

Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____ F. _____

Date: March 19, 2008

Topic: Report on the Status of 2008 General Assembly Actions

Presenter: Mr. Kent C. Dickey, Assistant Superintendent for Finance
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Origin:

Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

Board review required by
 State or federal law or regulation
 Board of Education regulation
 Other: Board of Education By-laws

Action requested at this meeting

Action requested at future meeting:

Previous Review/Action:

No previous board review/action

Previous review/action
date: February 21, 2008
action: Informational report on the status of state budget and legislative actions affecting public education.

Background Information: The Department of Education tracked all bills, resolutions, and appropriation proposals affecting K-12 education that were introduced in the 2008 Session of the General Assembly. Legislation that was tracked included the following issues: 1) teacher licensure; 2) No Child Left Behind; 3) career and technical education; 3) nutrition/physical activity; 4) home schooling; 5) special education; and 6) textbook purchasing.

Budget actions for the 2008-2010 biennium were also tracked beginning with the Governor's introduced budget (HB/SB 30) and Executive Amendments, followed by the House and Senate budget actions, and finally the Conference Committee budget report, which was approved by both chambers of the General Assembly on March 13, 2008. Major budget highlights from the 2008 Session include: 1) funding for SOQ rebenchmarking; 2) funding for a 2% teacher salary increase in FY10; 3) additional funding for the Virginia Preschool Initiative; 4) changes to Lottery funding; and 5) funding increases/decreases to various programs.

Summary of Major Elements: This report will provide Board members with a summary of the final 2008-2010 budget actions affecting public education adopted by the 2008 General Assembly. The status of key education bills also will be summarized.

Superintendent's Recommendation: The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education accept the informational report.

Impact on Resources: The General Assembly approved the conference budget report on March 13, 2008. At this point, the General Assembly-approved budget will be sent to the Governor for review. The Governor may propose amendments or vetoes to be considered at the April 23, 2008, veto session.

Regarding legislation, most legislation pertaining to education has been acted upon by the Governor and communicated to the General Assembly.

Timetable for Further Review/Action: None.