



PASA Daily Briefing

March 18, 2020

1. Daily Briefings Overview

2. Legislative School Code Bill in Process (Tentative – Sketchy Information)

- Eliminate 180-day requirement
- Secretary of Ed can close schools
- Increase flexible instructional days
- Waive CTE hours
- Waive Teacher/Principal Evals
- 12 Week Student Teacher Waiver
- No salary increases
- PSERS credits remain
- Same charter payments
- \$40 million less for online charter
- Schools may apply for any waiver from Secretary of Ed
- Charter package in senate possible

3. Joint Associations letter sent to the General Assembly Today asking for relief and waivers

- Waive the 180-day school year requirement;
- Increase the number of flexible instructional days permissible during this pandemic closure to a number determined by the secretary
- Require PDE to apply for a federal waiver from PSSA and Keystone Exam testing
- Authorize the secretary to waive NOCTI and NIMS exams for Career and Technical Education students
- Ensure all employees, particularly education support professionals, receive no more or no less compensation than they otherwise would have received;
- Ensure no employee receives more or less credit or contributes more or less than they otherwise would have pursuant to the Public-School Employees' Retirement System under 24 Pa.C.S. Pt. IV;
- Ensure that school entities provide proper protective gear for custodians who provide deep cleaning of potentially infected school buildings
- Waive the twelve-week student teacher requirement.

4. Latest PDE Update Released at 10:30 today – PDE website
5. Joint Association FAQ coming soon
6. 180 Day School Year Clarification
 - a. Local decision to go up to June 30. It is not required.
 - b. Must report a school year less than 180 days
 - c. The simplified PDE form will be approved when completed
7. Continuation of education vs. review and enrichment
 - a. No instruction required during shutdown
 - b. Must meet FAPE, IEP's, ESL if continuing education services
8. Special Education Timelines and Issues
 - a. Must provide sp. ed. and 504 services to the “greatest extent possible:
 - b. Must consider compensatory education when school resumes
 - c. Important to reach out to parents
9. Subsidies expected to continue (Transportation shortfall)
10. PASA has requested a moratorium on new Cyber Charter School
Enrollments during the closure
11. Paying staff during the shutdown – CBA's and bargained work year
12. Districts furloughing staff
13. Board Meetings – PSBA Guidance
14. PSERS Issues
15. School Lunch Issues – Must report number of meals served
16. PSSA and Keystone Waivers – AASA working with Congress and USDE
17. Reimbursement for miscellaneous district closure expenses – not likely
18. Free education resources from Edmentum, Newsela, and Curriculum Assoc.
19. Possible extension of school closures – Kansas, Maybe California and Florida