

Small School Districts' Association Annual Conference

Race to the Top: Impact of Federal and State Agreements

By David Walrath



What We Will Cover

- Race to the Top (RTTT)
- Federal Budget Issues
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Reauthorization
- Federal Health Insurance
- Federal School Facilities Programs



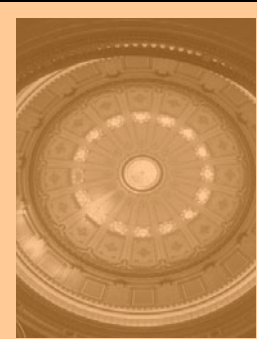
Race to the Top

- State Provisions
- Winners
 - Delaware
 - Tennessee
- New State Proposed Legislation
- i3 (Investing in Innovation)



RTTT: State Law

- SB 1 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session
 - Low-achieving schools
 - Persistently low-achieving schools
 - National Academic Content Standards
 - Education data for employment decisions



RTTT: State Law

- Low-Achieving Schools (LA)
 - Identified for improvement
 - Corrective action
 - Restructuring
 - High schools with three or more consecutive years with fewer than 60% graduation



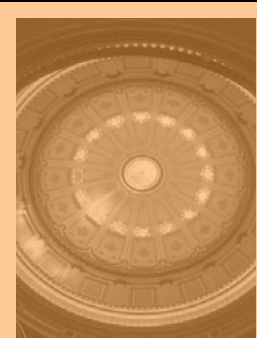
RTTT: State Law

- Persistently Low-Achieving Schools (PLA)
 - Lowest 5% of low-achieving schools
 - Low-achieving high schools



RTTT: State Law

- Exclusions from LA or PLA
 - County community
 - Juvenile court
 - Special Education
 - School improving by 50 or more API points
 - Community Day
 - Not automatic



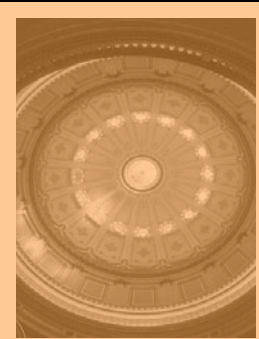
RTTT: State Law

- Intervention Models – PLA
 - Turnaround
 - Restart
 - School closure
 - Charter school
 - None of the above have research validity



RTTT: State Law

- Common Core Standards
 - Creates Academic Content Standards Commission
 - Commission to adopt language arts and mathematics standards that are at least 85% the same as the national common core standards



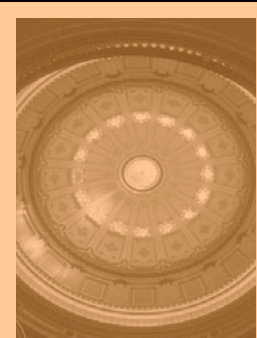
RTTT: State Law

- Other Assessment
 - API for skills and knowledge for entry level employment
 - Increase Science and Math emphasis in API
 - Have a valid longitudinal growth assessment for individuals and groups



RTTT: State Law

- Data for Employment Decisions
 - Restates current law that school districts may use education data for employee evaluations and making employment decisions – subject to collective bargaining law and possible litigation



SB 2 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session

- Student Data
 - Creates new pupil data security provision for research access
 - Establishes pre-school data collection



SB 2 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session

–Requires CDE to:

- Establish an Education Data Team
- Develop policies and procedures to release education data to non-profit researchers and organizations



SB 2 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session

- Allows LEA's to:
 - Share data with other LEAs
 - Access data for pupils who intend, or have been directed, to transfer to the LEA



SB 4 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session

- Major Provisions
 - Open Enrollment Program
 - Parent Intervention



SB 4 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session

- Open Enrollment Program
 - Effective Fall 2011
 - Effects lowest achieving 1,000 schools (different definition than low-achieving schools than in SB 1 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session
 - Requires district of residence to notify parents of transfer option



SB 4 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session

- Open Enrollment Program

- Requires receiving districts to conform to the same anti-discrimination requirements as districts of choice
- Prohibits districts from not participating in the Open Enrollment Program except for specified reasons that can be litigated
- Exempts districts with 8 or fewer schools from being sending districts



SB 4 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session

- Open Enrollment Program
 - Does not exempt districts with 8 or fewer schools from being receiver districts
 - No limits on number or percentage of eligible students that can transfer
 - Evaluation by October 1, 2014
 - No sunset date



SB 4 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session

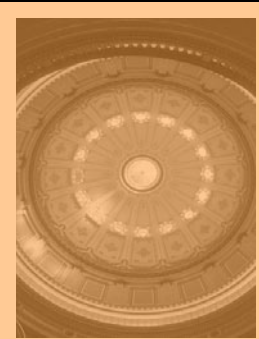
- Parental Intervention

- Allows parents in 75 schools to petition for intervention as if the school were persistently low-achieving as defined by SB 1 of the Fifth Extraordinary Session
- Provides same four intervention models
- Must have 50% of parents or guardians petitioning for the intervention



New State Legislation

- AB 1741 (Coto): PLA conversion to charter
- AB 2083 (Education Cmte): LA and PLA graduation rates
- AB 2370 (Hernandez): Restricts open enrollment program
- Series of intent bills not yet amended



Investing in Innovation

- Intent to apply by April 1
- SSDA members working on data-driven instruction grant
- Priority for grants helping rural districts



Federal Budget

- Administration's Proposals – 2011
 - Shift Title 1 toward middle and high schools
 - Career readiness
 - College readiness
 - No new funds



