welcome and purpose

Paul Krohne
Executive Director, SCSBA

John Hughes,
SCSBA President, Marion Area 2 Board Member

webcast info

• talk to legislators about issues before January
• handout available www.scsba.org
• type questions, comments in chat box near bottom of screen
communicating common core state standards

Debbie Elmore
Communications Director, SCSBA

communicating CCSS

• National Governors Association, State Superintendents of Education
• English/language arts, mathematics standards
• standards not new to SC
• look for bills ending implementation
• strengthen communications at the local level
scjet:
restructuring education funding

Scott Price
*General Counsel, SCSBA*

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**a package deal only**

- equalize, simplify state K-12 spending in reasonable, realistic manner
- level and stabilize the tax burden playing field
- strengthen the state-local education partnership with greater transparency and accountability
how it works ...
reduces about 70 separate state funding sources to 12 (FILOT, reimbursements, tiers, etc.)

additional state dollars needed to balance the difference between what current millage rates generate statewide and what the 100-mill levy would generate

est. $611,646,420
total of state funds divided by WPU’s = base student funding

est. $334,946,457
all other funds for programs not distributed to districts on per pupil basis such as:

- transportation related
- national board certification
- Palmetto priority schools
- retiree insurance
- 4K programs

Local revenues

Local school board authority to levy millage of up to 6% of the assessed value of taxable properties
local school boards can use either 8% flexibility or voter approval. If approved, funding applies to all property including homestead.

what it will take ...
$334,946,457

+ 

$611,646,420

$946,542,877 total state funds

grant $604,481,375 in tax relief for all business, industries, vehicles and all other property taxpayers

other major provisions...
» EOC WPU: 1.0 with add-ons
  ▪ poverty
  ▪ limited English
  ▪ remediation
  ▪ gifted and talented
  ▪ disabilities
  ▪ adult (17-21)
  ▪ vocational/career

» manufacturing assessment ratio from 10.5% to 6%

» annual inflation factor:
  ▪ state salary schedule, step and benefits increases

» reserves: state – 5% district – 15%

» transition
  ▪ new revenue to low revenue districts – phase-in over 3 years
  ▪ transition funds – phase-out over 25 years (4% per year)

 tuition tax credit/voucher program

Scott Price
General Counsel, SCSBA
Proviso 1.85

• education credit for exceptional needs children (ECENC)
• allows creation of nonprofit 501(c)(3) scholarship funding organizations (SFOs)
• SFO allocates vouchers up to $10,000 per child for tuition, transportation, or textbook expenses for “exceptional needs” students attending an independent school
• “exceptional needs” designated by SDE
  – meets federal regulation requirements
  – parents/legal guardian believe resident district services not meeting child’s needs

Proviso 1.85

• forbids the "regulat[i]on of the educational program of an independent school that accept students receiving scholarship grants"
• permits “dollar for dollar” tax credit for amounts contributed to a qualified SFO. Credit limited to 60 percent of contributors income tax liability
• tax credits capped at $8 million and are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis
• EOC charged with “qualifying” independent schools that wish to participate in the program
3 SFO’s listed on EOC website

– Palmetto Kids FIRST Scholarship Program, Inc.
– Advance Carolina
– Diocese of Charleston

S.279

• includes vouchers, tax credits and tax deductions for students to attend private and home schools
• tax deductions of $4,000 for private school; $2,000 for home school; and $1,000 a public school outside resident district
• tax credits for donations by individuals, partnerships or corporations to SFO - credits not to exceed 60% of the taxpayer's tax liability
S.279 cont.

• donors cannot specify child or school
• at least 95% of annual contributions go to grants (up to 5% for administrative costs)
• free/reduced lunch/Medicaid students capped at $15 million annually; exceptional needs capped at $10 million

S.279 cont.

• vouchers for free/reduced/Medicaid not to exceed $5,000 or the cost of tuition, whichever is less
• vouchers for "exceptional needs" students not to exceed $10,000 or the cost of tuition, whichever is less
• “accountability" provisions include
  — all students be administered national achievement or state standardized tests at progressive grade levels
  — student test scores, by category and for all grades tested, must be submitted annually to the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) and published on its website
S.279 cont.

