



# HF 1306

## Governor's Education Policy Bill Walkthrough

Megan Arriola, Legislative Policy Manager

March 19, 2025

# Ten Minnesota Commitments to Equity

1. Prioritize equity.
2. Start from within.
3. Measure what matters.
4. Go local.
5. Follow the money.
6. Start early.
7. Monitor implementation of standards.
8. Value people.
9. Improve conditions for learning.
10. Give students options.



# Article 1: General Education (1)

- **Sec. 1:** Academic Standards **statute aligned with definitions** to clarify that academic standards are not grade-specific, **benchmarks determine the grade-level specificity.**
- **Sec. 2:** Health education **teachers already providing career and technical education (CTE)** courses with a relevant **focus on health are exempt from additional teaching Rules** if they meet this statute's requirements for CTE teachers. Districts may **grant credit equivalency to CTE Health Science** courses that meet or surpass the relevant state and local standards for Health Education or related Science credits.

# Article 1: General Education (2)

- **Secs. 3-5, 7:** Statute changed to **ensure charter school students and students at Tribal schools have access to post-secondary enrollment options (PSEO) and dual credit course options**, intended for all Minnesota public, nonpublic and home school students.
- **Sec. 6:** There are currently two **carveouts** in statute for post-secondary institutions (PSIs) to advertise PSEO to secondary students on financial grounds during the 2014-2015 and 2019-2020 school years only; **this language is outdated and is stricken.**

# Article 1: General Education (3)

- **Sec. 8:** The **Online Instruction Act statute** amended to ensure charter schools may offer digital instruction, state operated schools are eligible supplemental online providers, and does not imply MDE has authority over nonpublic schools.
- **Sec. 9: Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs may be approved for up to six years;** current statute limits ABE programs to be approved for up to five years. Aligning this maximum approval period will **allow MN programs to apply for more funding opportunities in the future.**
- **Sec. 10:** Revisor Instruction: **Substituting the term "district, charter school, or Tribal school"** where the word "district" appears in 124D.09 (**PSEO Act**).

# Article 2: Education Excellence (1)

- **Sec. 1:** References to "**school readiness**" in definition of Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (f/k/a WBWF) replaced with "**striving to support successful learners through inclusive, quality, developmentally-appropriate early learning experiences**".
- **Sec. 2:** Standards of **measuring growth** (target language outcomes) for **dual language immersion consistent for all students**, regardless of English learner status.
- **Sec. 3: Clarifying and updating definitions in the School Student Bullying statute.** Elaborating on the definition of "**remedial response**" removes existing confusion about what does and does not qualify as a remedial response after changes made to the nonexclusionary discipline statute last biennium. Adding "**familial status**" to definitions section of statute.

## Article 2: Education Excellence (2)

- **Sec. 4:** Replace "parent" with "**individuals with familial status**" in School Student **Bullying statute**.
- **Sec. 5:** Clarify **state authority** regarding departmental procedures around **responding to reported student bullying issues. Assessing and evaluating** reports is more accurate a reflection of the response MDE can provide in these circumstances; response **can include a recommendation for an investigation**, but it needn't require one if not applicable.
- **Sec. 6:** Adding a statutory definition of "**Comprehensive School Mental Health Systems**" (CSMHS).

## Article 2: Education Excellence (3)

- **Sec. 7:** Correction to the definition of "suspension" under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act (PFDA). Updating the definitions section of statute to reflect changes made to "suspension" in other areas of statute; **"suspension" does not apply to dismissals for less than one school day.**
- **Sec. 8:** One-year **extension** and name **clarification** to the **Kindergarten Fall Assessment**.
- **[Sec. X; relocated from Article 5 Section 1]:** Clarify that student expulsion hearing records must be provided as a **written transcript** to the parent or guardian of the student as part of a complete record of the hearing.



# Article 3: Charter Schools (1)

- **Sec. 1:** Define "**competitive procurement process**" in charter statute, and add to the **definition of market need and demand study** that the study must occur for **all proposed expansion** of grades, sites, and programs.
- **Sec. 2:** Clarify that **all of chapter 120B applies** to charter schools, and require charters to comply with the **screen time limits for prekindergarten and kindergarten** students elsewhere in law.
- **Sec. 3:** Amend **date of charter school mergers notification** to MDE from July 1 to June 1 prior to the merger.
- **Sec. 4:** Additional statutory subparagraph making clear that **charter schools seeking to change location must update the need and demand study** conducted when the charter first opened and submit to their authorizer for review and approval.

# Article 3: Charter Schools (2)

- **Sec. 5:** Charter school **board meetings must be audio and video recorded** and **published** on the charter school's website within 30 days of the hearing.
- **Sec. 6:** Charter schools required to submit **audit reports with all supplemental information** on an annual basis to **both the authorizer and MDE**.
- **Sec. 7:** Correct **errant reference to "charter school board"** in statute addressing annual statement of assurance responsibilities from the **CMO/EMO board**.
- **Sec. 8:** Charter school **authorizer performance evaluation report required to be published** on the charter schools' website(s).

# Article 3: Charter Schools (3)

- **Sec. 9:** Update statute to **reflect procurement policy** amendments from the last biennium; clarify the **different requirements between sealing bids and soliciting quotes** for the sake of charter procurement policy.
- **Sec. 10:** Further detail added to **requirements for purchases made in conformance with state law.**
- **Sec. 11:** Clarification to procurement statute to explicitly state **potential reduction in state aid** could occur if a **purchase with state dollars does not align** with procurement policy.
- **Sec. 12: Revisor Instruction:** renumber existing statute in 124E.16 that refers to CMO/EMO management agreements and **relocate the language** to its own new chapter of law, 124E.27.

