



MN ASSOCIATION OF  
CHARTER SCHOOLS

# The Charter School Advocate

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

## END OF LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Good Afternoon,

As you know, the Minnesota Legislature adjourned last night at the constitutionally set bewitching hour of midnight. The final days and hours of the session were not a ringing testimony to transparent policy-making or functional government.

In the wee hours of Sunday morning, the K-12 Bill was put together behind closed doors, with none of the parties – House, Senate or Governor – happy, but the clock was ticking. On Sunday afternoon the K-12 Bill passed the House and on Monday afternoon it passed the Senate. Overhanging these votes was a clear and repeated message from the Governor that he was going to veto the bill. ***(The Governor just vetoed the bill this afternoon. In his veto message he listed at least 8 objections to the bill.)***

***What was in the K-12 Bill that was Vetoed this afternoon? – Here are the financial highlights.***

- A 1.5% increase (\$87) in the **Basic Revenue Formula** in FY16, and a 2.0% increase (\$118) in FY17. The base would have been \$5,918 in FY16 and \$6,036 in FY17.
- **Extended Time/Support Revenue for Charter Schools** – charters would have received 25% of the statewide average of Extended Support Revenue. *This was the first step in restoring funding that charters received for a number of years.*
- **Long Term Maintenance Revenue** – would have been created as a new revenue source for districts and charter schools, phased-in beginning in FY17. For charter schools in FY17 it would be \$34 per adjusted pupil unit, \$85 in FY18 and \$132 in FY19 and beyond. Charter schools would have been able to use this funding for any purpose of the school.

Now that the Governor has vetoed the K-12 Education bill and the legislature did not get other things finished, there will be a special session. When and where that will be held is an unknown, given that the Capitol Building is now closed to the public for renovation and restoration. Stay tuned.

Eugene Piccolo  
Executive Director