

# Education Policy Changes 2014 Session

May 22, 2014

Steven Huser, Legislative Coordinator  
Minnesota Department of Education

# English Learners

- **Bilingual Seals and World Languages**
- **Reading proficiency by third grade**
- **Post secondary transition**
- **State wide testing alignment**
- **Teacher Licensing and Renewal**
- **Staff Development**
- **ECFE School readiness**
- **Adult EL Students**
- **Parental Involvement**
- **SLEDS**

# Bilingual Seals

- **Establishes voluntary state bilingual and multilingual seals to recognize high school graduates who demonstrate level 3 functional native proficiency in one or more languages other than English. American Sign Language is included as a language other than English.**
- **Students must use Foreign Services Institute language proficiency or an equivalent determined by MDE.**

# Reading Proficiency Goal

- **Directs school districts to adopt a local literacy plan to have every child reading at or above grade level by the end of third grade, including English learners.**

# English Learners Teacher Licensing

- **Requires teaching candidates and those renewing a license to be instructed on effectively instruct English learners. Effective Aug. 1, 2015**
- **Requires administrative preparation and continuing education programs to include English learner techniques**
- **Directs districts to give preference to native speakers who share a native language with the majority of their students.**

# Q-Comp and Alternative Pay

- **Requires the Q-Comp educational improvement plan to:**
  - including the academic literacy and achievement of English learners
  - be based on national and state standards of effective teaching practice applicable to all students including English learners
- **Requires the alternative teacher professional pay system agreement to use measure of student achievement including academic literacy, oral academic language, and achievement of English learners. Effective for plans approved after Aug. 1, 2014**

# Teacher Licensing

- **Allows teacher candidates who have not successfully passed the MTLE to show proficiency by achieving an equivalent composite score on the ACT Plus Writing or the SAT.**
- **Exempts non-English speakers who meet the B of T pedagogy requirements to provide direct instruction in their native language (Article 3, Sections 10-12)**
- **Directs the Board of Teaching to issue a teaching license to an otherwise qualified out-of-state applicant whose scope of license is no more than two grade levels, instead of one grade level less than a similar Minnesota license. Effective Aug. 1, 2014**

# PSEO

- **For 2014-2015 through 2019-2020 school years only, allows a postsecondary institution to advertise or recruit high school students in school districts with 700 or more students in grades 10-12.**
- **Allows students in an ALC enrolled in early or middle college programs to receive dual credit for completing remedial or developmental courses.**



# Nutrition

- **Allows schools and community organizations participating in federal child nutrition meal programs to donate food to food shelf programs**

# Unsession Provisions

- **Removed several obsolete sections of statute**
- **Provisions that were removed were related to outdated law, deadlines that had passed and little used statutes**
- **Suggestions were made using input from MDE staff, legislative staff, and the public**
- **Over 50 pages of obsolete statutes were removed from law relating to education**

# Military Compact

- **Makes Minnesota a member of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children**
- **Requires a school district to include a box on the enrollment form to allow students to self-identify as a “military-connected youth.”**