

Important Updates from the 2023-25 Legislative Session

as of Aug. 1, 2023

Bills Passed Into Law

2023 Act 11 | Increase in Per-Pupil Voucher Amount

There was a substantial increase in voucher amounts. Amounts for the 2023-24 school year are:

MPCP, WPCP and RPCP: Grades K-8: \$9,893, Grades 9-12: \$12,387 | **SNSP:** \$15,065

2023 Act 12 | Shared Revenue, Milwaukee Sales Tax (Crime Reporting Provision)

Choice schools that operate high school grade(s) are required to report incidents of certain crimes that occur on school grounds, beginning in the 2024-25 school year. It is still unknown how or to whom they will be reported. We are still awaiting administrative rules from the DPI. Statistics will be included on schools' DPI Report Cards.

2023 Act 20 | Reading Instruction in Choice Schools (Right to Read Act)

Choice schools are prohibited to use "three-queing" reading instruction in grades K-3, beginning in the 2024-25 school year. Schools will also have to create retention policies based on the model DPI policy for third-graders. Under-performing schools may be selected to receive a reading coach.

The Right to Read Act was passed quickly. There are still many questions and unknown implications, including an impact on voucher seats. WCRIS will be monitoring the DPI's lengthy administrative rule process.

Other Proposed Bills

"AB" stands for "Assembly Bill." Many of these proposals have companion bills in the Senate ("SB") that may have a different number. The following are only proposals and have not been signed into law yet.

AB 24 | Requiring the Posting of Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline

Choice schools would be required to post the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline in a visible, public area. The bill passed the Assembly Education Committee, but has stalled on the floor.

AB 77 | Automatic Choice Application

Schools could opt-in to use an automatic application process for current choice students. The proposal doesn't specify the required technology for this process, and it's unclear if the DPI or the private school would create the application. It has stalled in Assembly Education Committee.

AB 99 | Teacher Lifetime License

The original bill's purpose was to count time employed at the DPI towards an educator's lifetime license. WCRIS sought an amendment to also count the time that an educator worked for a diocese or synod main office in an education-related position towards a lifetime license. The amendment was introduced, but has stalled in the Assembly Education Committee.

AB 163 | Requiring Anti-Choking Devices in Schools

Private schools would be required to have a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Class I or Class II anti-choking device in their school's first aid kit. It has stalled in Assembly Education Committee.

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Other Proposed Bills (continued)

AB 223 | Maintaining a Supply of Opioid Antagonists in Schools

All private schools will be required to maintain an adequate supply of opioid antagonists in their school's first aid kit. What constitutes an "adequate supply" is undefined. It stalled in the Senate Education Committee.

AB 346 | Requiring a Cold Water Immersion Tub at Youth Athletic Activities

All private schools would be required to maintain a cold water immersion tub if they host athletic activities between May 1 and Sept. 30. The bill has not been scheduled for a committee hearing.

AB 347 | Requiring an Automated External Defibrillator at Youth Athletic Activities

All private schools that host or sponsor an athletic event would be required to have an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) present along with an AED-trained individual. Schools must also create a policy for the use of an AED at a sporting event. The bill has not been scheduled for a committee hearing.

Please contact the WCRIS office with any questions:
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