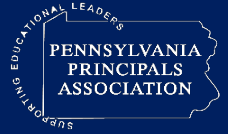


Pennsylvania Principals Association Legislative Update

Week of 11/6/2023



Legislative Update:

- **Pennsylvania's state budget is still unfinished nearly four months past the state's fiscal deadline.**
 - The divided legislature is still seeking a compromise that would allow it to authorize up to \$1.1 billion in additional spending via code bills.
- **The general election on November 7 is quickly approaching. On the ballot are critical appellate court races and county-level and municipal positions.**
 - Democratic Superior Court Judge Daniel McCaffery and Republican Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas Judge Carolyn Carluccio are running for an opening on the state Supreme Court after the death of Democratic Justice Max Baer.
 - The victor of the race will serve as the tiebreaker for the court, which has deadlocked on high-profile election cases since Baer died last fall.
- **The state House approved four of Pennsylvania's universities' annual state subsidies, setting a condition that the schools freeze tuition next year.**
 - The appropriation of about \$643 million passed the House (Y: 145, N: 57) and was sent to the Senate, which is due back in session on 11/13.
 - House Republicans have halted the appropriation from receiving a supermajority to pass out of the House. Critics stated the proposed 7% increase in light of rising tuition costs needs to accompany more transparency standards.
- **During remarks at the Pennsylvania Press Club this week, state House Majority Leader Matt Bradford told the audience his caucus is not completely closed on the idea of school vouchers.**
 - Bradford echoed the governor saying there is no budget impasse. In August, Shapiro did sign a \$45.5 billion budget, but some priorities still remain unfunded.
 - Bradford stated that he still supports moving the 2024 primary date from April 23 to April 16, but Republicans argued the time to change the primary date has passed and that it will not receive further consideration in the Senate.
 - Gov. Josh Shapiro is the speaker at the next Press Club luncheon on 11/20.



Legislation:

- **House Bill 663 (Rep. McNeill, D)** – Provides that if it is found that the parents or guardian of a child do not reside in the school district, the child may not be removed from the school until all possible appeals have been exhausted or, if no appeal is filed, the last date upon which the final appeal could have been filed pursuant to the appropriate grievance policy of the school district.
 - **Current Status:** Second Consideration (10/31/23), rereferred to the House Appropriations Committee.
- **House Bill 842 (Rep. Kenyatta, D)** - Provides that a contract executed for a state grant or loan between an awarding agency must include language to address the misuse of monies should recipients not meet program guidelines and metrics.
 - **Current Status:** Second Consideration (10/31/23), rereferred to the House Appropriations Committee.
- **House Bill 1478 (Rep. Cephas, D)** – Provides that a school district or joint school board that has not instituted a program of dental hygiene services may use a public health dental hygiene practitioner to satisfy the requirements.
 - **Current Status:** Final Passage in the House (Y: 202, N: 0) (10/30/23), received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Education Committee (10/31/23).