ED-RED Finance – Legislation Meeting

Maine South High School – Board Room
1131 South Dee Road, Park Ridge

Friday, February 13, 2015
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA
1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Approval of Minutes
4. New Business
5. Program: Spring Legislative Update and P-20 Council Initiatives

Special Guests: Joyce Karon, Member, Illinois P-20 Council
Debra Strauss, Vice President for Membership, National PTA

Join ED-RED staff to learn the latest on legislation introduced under the 99th General Assembly and help us develop our advocacy strategy for the Spring Legislative Session.

We also welcome Joyce and Debra to provide a detailed discussion on the P-20 Council’s 2015 legislative agenda. Members are encouraged to bring their questions.

No RSVP is necessary to attend this event.

6. Adjourn

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Next Meetings:

- Illinois Municipal Primary Elections, Tuesday, February, 24, 2015
- Illinois State Budget Address, Wednesday, February 18, 2015
- ED-RED Finance Legislation Meeting, Friday, March 6, 2015, Maine South High School
- Illinois Municipal General Elections, Tuesday, April 7, 2015
- ED-RED Finance Legislation Meeting, Friday, April 17, 2015, Maine South High School
- ED-RED Finance Legislation Meeting, Friday, June 5, 2015, Maine South High School
DEBRA STRAUSS is Vice President for Membership for National PTA. She was also appointed as a member to the State of Illinois Governor's P-20 Council in December 2009 and Co-Chair of the Family, Youth and Community Engagement Committee. Debra graduated from Michigan State University (1980) with a Bachelor's degree in Child Development and Education and worked for the Girl Scouts of America Illinois Crossroads Council, and for the Dean of Education at the National-Louis University.

She has previously served on the National PTA Board of Directors, was the National PTA Bylaws and Policy Committee Chair, Illinois PTA President and President-elect, member of National PTA training team as a facilitator, workshop presenter and Train-the-Trainer, Illinois PTA Legislation Chair, Illinois PTA Leadership Development Chair and Plum Grove Jr. High PTSA Local Unit President.

In addition to her many roles with PTA, she has also taken part in her community in positions such as member, board secretary and board president for Township High School District 211 Board of Education, chairman of Building Bridges Fundraising campaign for the Bridge Youth and Family Services and representative for Township High School District 211 Board of Education on the ED-RED (Educational Research Development Organization, the lobbying group of Chicago area suburban school). She was also elected as trustee of the Educational Foundation of Community Consolidated School District 15 and served as Foundation Chairman.

Debra's awards and honors include those such as the "Those Who Excel" Award, Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois PTA Honorary Life Membership presented by Northwest Suburban Council PTA/PTS. She is married to Michael and has two grown children and three grandsons.

JOYCE KARON is a member of the P-20 Council and former Board member of Illinois State Board of Education (2003-2009).

After earning a BA at the University of Iowa and an MA at National Louis University Joyce's career in Education began as Coordinator of Library Media Services, Barrington Community Unit School District 220 until 2001. She was an Affiliate Professor at Northern Illinois University from 1999-2002.

She joined ISBE in 2003 and became the Liaison to the Illinois Board of Higher Education in 2006. She also held positions as Literacy Committee member, Illinois State Library (2006-2009) and has affiliations with:

- Association for Supervision, Curriculum and Development
- American Library Association
- American Association of School Librarians
- Illinois Library Association
- Illinois School Library Association

She is also currently an Independent Consultant for Illinois and Colorado School and Public Libraries. She received the ED-RED Vision in Education Award in 2009 and the Polestar Award for Outstanding Contribution to Illinois School Libraries.

Joyce resides in Barrington with her husband. They have two grown children and two grandchildren.
MINUTES
ED-RED Finance-Legislation Meeting
Friday January 9, 2015
1:30p.m. – 3:00p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 1:36p.m.


A motion was made and seconded to adopt the minutes of the ED-RED Finance-Legislation meeting of December 5th 2014. The minutes were unanimously approved.

New Business
Caryn reported that Springfield was quite quiet with no bills being filed yet for the new spring session.

