

## **Summary of the HF3388 - Governor's K-12 Education Funding Bill**

March, 2010

### **General Funding Provisions:**

- Education funding will remain flat.
- Changes the school aid payment schedule from 90% in the current year and 10% the year after to a 73%/27% payment schedule.
- Formulates the property tax recognition shift which requires school districts to count a portion of their property taxes earlier than they used to.
- Provides small appropriations to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and Board of Teaching to implement the policy provisions.
- Eliminates extended time revenue for districts and charter schools that no longer offer extended time programs in the current year.
- Three – six percent cuts to the operating budgets to the MDE, Board of Teaching and other government education agencies.

### **General Policy Provisions:**

- Requires updating the English language learners' proficiency standards which would raise English proficiency requirements and would lead to a redesign of the current assessment that determines if a student is deemed proficient
- Establishes a minimum level of instructional hours in the classroom per school year, defined by hours rather than days to provide flexibility. Allows a monetary penalty for districts that do not comply with the new minimum.
- Requires school districts to report the negotiated terms of teacher contracts to the MDE for posting on their website. The information must include salary, benefits, retirement and total package costs.

### **Policy Provisions Regarding Teacher and Principal Effectiveness:**

- Requires the Board of Teaching to review new K-12 standards within a year after they are implemented and align teacher preparation standards to the new K-12 standards.
- Requires teacher candidates to pass a basic skills test prior to entering a teaching college. Teacher candidates must pass an exam that demonstrates mastery of pedagogical knowledge prior to obtaining their initial license which removes the provisional license given to some who are unable to pass this test. Prekindergarten and elementary teaching candidates must pass a math content exam to obtain licensure.

- The Board of Teaching must require online pedagogy and at least one online course to be completed by teacher candidates prior to licensure
- The Board of School Administrators shall incorporate national standards for effective school leadership into the licensing standards for principals.
- The Board of Teaching and the MDE will share data including student achievement factors to monitor the effectiveness of teachers and principals preparation programs.
- Requires school districts to develop a teacher peer review process to strengthen the initial three-year probationary period for new teachers prior to tenure. The framework would require trained observers to serve as mentors, continuing professional learning, a portfolio system and other criteria.
- Establishes a tenure renewal system. Teacher tenure would be renewed every five years and re-employment would be based on the academic achievement growth of students and other measures.
- Allows the MDE to establish a state data collection and analysis system for the data collected on student results from the Plan, Explore and ACT tests.