



PCSD LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2023

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023

OUR MISSION

OUR MISSION IS TO **INSPIRE AND SUPPORT ALL STUDENTS** **EQUITABLY TO ACHIEVE THEIR ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL POTENTIAL.**

OUR VISION

PARK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS **STUDENT-CENTERED** WITH A FOCUS AND EMPHASIS ON THE WHOLE CHILD - OUR STUDENTS ARE **SAFE, SUPPORTED, ENGAGED, CHALLENGED, AND HEALTHY.**

Thanks to all of you who have taken the time to read these Legislative updates and participate in this session! This will be the final update during the session (this break neck pace is dizzying!) I will look forward to bringing you a final recap of the session with a focus on how legislation will impact our PCSD. Thanks for all you do! . Sincerely, Heidi

HIGHLIGHTS WEEK 7: Wednesday March 1, 2023 (Updated 1:30 pm March 2, 2023)

Floor time, floor time, floor time!

To Governor Cox for signing:

Optional All-Day Kindergarten passes!

Single Letter School Grades eliminated!

[S.J.R. 10](#) -- Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Income Tax (Sen. McCay, D.)
Wednesday March 1, 2023. There was no new direct progress on this Senate Joint Resolution.

On February 28th, a substitute bill was proposed that added [HB101 Food Sales Tax Amendments](#) to become a part of [HB54 Substitute 2 Tax Revisions](#). HB54 is the Tuesday February 28th: companion legislation contingent upon passage of [SJR 10 Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution](#) Bottom line, if the SJR 10 passes this session and is approved by voters, the

provisions of HB54 would be enacted: thus, linking the removal of the constitutional guarantee that income tax is dedicated for public education, children, and individuals with disabilities to the removal of tax on food. Since HB101 is now embedded in HB54, is no longer relevant and was returned to Rules. The Senate passed SJR10 [22-6-2](#)

Monday February 27th SJR 10 was heard on the Senate Floor. The resolution would eliminate the Constitutional requirement that income tax go to fund public education, children and those with disabilities, if passed by the voters in 2024. The resolution passed [20-6-3](#), needing a 3rd reading from the Senate.

HB0308S01 School Grading Modifications(Rep. Welton, Douglas R.)

Thursday March 2nd: The Senate passed the bill [28-0-1](#) and the bill goes to the Governor's desk! Single letter school grades eliminated!

H.B. 427 Second Substitute -- Individual Freedom in Public Education (Rep. Jimenez, T.)
Originally this bill was titled "Public Education Curriculum Requirements" which **prohibited** the use of instructional materials and classroom instruction that is inconsistent with principles of inalienable rights, equal opportunity and the individual. The Second Substitute adopted on 2.24.23 shifted the focus to ensuring that materials and instructional practices are consistent with principles of individual freedom.- and it also changed the name to reflect the focus.

Thursday March 2nd: CIRCLED in Senate 11:30 am.

Wednesday March 1: The bill was introduced to the Senate for a first reading. Additionally, the fiscal note (cost to implement) was released, with a price tag of \$475K per year with this explanation:

Enactment of this legislation could cost the State Board of Education \$475,000 annually from the Income Tax Fund beginning in FY24 to provide the development of standards, review processes, and active monitoring of the public education system to ensure they are consistent with principles of individual freedom.

Tuesday February 28th: The House passed an amended HB 427 [47-24-6](#). The amendment clarified that neither LEA's or USBE may create materials for standards or professional development that is inconsistent with the principles outlined, mainly that no race is inherently superior to another, that no one should be made to bear responsibility for past actions, that ideas of meritocracy are not racist (nor is anyone inherently), and that no students should be pressured to adopt principles that are inconsistent with their values. In a suspension of the rules, the Senate has placed this on the Reading Calendar on March 1st.

H.B. 477 -- Full-day Kindergarten Amendments (Rep. Spendlove, R.)

Wednesday March 1st: The Senate passed this bill 24-3-2 - and the bill goes to the Governor's desk for signing!

H.C.R. 10 -- Concurrent Resolution Regarding the Pledge of Allegiance in Schools (Rep. Ballard, M.G.)

Wednesday March 1st: There was no new progress on this resolution today.

Tuesday February 28th: This resolution was heard on the House floor in the afternoon of the 27th and passed unanimously with a vote of [67-0-8](#). Resolutions are non-binding, but do signal intent, in this case school compliance with [53-G-303](#), which

outlines requirements for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools. The resolution was sent to the Senate on February 28th for consideration.

Monday February 27th: directs compliance with the statute and administrative rule requirements to recite the Pledge of Allegiance daily in school. Passed House Education Committee last Friday 2.24.23 [10-0-6](#). Anticipated going to the House Floor on 2.28.23.

S.B. 227 -- School Board Ethics Complaint Investigation Requirements (Sen. Bramble, C.)

Tuesday February 28th: This bill was sent back to rules. (Usually means that it is not to be considered any longer this session.)

February 27: This bill requires that ethics complaints against local school boards be investigated by a Political Subdivision Ethics Board. The House Government Operations Committee passed this on favorably [7-3-2](#).

S.B. 257 -- State Board of Education Amendments (Sen. Grover, K.)

Wednesday March 1: This bill that addressed the “general control and authority” of the Utah State Board of Education failed big on the evening of March first with a vote of [3-71-1](#). As of writing of this update on March 2nd, the House moved to reconsider substitute bill ([see comparison here](#)) that struck much of the language limiting USBE’s authority. The House passed the Substitute bill [57-17-1](#). The bill now goes back to the Senate for consideration of the substitute.

Time is short! What matters to you the most in these last few days?

Make your voice heard!

[Find my Legislator](#) (link here to search by address/zip)

HD4. Rep. Kera Birkeland:
kbirkeland@le.utah.gov

HD23: Rep. Brian King:
briansking@le.utah.gov

HD59: Rep. Mike Kohler
mkohler@le.utah.gov

SD3: Sen. John Johnson
john@johnforutah.com

SD 20: Sen. Ron Winterton
rwinterton@le.utah.gov

Subject line should include:

1. You are a constituent

2. Bill number
3. Position

Comments:

1. Bill number and name
2. Get to it – be brief and concise
3. Personalize: how would this impact you, your values, our voting district/community – and especially OUR STUDENTS!
4. Be polite
5. Include your contact info, including cell phone number, if possible.
6. Build a relationship, offer continued communication, and thank them for their service.

Need a refresher on how a bill becomes a law? [School House Rock: "I'm just a bill"](#) [How ideas become bills, then law](#)