Tennessee Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma

Legislative Symposium March 3-4, 2020

Below are issues/questions to consider in advance of the Tennessee DKG Legislative Symposium on March 3-4 in Nashville. **Please submit any additional issues or questions your chapter may have to the Legislative committee by Friday, February 28th. Contact info:** [**mckennajean@gmail.com**](mailto:mckennajean@gmail.com)**.**

Sample Topics/Questions for Panel Discussion –Tuesday, March 3, 2020

1. School funding
2. Despite a multi-billion dollar budget surplus, why does Tennessee rank 45th in school funding?
3. What are some proposed ways to increase funding for schools to make sure schools are fully staffed?
4. How does the state budget support LEAs in construction and renovation of school facilities?
5. Are increases in BEP funding on the table to cover supply costs for students? These are often covered or augmented by teachers out of their own pockets.
6. Testing
7. What certainties do LEAs and teachers have that state testing will be fully operational on the testing dates?
8. How will student scores be figured into teacher evaluation?
9. What is the future of TVAAS in relation to teacher evaluation?
10. Vouchers/Charters/Achievement School District
11. How are some school systems allowed to “opt out” of the voucher provisions? Is this not evidence of the inequality inherent in the provision?
12. What safeguards will the legislature and the SBE use to determine the efficacy of individual charter schools?
13. What is the future of the Achievement School District?
14. Professional issues
15. What is the status of tenure law at this time?
16. Are LEAs currently required to offer employees a Memorandum of Agreement wherein their rights are defined and clarified?

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| Education Legislation 2020 | |
| Bills | Comments/Questions |
| SB1267  requires the department of education to provide LEAs with access to their students' TCAP and end-of-course assessment items and the students' answers within 60 days following the administration of the assessments; requires an LEA to provide each teacher with access to the teacher's students' assessment information within 90 days following the administration of the assessments |  |
| SB1616  reduces, from 14 days to three days, the period of time after a local board of education or director of schools makes an initial offer of employment to a person for a teaching position that the person has to accept or reject the offer |  |
| SB1604  requires each LEA and public charter school to provide age-appropriate instruction to public school students in kindergarten through grade 12 on the events of September 11, 2001, annually on September 11. |  |
| SB1579  increases from $1,000 to $1,250, the amount awarded each semester to a full-time student receiving the middle college scholarship. - Amends TCA Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9. |  |
| SB1593  enacts the "Tennessee Anti-Lunch Shaming Act"; prohibits a school from taking certain actions against a student who cannot pay for a meal, or who has accumulated a meal debt… |  |
| HJR0394  Urges governor to form an education task force to evaluate state testing, curriculum, and other mandated academic policies and procedures. |  |
| SB1565 Intro  allows an LEA to choose to administer TCAP tests to its students in a paper format beginning with the 2020-2021 school year if the commissioner authorizes TCAP tests to be administered in a computerized format |  |
| SB1558  declares an act of the general assembly enacted after January 1, 2020, that mandates a discount or waiver of the tuition or fees charged at public institutions of higher education unenforceable against an institution affected by the act… |  |
| SB1580  deletes the requirement that a high school student must be a Tennessee resident for at least one year in order to be eligible to receive a dual enrollment grant. |  |