



The What of Senate Bill 16 and The Why of Advocacy

Presented to Glen Ellyn School District 41

Board of Education

October 14, 2014

Peg Agnos, LEND Executive Director



SB 16 – Education Funding Reform

- ▶ **Primary State Aid Formula**

- ▶ Formerly General State Aid Formula, a single weighted formula combining GSA, most categorical grants and other funding programs administered by ISBE.
- ▶ Excludes high cost Special Education and Special Education transportation.
- ▶ **95% of state money** will flow through this new single formula.
- ▶ The weighted formula will be offset against a district's local resources.

SB 16 – Education Funding and Reform

► Foundation Level

- SB 16 prioritizes resources where there is greater student need through a weighted formula.

► Major Weightings

- Special Ed = 1.0; 13.8% statewide average Special Ed population assigned.
- Low-income = .25-.75 depending on concentration of poverty.
- ELL = .20.
- Regular Transportation = .06-.10 based on density/sq. mile.
- AP and dual credit = .02
- Gifted = .01

► Weighted Foundation Level = FL x Combined Student Weight.

- Example: the bill includes a weight of .20 for ELL, meaning an ELL student would generate an additional 20% of funding above the base foundation level.



SB 16 – Education Funding and Reform

- ▶ **Hold Harmless Provisions**

- ▶ “4 Year Phase-In Period”

- ▶ Year 1 – A district will realize 25% of the gain or loss compared to the base year.
 - ▶ Year 2 – A district will realize 50% of the gain or loss compared to the base year.
 - ▶ Year 3 – A district will realize 75% of the gain or loss compared to the base year.

- ▶ **New Mandates**

- ▶ Requires districts to provide school based instead of district based accounting of expenditures. Requires additional resources for compliance and reporting.

- ▶ **Pensions**

- ▶ Normal pension costs for the Public School Teachers Pension and Retirement Fund of Chicago are excluded from the calculation of the primary state aid formula.



SB 16 – Education Funding and Reform

- ▶ **\$1000 Per Pupil Lost Cap**

- ▶ No district will lose more than \$1000 per pupil as compared to the base year. This provision is indefinite.
- ▶ The model for SB 16 is based upon data from the 2011 – 2012 school year and fiscal year 2013 distributions.

- ▶ **PTELL Adjustment**

- ▶ Remains but is not included in the single formula and is paid through a separate appropriation. This signals a reduction in the priority for the PTELL adjustment and would allow the legislature to fund the line item at a reduced rate or not at all.



Current Developments

- ▶ House Work Group continues to meet. Representative Linda Chapa LaVia reassured me that she has no intention of calling the bill anytime soon and in a letter to several House members she stated “that the proposal in its current form will not become law and there is still much more work to be done”.
- ▶ SB 16 Work Group continues to meet.
- ▶ ISBE is looking at ways to make the bill more equitable.
- ▶ SB 1 the Sangamon County Judge will hear arguments in November that could speed resolution of the case in circuit court. What does this mean for our school districts?
- ▶ Mandates – SB 3662 (Bertino-Terrant) the sponsor held a meeting on September 30 and has asked us to review her bill. Mandates discussed: special education, physical education, drivers education, 3rd party vendors, English language learners, PARCC testing, and prevailing wage.

Common Advocacy Tactics





Benefits of Advocacy

- Advocacy is identifying, embracing and promoting a cause.
- Advocacy is an activity that can become second nature to most people.
- Advocacy furthers your mission and creates change by shaping public policy.
- Being an advocate means educating and taking action on legislative issues important to you.
- Advocacy is the opportunity to get off the sideline and participate in the decisions that will impact your community.



Basic Advocacy Tactics

- ▶ Engaging your legislators.
 - ▶ Invite legislators, staff and media to your facilities and events.
 - ▶ Send your newsletters to your policymakers.
 - ▶ Call and schedule a visit now at the local office while the General Assembly is in recess.
 - ▶ Be respectful and brief.
 - ▶ Remember to state who you represent and state your position on the issue.
 - ▶ Talk about how his or her community will be affected.
 - ▶ Keep your communication to one issue.
- ▶ Educating your community.
- ▶ Share your research information with other organizations, media.



Crafting an Advocacy Plan

- ▶ **What do we want?** What are the goals?
 - ▶ Slow down a public policy change.
- ▶ **Who can give it to us?**
 - ▶ State Senators
 - ▶ State Representatives
 - ▶ You can find your legislators at the following link: <http://www.lend-dupage.org/member-districts/legislative-contacts/#h8>
- ▶ **What do the policymakers need to hear?**
 - ▶ Impact of SB 16 on Glen Ellyn School District 41.
 - ▶ Normal pension costs for the Public School Teachers Pension and Retirement Fund of Chicago are excluded from the calculation of the primary state aid formula.
 - ▶ Imposes new reporting mandates on local school districts.
 - ▶ The weighting system for all Special Education students are the same (1.0) regardless of the services provided.