Federal Budget

- Administration's Proposals – 2011
 - School Improvement Grants
 - \$354.4 million increase
 - 65% increase
 - Name change



Federal Budget

- Administration's Proposals – 2011
 - Race to the Top
 - Additional \$1,350 million
 - Additional \$500 million for Investing in Innovation grants
 - Expansion before results



Federal Budget

- Teacher Training
 - Consolidates 10 programs into 3
 - Increases funding by 10%
 - New money in competitive grants



Federal Budget

- Literacy Grants
 - Consolidates 7 programs into 1
 - Increases funding by 9%
 - 100% competitive grants



Federal Budget

- Promise Neighborhood
 - Ramp up (\$200 million) for new program
 - Programs modeled after Harlem Children's Zone



Federal Budget

- Successful, Safe and Healthy Students
 - Consolidates 6 programs into 1
 - Increases funding 10%
 - Appears to be 100% competitive grant



Federal Budget

- Expanding Parental Options
 - Charter Schools
 - School Choice
 - 20% funding increase



Federal Budget

- Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP)
 - Level-funded
 - Shift 25% to competitive grants
- Impact Aid – No change
- Special Education
 - \$250 million increase
 - Stays at 17% of excess costs



Federal Budget

- Appropriations Process
 - To Subcommittees in April
 - Conference Committees in September
 - Enacted by October 1
 - Probably not until after November Elections



Federal Budget

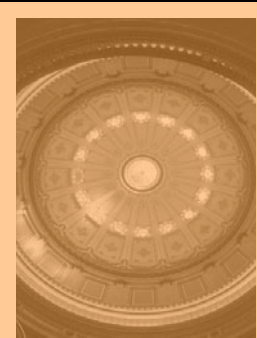
- SSDA's Issues

- REAP

- Formula Fairness (minimum formula grants) vs Competitive Fair Competition

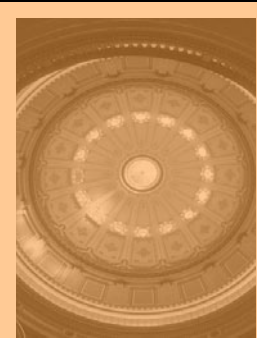
- Title 1

- Program expansion prior to evaluation



ESEA Reauthorization

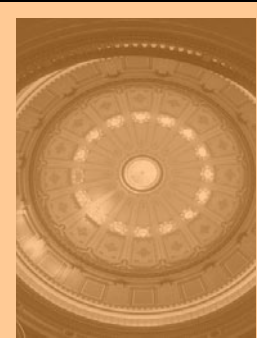
- Title 1 Formula Fairness
- Shift from Census
- REAP
- Formula vs Competitive
- Testing / Common Core
- SSDA Newsletter
- NREAC: <http://www.nreac.org/>



Formula Fairness

Small High Poverty Rural Districts Lose Significant Funds Transferred to Larger Lower Poverty Districts Due to Number Weighting

	Poverty %	Gain per Eligible Pupil
Fremont USD	8.80%	\$39.65
Newport- Mesa USD	9.37%	\$39.39
Placentia Yorba-Linda	6.66%	\$5.87
		Loss per Eligible Pupil
West Fresno ESD	53.60%	(\$281.34)
Earlimart ESD	48.84%	(\$303.77)
Orange Center ESD	47.67%	(\$256.52)



Formula Fairness

- Number Weighting Effect
- SSDA Principles
- Resolutions
- Letters
- Campaign
- www.formulafairness.com



ESEA Reauthorization Timing

- Hearings and staff work now
- Congressional action early 2011
- Bipartisan



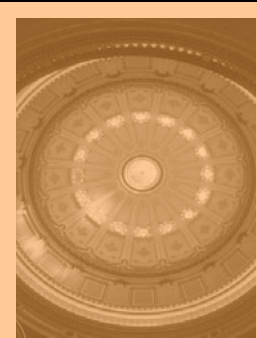
What to Expect

- Formula Fight last
- Shift to competitive grants
- Small and rural school protections
- Growth model and other shifts
- New money authorized but not appropriated
- States and local districts to pay for federal policy goals – Feds. broke



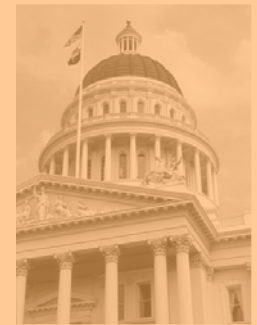
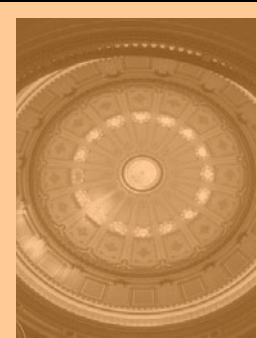
Federal Health Insurance

- Other Post-Employment Benefits
 - Re-insurance program
 - Exchanges
- Pre-existing conditions
- Defer tax/fee on high value insurance
- Premium to Service ratio
- Coverage up to age 26
- Most significant changes deferred to 2013 or later



School Facilities

- Qualified School Construction Bonds (QSCB)
- Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB)
- Build America Bonds (BAB)
- Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREB)
- Repair and Renovation
- Resources
 - CDE: Shannon Farrell-Hart, SFarrell@cde.ca.gov
 - Californians for School Facilities: Anna Ferrera – aferrera@m-w-h.com



Contact Information

David L. Walrath

Murdoch, Walrath & Holmes

1130 K Street, Suite 210

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: 916.441.3300

Fax: 916.441.3893

dwalrath@m-w-h.com

www.m-w-h.com

