

Benton-Carroll-Salem

School District

www.bc3ssd.com



Board of Education Office

11685 W. State Route 163

Oak Harbor, OH 43449

Phone: (419) 898-6210

April 27, 2021

Good Evening Chair Brenner, Vice Chair Blessing, and members of the Senate Primary and Secondary Education Committee. My name is Cajon Keeton and I am the proud Treasurer of the Benton-Carroll-Salem LSD in Ottawa County, Ohio. I am here today to discuss two key issues regarding the Fair School Funding Plan, Technology and Oversight.

Technology

We propose to fund each student in the state at \$68.50 for technology. This amount will provide a 1 to 1 device for every student with a 4-year replacement schedule, along with funding for wireless access points and network switches to allow the capability to connect to the internet.

Oversight Commission

Ohio Senate
Primary and Secondary Education Committee
HB110
Testimony in Support of the Fair School Funding Plan
RE: OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Cajon Keeton., CFO, Benton Carroll Salem Local School District
Cupp/Patterson Work Group
April 28, 2021

Chairman Brenner, Vice Chair Blessing, Ranking Minority Member Fedor and members of the Senate Primary and Secondary Education Committee. Last year Sub HB305 created the **School Funding Oversight Commission** to ensure implementation fidelity and integrity of the Fair School Funding plan.

Let's begin with the **membership** of the Commission. The Commission consists of nineteen (19) total members, comprising:

- Legislative Membership (4):

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Guy L. Parmigian, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Cajon H. Keeton
Treasurer

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- Two (2) members of the House of Representatives, one from each caucus, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
- Two (2) members of the Senate, one from each caucus, appointed by the President of the Senate.

- Superintendent/Treasurer Membership (6):
 - Three (3) school district superintendents, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction with advice from those statewide organizations that represent school district superintendents, and
 - Three (3) school district treasurers, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction with advice from those statewide organizations that represent school district treasurers

**the Superintendent of Public Instruction must attempt to ensure that these superintendents and treasurers represent a combination of urban, suburban, and rural school districts*

- Parent Membership (3):
 - Three (3) parents, no more than two of the same gender, appointed by the Governor

**the Governor must attempt to ensure that the parents appointed are a combination of parents of students who are enrolled in, will enroll in, or were enrolled in urban, suburban, and rural school districts) (R.C. 3317.64(B)*

- Teacher Membership (3):
 - Three (3) teacher, no more than two of the same gender, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction

- School Board Membership (3):
 - Three (3) school board members, no more than two of the same gender, appointed by the Governor

Note for possible Q/A: Requires the members of the Commission to be appointed prior to the Commission's first meeting (R.C. 3317.64(C)

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The role (purpose) of the **School Funding Oversight Commission** is to:

1. Ensure that the funding priorities *specified in the bill* are implemented as directed and that all other provisions are funded as equitably and evenly as possible as additional funding becomes available;
2. Review and analyze the findings or implications of any of the required studies (special education, Poverty, Preschool, English learners, and the cost of community school operations, etc.) and make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly;
3. Analyze and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding any appropriate future adjustments to the provisions of the bill for inflation, technology developments, changes in instructional methodology, and lessons learned;

**December 31, 2022 is the deadline for these studies to be submitted to the Commission...as well as the other individuals specified in the previous version of the bill (R.C. 3317.61(A)(2) and (6) and (B) and 3317.62)*

4. Assess the impact of the calculations and other basic concepts and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding appropriate modifications to those calculations and other basic concepts;
5. Generally, monitor the implementation of the provisions of the bill to ensure that they are implemented in a timely and effective manner that is consistent with the intent of the General Assembly at the time those provisions were enacted and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding its implementation. (R.C. 3317.64(A)).

The Oversight Commission ensures school funding compliance, ensures coherence, ensures academic and economic flexibility and is the variable that should give legislators peace in approving the Fair School Funding proposal.

Thank you!

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