Crafting an Advocacy Plan

- ▶ **Who do the policymakers need to hear it from?**
 - ▶ The entire Glen Ellyn School community.
 - ▶ Every other impacted school district in the State of Illinois.
- ▶ **How do we begin?**
 - ▶ Tonight's meeting – understanding the issue – SB 16.
 - ▶ Take action –
 - ▶ Call - make an appointment at the legislators local office.
 - ▶ Write or email – be persistent but be polite, if you do not receive a response and contact them again.
 - ▶ Engage with the SB 16 Working Group.



Advocacy Tactics

State of Illinois
98th General Assembly
Senate Vote

Senate Bill No. 16
THIRD READING

May 27, 2014

32 YEAS

19 NAYS

6 PRESENT

N Althoff	NV Forby	P Lightford	P Radogno
N Barickman	Y Frerichs	Y Link	Y Raoul
Y Bertino-Tarrant	Y Haine	P Luechtefeld	N Rezin
Y Biss	P Harmon	Y Manar	N Righter
N Bivins	Y Harris	Y Martinez	N Rose
N Brady	Y Hastings	Y McCann	Y Sandoval
P Bush	Y Holmes	N McCarter	N Silverstein
Y Clayborne	Y Hunter	N McConnaughay	Y Stadelman
Y Collins	Y Hutchinson	Y McGuire	Y Steans
N Connelly	Y Jacobs	N Morrison	Y Sullivan
N Cullerton, T.	Y Jones, E.	NV Mulroe	P Syverson
N Cunningham	Y Koehler	Y Muñoz	Y Trotter
Y Delgado	Y Kotowski	N Murphy	Y Van Pelt
N Dillard	N LaHood	Y Noland	Y Mr. President
N Duffy	Y Landek	N Oberweis	



Talking Points – Senate Bill 16 (SB 16)

- ▶ SB16, currently in the House and sponsored by Representative Linda Chapa LaVia will radically change the way we fund schools in Illinois and negatively impact our school district. We would appreciate the opportunity to personally discuss this with you.
- ▶ SB 16 is modeled after an effort in Massachusetts. The MA General Assembly provided a process for infusion of new money when the new formula was implemented. There is **no new money in SB 16**. The legislation is a redistribution of current resources.
- ▶ The financial impact on our school district is significant. The district budget would be **reduced 1.9 million annually after the bill is fully implemented.**
- ▶ We support the phase in period, but recommend **longer than four years** to allow our district to plan a financial strategy to accommodate the program and staff changes that would be necessary as a result of these budget reductions.



Talking Points – Senate Bill 16 (SB 16)

- ▶ Should all special education students (1.0) have the same weighting regardless of the services provided?
 - ▶ i.e., A speech identified student would be weighted the same as a special education student in a self-contained classroom with a certified staff member and an assigned assistant.
- ▶ Illinois is a big state with significant differences, including the cost of housing and goods and services. We recommend a regional cost factor be included in the formula.
- ▶ The legislative leaders are beginning to talk about shifting the normal cost of pensions to local school districts, other than the Chicago Public Schools (CPS).
 - ▶ SB 16 losses and the imposition of the cost shift will be impossible for us to absorb.
 - ▶ SB 16 shifts the normal cost of the CPS pension to the State.
- ▶ There are **new mandates** in the bill requiring the district to provide school-based, rather than district-based, accounting of expenditures. This is an unfunded mandate and will require additional resources for compliance.



Next Steps

- ▶ House Working Group is meeting.
- ▶ SB Working Group concepts and revisions driven by suburban districts.
- ▶ LEND Council Meeting October 24, 2014.
- ▶ Election November 4, 2014.
- ▶ Veto Session
 - ▶ November 19, 20 and 21.
 - ▶ December 2, 3, and 4.



Resources



- ▶ LEND Website

- ▶ www.lend-dupage.org

- ▶ SB 16 Resources

- ▶ <http://www.lend-dupage.org/current-legislation/>



LEND Office

- ▶ Peg Agnos, Executive Director
 - ▶ Office – 630-632-5074
 - ▶ Cell – 630-632-2954
 - ▶ pegagnos@lend-dupage.org
- ▶ Jen Figurelli, Program Coordinator
 - ▶ Office – 630-632-5074
 - ▶ Cell – 312-451-7278
 - ▶ jenfigurelli@lend-dupage.org
- ▶ LEND Office
 - ▶ 22W600 Butterfield Rd
 - ▶ Glen Ellyn, IL 60137