– no state agency may regulate the educational program
– participating school must be a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the S.C. Association of Christian Schools, or the S.C. Independent Schools Association
– EOC establishes regulations concerning school requirements, determines if a school meets the criteria and reports to an advisory committee.

legislative issues roundup:

Scott Price
General Counsel, SCSBA

Duane Cooper
Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA
EAA modernization proposal

• change EAA to mirror SDE federal accountability system
• three components
  – school/district grading
  – reporting
  – intervention

expanded intervention

• SC Transformation School District (SCTSD)
  – separate from SDE/SBE
  – require 5-year transformation plans for schools
  – operate schools with flexibility like charter schools (e.g., at-will employment)
  – each school reports to SCTSD superintendent, not local resident district
• target lowest performing 5% of schools and bottom 10% of schools with the widest achievement gaps
SCTSD

• schools funded with local, state and federal money (follows the child)
• during 4th year, SCTSD superintendent recommends to SDE/SBE
  • return school to local district,
  • convert school to charter school,
  • continue in the SCTSD, or
  • close the school

SDE regulation 43-205 changes

• current regulation
  – defines teacher, administrator qualifications
  – describes duties, work loads for school-level personnel
• proposed changes deletes
  – various requirements that regulate class size
  – personnel are authorized in the schools
  – work hours for teachers
  – core subjects
  – teacher and administrator qualifications
• second reading SBE Policy and Legislation subcommittee
  Oct. 9 at 9:45 a.m.
legislative issues roundup: parent trigger law

Duane Cooper
Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA

parent empowerment act S.556

• resides in senate education Committee
• would allow parents of students enrolled in a school designated at-risk or a school to sign a petition and ultimately force a school to
  – convert to a charter
  – transform under a turnaround model, restart model or a transformation model
models breakdown

- turnaround model
  - principal be replaced
  - school staff be screened / no more than 50% rehired
  - new governance structure to include district turnaround office and district turnaround leader who reports to the superintendent
- restart” model
  - convert to charter school OR
  - close and reopen under a charter school operator, a charter management organization, or an education management organization.
- transformational model
  - develop, increase teacher and school leader effectiveness
  - comprehensive instructional reform
  - increase learning time
  - create community-oriented schools
  - provide operational flexibility, sustained support

parent trigger laws

- about 25 states have considered parent trigger laws
- 7 have enacted a version of the law: California, Connecticut, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Ohio and Texas
legislative issues roundup: 
4K expansion

Duane Cooper 
*Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA*

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**Child Development Education Program (CDEP) expansion S.134**

- targets in priority order:
  - eight districts in the Abbeville school funding case: Allendale, Dillon 2, Florence 4, Hampton 2, Jasper, Lee, Marion 7, and Orangeburg 3
  - remaining plaintiff districts in the lawsuit
  - statewide
- both public and private providers eligible for transportation funds
CDEP expansion

- about 50% SC 4-year-olds not in 4K
- 78% in CDEP; more than 40,000 would be eligible
- $87 million cost

2013-14 budget provisos

- $24 million to expand to an additional 17 school districts
- funds split between public and private providers (65 percent / 35 percent)
- school districts prohibited from building or adding additional space or displacing current students to accommodate expansion
SCSBA position

• supportive of extending services to all 4-year-olds at a public school or appropriate state and federal agencies with adequate funding

legislative issues roundup: read to succeed act

Duane Cooper

Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA
read to succeed act S.516

- ensure students can read by the fourth grade through a coordinated focus on reading in the primary grades
- retain third-graders whose scores on the state reading tests and other indicators fall in the bottom of the lowest tier

S.516 cont.

- SDE establishes a reading office and reading proficiency panel
- students screened for school readiness as they enter kindergarten
- interventions include after-school programs, summer reading camps, reading coaches
- schools keep parents informed of reading progress, steps school has taken, actions for parents
S.516 cont.

• reading training provided to teachers
• districts develop, publish annual reading plan, intervention options and funding
• elementary teachers required to earn a literacy credential within 7 years

S.516

• SCSBA generally supportive if
  – adequate, stable state funding
  – resources and assistance provided
Education Votes 2014

Duane Cooper
Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA

Education Votes 2014

• 2013 special elections
  – state senate district 42 election (10/1/13)
    • Marlon Kimpson (winner)
  – state house district 17 (3/12/13)
    • Mike Burns (winner)
  – state house district 93 (scheduled 10/29/13)
    • Charles “Charlie” Stoudemire (GOP)
    • Russell L. Ott (Dem)
• what’s at stake in 2014?
  – all state house seats
  – all constitutional offices including governor and state superintendent
• public education community impact?
new voter ID law

• beginning January 1, 2013, voters must show one of the following:
  – SC driver's license
  – ID card issued by DMV
  – S.C. voter registration card w/photo
  – federal military ID
  – US passport

closing comments

John Hughes
reminders

• report names to Sandy Poole by Oct. 31
• evaluation web link to come
• Legislative Advocacy Conference &
  Annual Business Meeting, Dec. 6-8, Hilton
  Head
• SCSBA Annual Conference, Feb. 20 – 23,
  2014 Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach