



MDE Education Policy Bill – HF 3730/SF 3870

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Article 1 – General Education (1)

- **Section 1** amends the statutory definition of kindergarten to make clear that kindergarten is a grade, not a program, and adds language clarifying that kindergarten should be a developmentally appropriate learning experience.
- **Section 2** codifies in state law existing protections for homeless and highly mobile students currently provided in the McKinney-Vento Act.
- **Section 3** provides a similar codification in state law of existing protections for migratory students that currently exist in federal law.
- **Section 4** makes one change on line 5.2 to be clear in state statute that academic standards are adopted for the K-12 system as a whole; grade-level appropriateness of the standards is established in the grade-level benchmarks.

Article 1 – General Education (2)

- **Section 5** amends the Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness statute to remove a reference to “meet school readiness goals” and replaces it with more holistic language "create developmentally appropriate early learning experiences"
- **Section 6** creates a new section of law under the safe and supportive schools act that clarifies the ways schools must respond to bullying incidences that supports both the target of the bullying behavior and also addresses the cause of the bullying behavior from the actor.
- **Section 7** amends the definitions under the School Safety Drills law to more clearly delineate between fire drills, lockdown drills, shelter-in-place drills, and active shooter drills.
- **Section 8** adds a subdivision to the School Safety Drills law that:
 - requires districts to adopt statewide guidance (which MDE will provide and make available) and lays out the ways that each school will differentiate between lockdown and active shooter drills,
 - establishes standard practices around frequency of each drill type,
 - and permits districts to use their discretion in offering certain drills with and without students present in an effort to reduce trauma for students but benefit adult preparedness.

Article 1 – General Education (3)

- **Section 9** requires that expulsion hearing transcripts be made available to all parties upon appeal of an expulsion decision, and that these complete hearing transcripts must include a written transcript.
- **Section 10** makes two changes to the application criteria MDE sets for new applicants to the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program or the federal Summer Food Service Program.
- **Section 11 and Section 12** make changes to 2025 legislation allowing for students to purchase a second breakfast or lunch if they have already received one meal at no-cost under the Minnesota Free School Meals program. This proposal clarifies that students may purchase a second entrée at the nonprogram price, if available for purchase.
- **Section 13** establishes in state law a deadline for Summer Food Service Program new applicants of May 1.

Article 2 – Education Excellence (1)

- **Section 1** provides MDE the authority to establish alternate assessment options for bilingual seals for languages that may not have nationally normed assessments available.
- **Section 2** Read Act consistency in the ability of parents to opt out of individual literacy screeners for students in grades K-3 as they are currently able to do for students in grades 4-12.
- **Section 3** amends the parent notification section of the Read Act to affirm the requirement that students in grades 4-12 who are not reading at grade level also must receive reading screeners at least once per year, and that their parents have a right to notification that these screeners were administered in line with this section.
- **Section 4** establishes new requirements for MDE to review Read Act curricula and intervention materials on a regular basis to keep our list of aligned materials up to date.

Article 2 – Education Excellence (2)

- **Section 5** amends post-secondary enrollment options (PSEO) law to consistently refer to the postsecondary institutions participating in PSEO using the term “eligible institution” to better align with other PSEO law.
- **Section 6** amends a provision of law passed last year that establishes a secondary date by which a student may notify their school that they plan to participate in a PSEO course that better aligns with other course planning per semester.
- **Section 7** amends the secondary course credit law to be clear that PSEO course credit may be granted to satisfy graduation requirements so long as there is demonstrated alignment between the academic standards and the student’s attainment under the course. Also grants MDE the authority to make a final determination on course and credit eligibility if there is a dispute between the school and the student.
- **Section 8** repeals the existing process for MDE to review curricula and materials that we are recommending be replaced by the process in Article 2 Section 4.

Article 3 – Charter Schools (1)

- **Section 1** makes clear in law that charter schools that serve preschool and kindergarten students must follow the law on screen time limitations for those ages in the school.
- **Section 2** amends the statute on corrective action with technical changes.
- **Section 3** amends the publishing requirements for authorizers.
- **Section 4** amends the charter school initial board of directors statute to require membership of a licensed teacher, a prospective parent or guardian of a student who is not an employee of the school, and an interested community member.

Article 3 – Charter Schools (2)

- **Section 5** makes a technical change to the compensation cap for charter school ongoing board members statute.
- **Section 6** amends the charter school ongoing board members statute to relocate language currently in Minn Stat 124E.07 to more appropriate statutory homes.
- **Section 7** relocates some of the stricken language from Section 6 pertaining to charter school ongoing boards' conflict of interest.
- **Section 8** relocates some of the stricken language from Section 6 pertaining to charter school ongoing boards' board structure.
- **Section 9** sets minimum expectations and requirements for charter school board of directors meeting minutes.

Article 3 – Charter Schools (3)

- **Section 10** cleans up the statute on charter school and school district collaboration by reformatting the layout of the statute and removing references to “authorizers” from this collaboration statute, as authorizers have no role in collaboration agreements.
- **Section 11** amends the legislation around publication requirements for charter school authorizers that passed in 2025.
- **Section 12** this strikes language from financial information statute that has to do with authorizer publication requirements that was relocated into Section 11 of this article.
- **Section 13** amends the CMO and EMO accounting provision of statute.
- **Section 14** repeals the section of charter school audit reports statute that sets requirements for audit reports. This section is now reflected in the changes made in Section 11.

Article 4 – State Agencies

- **Section 1** would require that district purchases using state money would be subject to the requirements for procurement in the following sections.
- **Section 2** lays out the requirements for procurement conflict of interest policies.
- **Section 3** sets requirements for procurement by sealed bids and procurement by proposals.

Questions?