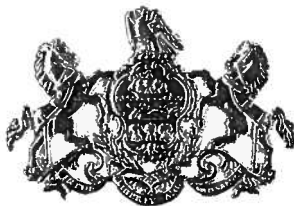


JAN 04 2009

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator Jeffrey E. Piccola

DATE: January 4, 2010

RE: MEMO #38: Education Empowerment

Next week, I will be introducing legislation to amend the Public School Code to provide for a new education empowerment law. To comply with the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), the Commonwealth must have an education accountability law in place. The current Education Empowerment Act will expire on June 30, 2010.

As discussed in Memo #38 dated December 9, 2009, my proposal would strengthen the options, incentives and penalties applicable to school districts and schools that fail to make adequate yearly progress (AYP) under NCLB. Those school districts and schools that persistently fail to make AYP would face increasingly serious consequences. Ultimately, a school district that fails to make AYP for eight or more years would be placed under the control of a three-member school reform commission reporting to the Secretary of Education. The bill would apply to all school districts in Pennsylvania other than the Philadelphia School District. A bullet-point summary of the proposed legislation is attached.

Current co-sponsors of this legislation include Senators DINNIMAN, BROWNE, EARLL, RAFFERTY and WILLIAMS .

For your information, I have attached the following background material on this proposal:

- 1) Press Release;
- 2) Chart showing affected districts and the accountability levels for these districts.

Should you or your staff have any further questions on this proposed legislation, please contact Dave Transue or Karen Seivard of the Senate Education Committee at (717) 787-6801. If you are interested in co-sponsoring this legislation, please contact Deanna Dare at 787-6801 or by email to ddare@pasen.gov no later than **January 8, 2009**. Thank you for your consideration.

2009 AYP Status of Pennsylvania School Districts

2009 AYP Status	School District
Warning	Athens Area SD
Warning	Columbia Borough SD
Warning	Connellsville Area SD
Warning	Galeton Area SD
Warning	Monessen City SD
Warning	Mount Union Area SD
Warning	Northwest Area SD
Warning	Shikellamy SD
Warning	Somerset Area SD
Warning	Sto-Rox SD
Warning	Union SD
Warning	Wilkesburg Borough SD
District Improvement I	Steelton-Highspire SD
District Improvement I - Making Progress	Altoona Area SD
District Improvement I - Making Progress	Warren County SD
District Improvement II	Southeast Delco SD
Corrective Action I	McKeesport Area SD
Corrective Action II - Making Progress	Duquesne City SD
Corrective Action II - Making Progress	Hazleton Area SD
Corrective Action II - Making Progress	Pittsburgh SD
Corrective Action II - Making Progress	Woodland Hills SD
Corrective Action II - 1st Year	Lancaster SD
Corrective Action II - 1st Year	Lebanon SD
Corrective Action II - 1st Year	William Penn SD
Corrective Action II - 2nd Year	Allentown City SD
Corrective Action II - 2nd Year	Norristown SD
Corrective Action II - 2nd Year	Pocono Mountain SD
Corrective Action II - 2nd Year	York City SD
Corrective Action II - 3rd Year	Reading SD
Corrective Action II - 7th Year	Chester-Upland SD
Corrective Action II - 7th Year	Harrisburg City SD
Corrective Action II - 7th Year	Philadelphia City SD