FINANCE-LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Maine South High School
Frost Administration Center Board Room
1131 South Dee Road, Park Ridge
Friday, November 9, 2012
1:30p.m. - 3:00p.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Approval of Minutes
4. New Business
5. Legislation Update/Election Analysis
6. Program: Classrooms First Commission final report - Consolidation, Reorganization, and District Efficiency
   Special Guest: Dr. Lynne Haefele, Senior Policy Director for Education, Office of Lt. Governor Sheila Simon

The General Assembly considered several bills targeting district consolidation during the 2011 Spring Legislative Session. Advocacy organizations, educators, and board members educated legislators on district efficiency practices, shared services, and costs associated with a statewide school consolidation program. The only consolidation-related bill that passed that year, HB 1216, created the School District Realignment and Consolidation Commission (renamed the Classrooms First Commission). For a full year, Lt. Governor Sheila Simon led education stakeholders in a series of conversations culminating in their final report released in July 2012. The Commission made several recommendations including:
   o increase district efficiency and promote shared services
   o revise limitations on third-party contracting
   o support reorganization of schools and districts
   o revise the state's consolidation incentive programs
   o allow non-contiguous reorganizations
   o pilot a reorganization school construction program
7. Adjourn

Next Meetings

- Tuesday, November 13, 2012, 6:00-7:30pm – School Finance Series. The Merits of a Graduated vs. Flat Income Tax System with Special Guests Ralph Martire (Center for Tax and Budget Accountability) and Tom Johnson (Taxpayers’ Federation of Illinois).

- Friday, December 7, 2012, 1:30-3:00pm – Finance Legislation Meeting. Veto Session Wrap Up and Spring Session Preview presented by ED-RED Staff