State Comptroller
The unexpected death of State Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka in December caused some issue as to how she should be replaced. Governor Quinn appointed Jerry Stermer but his term ends once the Governor elect Rauner is sworn in on January 12th 2015. Rauner has appointed Leslie Monger but legislation was pushed through on Thursday January 8th by Senate President Cullerton and Speak Madigan which limits Rauner’s appointment to two years rather than four. There will be an election for Comptroller in November 2016.

Taxes
Since the income tax rates of 2014 were not extended there is an immediate $2 billion hole in the FY15 budget and therefore the budget is unconstitutional. We are waiting to see how Rauner handles this after he is sworn in on January 12th.

Pensions
Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan is urging the Supreme Court to move forward quickly with a decision on the pension bill which was declared unconstitutional by Judge Belz at the Circuit court level in November. She is pushing for both sides to file briefs by January 16. This would mean oral arguments could be as early as March with the goal to have a ruling before the FY16 budget is created in April/May.

Appointments
It is likely that governor elect Rauner will make several new appointments when he comes into office on January 12, 2015. It is possible that Superintendent of Education Christopher Koch may be one of the offices replaced by those appointments.

Vision 20/20
Brent Clark, Executive Director, IASA and Michael Jacoby, Executive Director, IASBO presented an explanation of the new joint initiative: Vision 20/20.
Brent explained that Vision 20/20 came out of the need for a long term vision for education in Illinois. It is a joint effort by various education groups and was put together by people from all regions of Illinois so that all aspects of education in Illinois were represented. The group identified four pillars of education which are essential in order to attain the vision which were explained further by Michael: Highly Effective Educators, 21st Century Learning, Shared Accountability and Equitable and Adequate Funding.

Highly Effective Educators – This ideal was pushed up to be the first priority of Vision 20/20. Brent identified the current situation in teacher certification in Illinois as one of the problems. The restrictive standards of Illinois and lack of reciprocity with other states means that it is difficult to attract out-of-state teachers. There needs to be great reciprocity in licensing. Also, there needs to be increased recruitment of minority teachers with a possibility of loan forgiveness to encourage minorities to pursue an education career. Professional development needs to be more significant and targeted.

21st Century learning – Statistics such as the fact that only 26% of Illinois schools have sufficient broadband for their students to take the new PARCC tests electronically; and that as much as 42% of time in school is spent assessing students give rise to the need to develop the technology in schools and also to create a better more balanced assessment system. Partnerships with tech companies have been proposed to bring schools up to speed with technology.

Share accountability – One proposal is to have current school administrators represented at the Illinois State Board level in order to expand the educators’ role in state governance. Any future accountability system of schools would differentiate between schools to create a better understanding of what the schools are doing well and what needs improving. Mandates are currently strangling the operation of schools in Illinois and will need re-structuring. While maintaining federally funded mandates concerned with the civil rights and safety of students, others could be discretionary.

Equitable and Adequate Funding – proposals include a modernization of the tax code to increase funding. Incoming governor Rauner has voiced interest in stabilizing education funding which currently has a $2 billion shortfall which will likely rise to $5 billion in the future. An evidence based approach to funding is also needed. The current foundation level is applied to all students statewide. However, there is a need to assess what amount of dollars is really needed to educate a child in difference regions of the state. By assessing the true cost of education per pupil, then looking at local revenue, one can obtain a better idea of the dollars needed from the state. High cost special education would be assessed separately. The main aim of this approach is to assess the true cost of education and then finance it rather than a redistribution of current funding.

Brent and Michael explained that there has already been support for Vision 20/20 from education groups such as PTA and individuals such as Ralph Martire (Executive Director CTBA), Charlie Rose (Former General Counsel US Dept of Ed) and Elliot Regenstein (Sr. VP, Ounce of Prevention). Legislators are positive about the idea. Between four and eight proposals are likely to be made this year to begin implementing the vision. The new governor Rauner is likely to be a significant part in the success of the Vision and we await his plans for the state once he is sworn in.

