



Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials

Legislative Action Alert

Taking care of the business of schools...everyday

Legislative Report Monday, January 23, 2012

- **Budget Address Nearing.**—The Legislature is scheduled to be in session three days this week. At the conclusion of session, both chambers will recess until February 6. On Tuesday, February 7, the Governor will propose his 2012-13 budget. Once again, this week's focus is on the negotiations on the Marcellus Shale legislation. [CLICK HERE](#) for session and committee schedule information.
- **Streaming Live Video of Budget Hearings Available.**—Watch the House and Senate Appropriations Committee members question the Department of Education and the Pennsylvania School Employees Retirement System about Governor Corbett's proposed budget. [CLICK HERE](#) for the Senate Appropriations Committee 2012 Budget Hearing Schedule. For the House Appropriations Committee 2012 Budget Hearing Schedule, [CLICK HERE](#).
- **PASBO to Present Testimony on Fiscally Distressed School Districts.**—On Tuesday, the Senate Education Committee will hold a public Hearing on fiscally distressed school districts. The hearing begins at 10:00 a.m., with PASBO scheduled to testify at 12:45. The committee will also hear testimony from the Department of Education, the Education Law Center, the Pennsylvania State Education Association, and the Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools. [CLICK HERE](#) to watch live committee activity.
- **Cyber Charter School Administrators to Focus on Funding.**—The House Education Committee will hold an informational meeting on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. to hearing from cyber charter school administrators regarding cyber charter school funding and other operational issues. PASBO understands there will be a subsequent hearing at which education associations will have an opportunity to respond to cyber charter school funding legislation.
- **Employment History Review Required under Williams' Bill.**—The Senate Education Committee will hold a hearing on February 8 on [SB 1381](#) (Williams). The bill adds a new section to the School Code applicable to all prospective employees of school entities, except those having no direct contact children. Bus drivers offered employment by a school entity or independent contractor are included. Before offering employment, a school entity shall require the applicant to provide employment history information, as well as a written statement regarding any sexual misconduct investigations and related disciplinary action. A school entity must contact all current and past employers and check the certification status of the applicant. The bill imposes penalties on applicants and employers for failure to disclose information. [CLICK HERE](#) to read SB 1381.

- **Understanding the Impact of the Proposed FY 2012-13 Budget.**—PASBO and PASA will decipher the budget numbers and help you to determine how the budget will impact your district. This presentation will also bring the latest information from Capitol Hill. The Department of Education budget will also be examined, with a discussion on PDE initiatives and related issues. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.
- **Won't Run Again, They Say.**—Representative John Myers (D-Philadelphia) has announced he will not be running for reelection. Other lawmakers not seeking reelection include Senators Jeff Piccola (R-Dauphin), Jane Earll (R-Erie), and Mary Jo White (R-Venango). Representatives include: Ron Buxton (D-Dauphin), Tom Creighton (R-Lancaster), Lawrence Curry (D-Montgomery), Jennifer Mann (D-Lehigh), Curt Schroder (R-Chester), Dante Santoni (D-Berks), Ed Staback (D-Lackawana), John Evans (R-Erie), and Scott Boyd (R-Lancaster). Rep. Mario Scavello (R-Monroe) announced his candidacy for the newly created Senate seat encompassing Monroe and northern Northampton Counties.