

A Leg Up

The Weekly Legislative Update for the Clark County School District

May 4, 2013

The big news this week was the lackluster projections made by the Economic Forum, which met in Carson City on Wednesday. The final projections for revenue that can be spent by the state legislature added \$44 million to the Governor's proposed budget. Governor Sandoval's comments following the announcement indicate he intends to utilize at least some of the additional funding for K-12 education.

This Week

On Monday, the Senate Education Committee heard three bills, AB 259 which renames the P-16 Council into the P-20W Council and provides future direction for this group, AB 337 which is a program for providing schools with fresh fruits and vegetables, and AB 357 which realigns the governance of the Regional Professional Development Plans.

In the education committees on Wednesday, several provisions related to charter schools were heard, along with a bill that will impact the IEP process for hearing impaired students and a bill related to mental health screening for students.

Senate Finance met on Saturday, May 4, and heard several bills, including SB 500, the bill that creates a task force to propose changes to the formula used to distribute funding for K-12 education. This task force is the direct result of SB 11 from the 2011 session, one of the bill drafts brought forward by the Clark County School District.

Coming Up

Committees have full agendas and we expect to have long days – and evenings – as the bills are heard. The chair of Assembly Ways and Means announced that in addition to the daily morning meetings of the committee, she will also hold evening meetings on Monday and Wednesday.

Also, now that the Economic Forum has announced the level of funding available for the legislature, it is anticipated that plans to generate additional revenue may be introduced in the coming week.