# Article 4: The READ Act (1)

- **Sec. 1:** Clarify that **Certified Trained Facilitators** may be employed by the district or a Minnesota **Service Cooperative**.
- **Sec. 2:** Clarification to definition of "oral language" to include **expressive and receptive language**.
- **Sec. 3:** Grade-level **reading goals** under the READ Act aligned to **benchmarks** and the **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)** framework alignment clarified.
- **Sec. 4:** This section adds **clarifying language** around screening for certain students in grades 1 and 2 regarding what **assessments may be collected via the same screeners**.

## Article 4: The READ Act (2)

- **Sec. 5:** Strikes "**timely**" from notification statute; adjective is made **obsolete by the specifications above**.
- **Sec. 6:** Removes requirement around personal learning plans specific to literacy, replaced with **READ Act required multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) framework expectations** as in other areas of the READ Act.
- **Sec. 7:** Strikes "**oral**" in reference to academic language development; this section is **not meant to be limited to oral language** development only.
- **Sec. 8:** Local **literacy plan** statute amended to provide clarity around **evidence-based curricula**, posting requirements for local education agencies (LEAs), and **required reporting** information clarified.

## Article 4: The READ Act (3)

- **Sec. 9:** Approved screeners may be administered by district staff or **external partners offering literacy support** and that they must use approved screeners.
- **Sec. 10:** READ Act training and professional development statute clarifications.
- **Sec. 11:** Approved literacy intervention models must be approved by **MDE** and CAREI, not CAREI alone.

# Article 4: The READ Act (4)

- **Sec. 12:** MDE regular five-year cycle of curriculum review beginning 2030 established.
- **Sec. 13:** Literacy programs and interventions used under the **Minnesota Reading Corps programs must be aligned to READ Act** requirements.
- **Sec. 14: Repealer:** repeals existing MDE approval process (completed) statute that also contains expectations for regular review and reconsideration of curricula and interventions list.

# Article 5: Special Education

- ***Sec. 1 [to be moved into Article 2]***: Clarify that student expulsion hearing records must be provided as a **written transcript** to the parent or guardian of the student as part of a complete record of the hearing.
- ***Secs. 2-3***: Clarify that **parental consent for initial provision of special education services** before an IEP is completed and agreed to **does not extend as consent for all special education services** that may be out of alignment with the completed and agreed upon IEP.
- ***Sec. 4***: Codify **existing federal IDEA state complaint process into Minnesota state law**.



# Article 6: School Nutrition

- **Sec. 1:** Amending subdivision governing districts who must participate in a school breakfast programs; this subdivision to determine **exemption standards is now obsolete with the passage of Minnesota Free School Meals** in 2023.
- **Sec. 2:** Amending **citation back to federal regulations**; amending statute makes clear that the full chapter of federal law applies.

# Article 7: State Agencies (1)

- **Sec. 1:** Citation back to **federal regulations** for the purpose of **required parental consent** for personally identifiable information about students with disabilities being shared between **districts and DEED**.
- **Sec. 2:** MDE OIG **investigative data exempt from public disclosure** during the course of investigation under certain conditions.
- **Sec. 3:** MDE OIG **provided law enforcement protections** for the sake of investigative data.
- **Sec. 4:** Clarify in rulemaking statute that **MDE is permitted to use the expedited rulemaking process** for academic standards, **but is not obligated** to utilize the expedited process.

## Article 7: State Agencies (2)

- **Sec. 5: Responsibility to report** on the Increasing Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers initiatives **shifted from PELSB to MDE.**
- **Sec. 6:** MDE OIG jurisdiction includes the ability to **investigate theft** in addition to fraud, waste, and abuse.
- **Sec. 7:** Refine **definitions of "abuse" and "waste"** and **define "theft"** in statute.
- **Sec. 8:** Program participants using funds distributed by MDE who are subject of open investigation **need to comply immediately with OIG requests** for records and documentation, both public and nonpublic.

## Article 7: State Agencies (3)

- **Sec. 9:** MDE OIG statutory **reorganization** regarding sanctions and appeal.
- **Sec. 10:** MDE OIG statutory **investigative data protections citations corrected** to reflect changes made in this Article.
- **Sec. 11:** MDE OIG investigations **shall not be interfered or obstructed** by state employees.
- **Sec. 12:** MDE OIG **immunity and confidentiality protections for good faith reporters**, including after an investigation is closed.

## Article 7: State Agencies (4)

- **Sec. 13:** MDE may recommend another agency **prohibit or remove program participants** excluded from public funds administered by MDE from receiving public funds from any other MN or federal agency.
- **Sec. 14:** MDE must send, within five days of action taken, **a notice of action** to the program participant(s) against whom action has been taken.
- **Sec. 15:** Recipient of notice of action **appeal rights**.
- **Sec. 16:** MDE OIG **recommendation to suspend payments** under credible allegation of fraud **sufficient reason** to suspend payments to providers.

## Article 7: State Agencies (5)

- **Sec. 17:** Excess tax increment **submission date added** to statute.
- **Sec. 18:** MDE OIG **permission granted to access nonpublic data** without the consent of the subject of investigation for the **purposes of investigating** fraud, theft, waste, and abuse.

# Thank You!

**Megan Arriola**

[megan.arriola@state.mn.us](mailto:megan.arriola@state.mn.us)