Meeting adjourned at 3:06pm
Respectfully submitted by Mary Anne Brown
ED-RED Finance Legislation Meeting

February 13, 2015

Caryn Valadez, ED-RED

Welcome/Introductions

99th GA

- Education Committees
  - House - Appropriations: Elementary & Secondary
  - House - Elementary & Secondary: Licensing Oversight
  - House - Elementary & Secondary: School Curriculum and Policies
  - Senate - Appropriations: II
  - Senate: Education
- State of the State
- 2015 Budget Address – February 18
State Board of Education

- ISBE Appointments
  - Rev. James Meeks (Board Chair)
  - Lula Ford
  - Craig Lindvahl
  - Roberta Parks
  - Eligio Pimentel
- State Superintendent
- ISBE FY16 Budget Recommendations
  - $729.0 M increase over FY15 appropriations
  - $566.4 M increase to fund ESEA at $4,119
  - $57 M increase to MCAT
  - $50 M increase to Early Childhood Education
  - $1 M increase to assessments - PARCC

Education Funding Reform (SB 1)
Sen. Andrew Manar/Rep. Will Davis

- Reintroduction of SB 16 w/revisions
- Weight changes
  - ELL
  - Low Income
  - Special Education
- Regional Cost Adjustment
- Hold Harmless
- ISBE analysis in upcoming weeks

Other Legislation

- Vision 20/20 Education Bill – Sen. Barickman
- SB 100 (Lightford) – Student Discipline
- SB 26 (Althoff) – Local zoning ordinances
- HB 117 (Flowers) – Summer school classes
- HB 216 (Hoffman) – Violent felony conviction suspend/expel
- HB 255 (Sosnowski) – Transportation distance
- HB 425 (Morrison) – Instructional mandates
Summary of the 2015 Spring Legislative Session
2/12/15

Education-related bills of the 99th General Assembly are broken down into the following categories:
   Charters - Student Discipline - Curriculum/Assessment - Property Taxes/Funding/Budget
   District Operations - Pensions

Charters

HB 397 (Welch) – Removes the provision which allows the Charter School Commission to reverse a local school board’s decision to deny, revoke or not to renew a charter. ED-RED supports this legislation.

Taxes/Funding/Budget

HB 136 (Sandack) Provides that if (i) the total equalized assessed value of all taxable property in the taxing district for the current levy year is less than the total equalized assessed value of all taxable property in the taxing district for the previous levy year, or (ii) the median equalized assessed value of all taxable property in the taxing district for the current levy year and the 2 levy years immediately preceding the current levy year is less than the median equalized assessed value of all taxable property in the taxing district for the 3 levy years immediately preceding that 3-year period, then the extension limitation is (a) 0% or (b) the rate of increase approved by voters (instead of the lesser of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index during the 12-month calendar year preceding the levy year or the rate of increase approved by the voters).

HB 137 (Sandack) - Provides that, if the total equalized assessed value of all taxable property in the taxing district for the current levy year (excluding new property, recovered tax increment value, and property that is annexed to or disconnected from the taxing district in the current levy year) is less than the total equalized assessed value of all taxable property in the taxing district for the previous levy year, then the extension limitation is (a) 0% or (b) the rate of increase approved by voters (instead of the lesser of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index during the 12-month calendar year preceding the levy year or (b) the rate of increase approved by voters). Provides that a referendum to increase the extension limitation may not be conducted at a general primary or a consolidated primary election. Provides that certain supplemental information must be provided on the referendum ballot.

SB 1 (Manar) – Creates the School Funding Reform Act of 2015.
Curriculum & Assessments

**HB 117 (Flowers)** - Requires that a school board may not charge for providing courses during that period of the calendar year not embraced within the regular school term in subject matters normally embraced in the program of the schools during the regular school term.

**HB 306 (Guzzardi)** - Provides that a student’s parent or guardian may request in writing to have their student excused from a particular State assessment. Requires ISBE, by rule, to determine the form request to ensure that no student, teacher, school or school district is negatively impacted through grades or evaluation due to the student being excuse. Requires school districts to offer supervised instruction or enrichment opportunities to those excused students during the time of the State assessment is being administered.

**HB 425 (Morrison)** - States that a school district may in the event the state delays payment by one cycle to discontinue instructional mandates by publically adopting a board resolution.

**SB 114 (McConnaughay)** - Permits a school board to excuse pupils in grades 9 through 12 from engaging in physical education courses if those pupils request to be excused and are enrolled in 2 or more Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

Operations

**HB 115 (Flowers)** - Urges, under a school board's policies and rules concerning infectious disease, school boards to allow students to wash their hands with a soap or detergent if they wish to do so.

