Governor signs supplemental bill

Gov. Parson signed HB3014 on Thursday. The bill included $1.9 billion for Missouri public schools. These funds represent 90% of the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief dollars passed by the federal government. School districts must have plans approved by DESE before spending this money.

Alternative teacher certification proposed

The House Elementary and Secondary Education committee heard a bill that would allow individual school districts to set criteria and issue teaching certificates. MSTA testified that teaching is a profession that needs to have statewide standards approved by the State Board of Education. MSTA opposed HB1998 based on MSTA Adopted Resolutions for teacher preparation and certification. MSTA supports the State Board of Education as the sole issuer of teaching certificates.

Competency-based education bill heard in Senate Education Committee

Under SB660, high school students would have a new alternative pathway to graduation called the Show Me Success Diploma Program. Starting in 2023, the program would allow students to accelerate learning and earn their diploma at the end of the 10th grade. At the student’s discretion, they may continue to remain in high school or enroll in a postsecondary education institution. Students who enroll in higher education would have an amount equal to 90% of the pupil’s proportionate share of the state, local, and federal aid that the district or charter school receives for the student deposited into a higher education savings account that lists the student as the beneficiary.

For more, go to msta.org/action.