



UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FY 2016 INTENT LANGUAGE

PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
STAFF: BEN LEISHMAN & JILL CURRY

ISSUE BRIEF

SUMMARY

During the 2015 General Session in H.B. 2, "Public Education Budget Amendments," the Legislature approved intent language for certain programs within the minimum school program (MSP). This language included funding for charter schools, teacher supplies, class size reduction, the flexible allocation weighted pupil unit (WPU), pupil transportation, and recommendations for concurrent enrollment. Intent language for programs in the Utah State Office of Education line item was also approved including language about SAGE question leasing and revenue bond savings.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The following intent language and un-codified statutory language was approved for certain MSP programs including language the Teacher Supplies & Materials and Flexible allocation WPU, pupil transportation, and joint concurrent enrollment recommendations from the State Board of Education and the State Board of Regents:

Teacher Supplies & Materials

(1) As used in this section, "classroom teacher" or "teacher" means permanent teacher positions filled by one teacher or two or more job-sharing teachers:

- (a) who are licensed personnel;*
- (b) who are paid on the teacher's salary schedule;*
- (c) who are hired for an entire contract period; and*
- (d) whose primary function is to provide instructional or a combination of instructional and counseling services to students in public schools.*

(2) (a) The State Board of Education shall distribute money appropriated for Teacher Supplies and Materials to classroom teachers in school districts, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, and charter schools on the basis of the number of classroom teachers in each school as compared to the total number of classroom teachers.

(b) Teachers shall receive up to the following amounts:

- (i) a teacher on salary schedule steps one through three teaching in grades kindergarten through 6 or preschool handicapped: \$250;*
- (ii) a teacher on salary schedule steps one through three teaching in grades 7 through 12: \$200;*
- (iii) a teacher on salary schedule step four or higher teaching in grades kindergarten through 6 or preschool handicapped: \$175; and*
- (iv) a teacher on salary schedule step four or higher teaching in grades 7 through 12: \$150.*

(c) If the appropriation is not sufficient to provide to each teacher the full amount allowed under Subsection (2)(b), teachers on salary schedule steps one through three shall receive the full amount allowed with the remaining money apportioned to all other teachers.

(3) Teachers shall spend money appropriated for classroom supplies and materials for school supplies, materials, or field trips under rules adopted by the State Board of Education. (H.B. 2, Section 2)

Flexible Allocation

The Legislature intends that the appropriation for the Flexible Allocation - WPU Distribution program be distributed to school districts and charter schools on the basis of the number of weighted pupil units in a school district or charter school compared to the total number of weighted pupil units and that the State Board of Education provide for the reporting of school district and charter school expenditures of the program money. (H.B. 2, Item 2)

The following intent language was approved for programs in the Utah State Office of Education line item including language about SAGE question licensing and revenue bond savings:

Revenue from SAGE Licensing

The Legislature intends that the Utah State Board of Education use any nonlapsing balances generated from the licensing of Student Assessment of Growth and Excellence (SAGE) questions to other states to develop additional assessment questions and provide professional learning for Utah educators. (H.B. 2, Item 4)

The Legislature intends that the Utah State Board of Education use the revenue bond savings of \$264,700 from the Education Fund to support a portion of their Risk Mitigation Plan. (H.B. 2, Item 4)

RECOMMENDATIONS

If the Legislature continues funding these programs in FY 2017, they may wish to consider including intent language for the programs in the final education appropriations bill.