

winter 2020

Psych Perspectives



A publication of the West Virginia School Psychologists Association

Mid-Session Legislative Update

Key Bills Pending in Committee:

HB 4518- Relating to minimum salaries for teachers. The purpose of this bill is to provide for a holder of an Education Specialist Degree with special training in psychology to be paid the same as a teacher with a masters degree plus 45 additional hours.

HB 4112- Requiring county school boards to provide adequate mental health and counseling services. The purpose of this bill is to require county school boards to provide adequate mental health evaluations, services and counseling services for pupils in the public schools; and to establish minimum number of school psychologists by 2022-2023 school year. WVSPA has encouraged lawmakers to expand the bill from K-7 to K-12. Also, the bill is currently an unfunded mandate. Adequate funding would need to be provided in order for school boards to be able to meet the required ratio 1:1000. Passed House Education Committee; Pending in House Finance Committee.

SB 590- Implementing trauma-informed practices in schools. The purpose of this bill is to require the state board of education to implement trauma-informed practices in grades K-12.

Bills to Watch:

HB 4427- Relating to the psychology interjurisdictional compact. The purpose of this bill is to develop a compact that will increase public access to professional psychological services by allowing for telepsychological practices. The WV

Board of Examiners of Psychologists nor any of the state psychological associations were contacted about or even aware that this bill was being considered. The WV Board of Examiners of Psychologists requested that the bill not be passed until they have had adequate time to review it.

HB 2824- Relating to teacher pupil ratio in grades first through third. The purpose of this bill is to limit the teacher-pupil ratio for first through third grade at no more than 1 to 20, and to provide that third-grade students must demonstrate proficiency before advancing to fourth grade.

HB 2766- Relating to a student not advancing to the next grade by teacher recommendation. The purpose of this bill is to provide that parents cannot overrule a teacher's recommendation that a student not be advanced to the next grade unless the student is retested over summer break and can demonstrate proficiency in areas for which the teacher recommended that the student not be advanced.

For more information pertaining to these bills and other important session information, please visit the West Virginia [Legislature website](#)

WVSPA 2020 AWARDS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!



The West Virginia School Psychologists Association awards those in professionals in our community that are making outstanding contributions to the field and the lives of children! Nominate someone that you see making a difference!

Click [here](#) to see the award categories & criteria!

DEADLINE: MARCH 2, 2020

SUBMIT TO:

KIM LEGG (KDLEGG@K12.WV.US)



Save the Date

WVSPA Future Conferences

Spring 2020: April 2-3, 2020,

Four Points Sheraton,

Charleston, WV

Dr. Matt Burns – Eligibility under MTSS

Dr. Peter Isquith – EF Assessments, Evidence based assessment of ADHD with the BRIEF-2, and integration of results

WVU Office of Accessibility Services will present on college transitions for students with disabilities

Fall 2020: October 15-16, 2020

Stonewall Resort,

Roanoke, WV

Dr. Steven Feifer- Neuropsychology of Stress and Trauma

John Comegno- Ethical Review of FERPA/HIPPA

Pearson will provide training on the WIAT-4