Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Neil Townsend

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: Am. H.B. 460 of the 130th G.A. **Date**: December 3, 2014

Status: As Passed by the House **Sponsor**: Reps. Brenner and Driehaus

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Initiating a community learning process to assist and guide school restructuring

State Fiscal Highlights

- The bill increases the administrative burden of the Department of Education to adopt, develop, and publish rules and information related to community learning centers.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- Although public schools that become community learning centers under the bill will likely incur increased expenditures, the bill is permissive and does not impose those expenditures on schools.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Community learning centers

Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, the bill authorizes certain school districts and community schools to initiate the transition of a school building to a community learning center. A community learning center is a school or community school that participates in a coordinated, community-based effort with community partners to provide comprehensive educational, developmental, family, and health services to students, families, and community members during school hours and hours in which school is not in session. Current law does not prevent a school from becoming a community learning center, as several school buildings in Ohio currently operate as such.[1]

The bill outlines several procedural steps for a school to follow to get approval from parents and school employees to transition the school to a community learning center. If the transition is approved, the district board or community school governing

[1] For examples of the community learning center model in Cincinnati, see www.cincinnaticlc.org.

authority must create a school action team to be responsible for specified duties, including conducting and completing a performance audit of the school and reviewing the needs of the school. Upon completion of the performance audit and review of the building, the school action team must create a community learning center improvement plan that designates appropriate interventions. To assist the school action team, the bill requires the school or a community partner to select an individual to serve as the resource coordinator to assist in the development and coordination of programs and services for the community learning center.

The bill details a procedure for becoming a community learning center but does not require any school district or community school to undertake that action. It is permissive in nature and does not directly increase costs to school districts or community schools. If a school building becomes a community learning center, it will likely incur additional expenditures to meet the additional requirements under that operating model.

Department of Education

The bill will increase the administrative burden for the Department of Education as it requires the Department to adopt rules regarding the elections required for the community learning center process, develop appropriate interventions for a community learning center improvement plan that may be used by a school action team, and publish a menu of programs and services that may be offered by a community learning center. To publish this menu, the Department must solicit input from resource coordinators of existing community learning centers and publish the menu of programs and services on the Department's website.

The bill also permits the Department to provide assistance, facilitation, and training to a school action team in the conducting of the team's audit; opportunities for members of school action teams from different schools to share school improvement strategies with parents, teachers, and other relevant stakeholders in higher performing schools; financial support in a school action team's planning process; and a grant program to assist in the implementation of a qualified community learning center plan.

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