**HB 152 (Willis)** - Require each school building to be equipped with carbon monoxide alarms. State Fire Marshall would determine 1) the number and placement of the alarms; 2) inspection requirements; 3) exemption if not close to a source of carbon monoxide; and 4) protocol to follow if alarm activated.

**HB 216 (Hoffman)** - Allows a school board or designated school official to suspend a student not more than 10 days and expel a student not exceeding 2 years on a case-by-case basis, if 1. The student has been conviction of a violent felony and II) it is determined by the board or school policy that the student’s continued presence in school would have a substantial detrimental effect on the general welfare of the school.

**HB 255 (Sosnowski)** - Provides that a school board shall provide free transportation for pupils residing at a distance of 2 miles (instead of one and one-half miles) or more from school.

**SB 36 (Althoff)** - Requires a school district and their boards to comply with any valid local government zoning ordinance or resolution that applies where the pertinent part of the school district is located.
P20 Standing Committees

Data, Assessment and Accountability
Dea Meyer (dmeyer@civiccom.org)
Robin Steans (rsteans@advanceillinois.org)

Targets:
**PARCC implementation**
- Ensuring continued outreach and feedback to ISBE to assure smooth and effective implementation of the PARCC this coming spring
- Highlight key concerns to ISBE to assure that they are addressed
- Spur ongoing discussion among key stakeholders
- Follow-up on survey from last year
- Address areas where there is concern such as transition from Workkeys to PARCC to provide students/employers measurement of job readiness and certifications.
- Opportunities for Improved Data for Instruction – possible conference

**Data Privacy**
- Track status and encourage dialogue among stakeholders
- Legislative language review
- Weigh-in where appropriate

**Longitudinal Data System**
- Update on implementation
- Weigh-in as needed.

**School Report Card**
- Continue to monitor build-out -- review and make recommendations as necessary.

Family, Youth & Community Engagement
Deb Strauss (ds4kids@comcast.net)
Joyce Karon (jkar0n2@aol.com)

Targets:
- Provide outreach to promote the P20 goals, projects, and activities.
- Provide connections between P20 committees and various community groups

Finance and Governing
Laurel Prussing (llprussing@city.urbana.il.us)

Targets:
- Monitoring the progress of education funding throughout the legislative session (includes all education levels.)
Implementation Review Committee
Roger Eddy (reddy@iasb.com)
Jane Russel (jrussel@ift-aft.org)

Targets:
Continue to analyze the results of our recent survey and provide an Executive Summary and final report to the full P-20 Council for consideration.
Complete focus groups to add to the survey results related to how all stakeholders view the challenges and successes related to the implementation of numerous reform initiatives that have been implemented during the past several years.
Develop additional surveys to continue to measure the challenges of implementation as well as to identify what has been successful in order to replicate best practice related to implementation.

School, College, & Career Readiness*
John Rico (johnrico@ricenterprises.com)

Targets:
Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Legislation (currently being drafted)
College and career readiness committee to concentrate on:
1. Fostering ongoing engagement between K-12, postsecondary institutions, education and business communities, and education and social service agencies and ensure the proper governance structures and funding strategies to support collaboration.
2. Develop a funding strategy to implement career education and specialization through the Illinois Pathways program.
3. Continue to develop a governance structure to support Illinois Pathways' ongoing development and implementation.
4. Provide support for networks of postsecondary and workforce readiness collaboration at the local, regional, and state levels.

Teacher and Leader Effectiveness**
Erika Hunt (elhunt@ilstu.edu)
Audrey Soglin (audrey.soglin@jeanea.org)

Targets:
School funding reform (creating a more equitable funding system that also does not penalize any district.)
Aligning birth to K-12 systems (especially in the early grades K-2) so that all of the extra supports of early childhood are not lost or fade out.
Helping districts to make sense of the different initiatives that are occurring right now (RTI, Illinois Learning Standards, PARCC, KIDS, etc.) so that this work can be coordinated in its implementation and support.

*Postsecondary Workforce Readiness Joint Working Group (John Rico / Dea Meyer)
**Diverse Educator Pipeline Working Group (Erika Hunt)