CASB BRIEF - May 1 Vol. 33

Advocacy Newsletter

School Finance

HB25-1320 the bill to fund schools for the 2025-26 fiscal year cleared the Colorado House and is now being heard in the Senate. The bill is an attempt to implement the new school funding formula approved under HB24-1448. This has proved difficult due to a \$1 billion plus budget deficit. CASB members should take note of the updated fiscal note for specific information regarding their district. In broad numbers schools will receive approximately \$190.00 more per pupil for a total allocation of \$10.03 billion in state funds.

One of the biggest concerns is how to deal with uneven student enrollment. The table below offers some insight as to how lawmakers are proposing to address this concern.

Your CASB staff will share the final bill once it has been approved and signed by the Governor.

CASB Board Facilitation Trainings

Interested in professional development for your board? We are here to serve and have a variety of facilitation options we'll customize for your board.

If you are interested in scheduling facilitation, please read through the options listed below and send Leslie Bogar an email at <u>lbogar@casb.org</u>. Leslie will give you a call to discuss your board's needs and schedule the training facilitation. You can also give Leslie a call at 303-302-3805.

More Information Here!

Averaging Under HB25-1320

Year	Current Law ¹	Under Bill ¹
FY 2025-26	Four-year averaging	Four-year averaging
FY 2026-27	Four-year averaging	Three-year averaging, except that four-year averaging is used starting in FY 2026-27 if the new formula is not phased in at 30%.
FY 2027-28	Four-year averaging	Three-year averaging, except that if the SEF balance falls below \$200 million, two-year averaging or a smoothing factor is used
FY 2028-29	Four-year averaging	Averaging or smoothing provision determined in FY 2027-28
FY 2029-30	Four-year averaging	Averaging or smoothing provision determined in FY 2027-28
FY 2030-31	Four-year averaging	Averaging or smoothing provision determined in FY 2027-28
FY 2031-32	Four-year averaging	Averaging or smoothing provision determined in FY 2027-28

¹ Under current law, the new formula uses four-year averaging, with five-year averaging in the old formula for the purposes of the hold harmless and phase in. Under the bill, the same averaging is used in the old and new formulas, beginning in FV 2027-28.

In addition, the bill specifies that if the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) determines that student counts for preceding years used for averaging included pupils who were educated in a setting equivalent to a multi-district online program, adjusted counts must be used to calculate funded pupil count under the old and new formulas.

Wrapping Up the Legislative Session

CASB members will want to reserve Thursday May 22 at 6:00 p.m. for the 2025 CASB Legislative Wrap up live webinar. CASB staff members from the Legal, Policy and Advocacy departments will share how the more than 700 bills introduced by lawmakers will impact the work of your local school district. If you are unable to join the live event the webinar will be recorded. There is no cost for CASB members, but we do request that you register ahead of time. Registration and additional information is available on the CASB website.

More Information Here!

Marching to Washington DC

United States Representative Gabe Evans (R) for Colorado's 8th Congressional district is looking for Colorado High School marching bands who would like to participate in the <u>2026 Memorial Day Parade</u> If your school band would be interested please contact <u>Adrienne</u> <u>Sandoval</u> in Congressman Evans Colorado state office.

More Information Here!