirements, upon the recommendation of the K-12 Education Coordination Council

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on March 22
HB 1015-
Area CTE Centers

- Allocates $70 Million of CARES dollars to be used in construction of area Career and Technical Education centers
  - Would require a dollar-for-dollar school/community match
- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on May 10
HB 1388 - Virtual Schools

- Several sections of this bill relate to the establishment of virtual schools for districts that choose to open one

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on April 30

- Administrative Rules are currently being written for virtual schools; first draft of rules expected to be completed by July 30
HB 1232 - Temporary Distance Learning

- Allows schools to temporarily use distance learning during “weather or other conditions”
  - Storm day, community emergency, facility issue, etc.

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on April 22

- Administrative Rules are currently being written for this bill; first draft of rules expected to be completed by July 30
This bill would allow schools to award high school credit required for graduation to students that are able to pass the GED exam in a particular content area.

Bill signed by Governor Burgum on March 23.
SB 2141 - Assessment

- Does several things relate to assessment
  - Removes the requirement that all junior must take the ACT or WorkKeys
  - State will no longer pay for juniors ACT or WorkKeys (unless for accountability)
  - Removes language regarding interim assessments
  - Calls for NDDPI to conduct a study on interim assessments during the 2021-2022 interim, and report to any findings and/or potential legislation for the 2023 legislative session
  - Allows an SAT score of 1180 or higher to be used in lieu of the ACT testing requirement for either the Academic or CTE Scholarship

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on March 29
SB 2289 - State Scholarship and Choice Ready

- Redefines the requirements for the state scholarship program and aligns the requirements to Choice Ready
  - Aligns to Choice Ready, but has high expectations of Choice Ready elements
  - 3-year overlap (classes of 2022-2024), in which students can use either the old or new requirements
    - Starting with the Class of 2025, only the new requirements can be used

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on April 20
SB 2304 - Instruction on Tribal History

- Requires instruction on tribal history and on the federally recognized Indian tribes in the state to be included in US History and North Dakota Studies courses

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on April 23
- Removes the law calling for the state superintendent to set aside two days in October for the school administrator conference
  - Schools can still choose to have the days off, this is now a local decision

- Bill signed by Governor Burgum on March 25
HCR 3009-Compulsory Attendance

- Calls for a legislative study of our compulsory attendance laws, including comparisons to the compulsory attendance laws in other states
  - Make a recommendation on any new laws to the 2023 Legislative Assembly
- Filed with Secretary of State on March 12
Questions

Kirsten Baesler
State Superintendent
kbaesler@nd.gov
701-328-4570