

*Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note*

**FINAL  
FISCAL NOTE**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 13-0314

**Date:** July 1, 2013

**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Hudak  
Rep. Kraft-Tharp

**Bill Status:** Signed into Law

**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING INCREASING PARENT ENGAGEMENT IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary</b>	<b>FY 2013-2014</b>	<b>FY 2014-2015</b>
<b>State Revenue</b> General Fund		
<b>State Expenditures</b> General Fund	\$150,093	\$146,091
<b>FTE Position Change</b>	1.0 FTE	1.0 FTE
<b>Effective Date:</b> The bill was signed into law by the Governor and took effect on May 28, 2013.		
<b>Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014:</b> See State Appropriations section.		
<b>School District Impact:</b> See School District Impact section.		

**Summary of Legislation**

This bill expands the duties of school district accountability committees (DAC), school accountability committees (SAC), and the State Advisory Council for Parent Involvement in Education (SACPIE).

In addition to current powers and duties, DACs are authorized to increase the level of parent engagement in schools and districts by:

- publicizing opportunities and soliciting parents to serve on the DAC or on a SAC;
- assisting the district to implement a parent engagement policy; and
- assisting school personnel to increase parent engagement with educators, especially related to creation of READ plans, individual career and academic plans (ICAP) and plans to address habitual truancy.

Under current law, if the State Board of Education (SBE) directs a district public school to adopt an improvement plan, a turnaround plan, or a priority improvement plan, the school principal is required to hold a public hearing to review the plan. This bill instead requires that the SAC hold a public meeting to consider possible strategies to be included in the plan. The SAC must take into account recommendations received at the meeting when making recommendations to the district on the contents of an improvement plan. Recommendations must incorporate strategies to increase parent engagement in the public school.

The bill permits members of SACPIE to receive reimbursement for expenses incurred when performing their duties. Under current law, council members serve without compensation and without reimbursement for expenses. In addition to current powers and duties, the bill requires that SACPIE:

- work with SACs and DACs to increase the level of parent engagement with public schools;
- work with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to provide regional training programs for accountability committees that address parent leadership, engagement, and best practices and skills for district and school personnel in working with parents;
- identify key indicators of successful parent engagement and use these to develop research-based metrics that can be used to measure the level of parent engagement in public schools and institutions of higher education; and
- no later than December 31, 2013, and each year thereafter, report to the SBE, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, and the education committees of the General Assembly on the level of parent engagement in public schools and institutions of higher education.

Each school district and the state Charter School Institute (CSI) is required to adopt a district policy for increasing and supporting parent engagement in public schools, including charter schools. Local school boards and the CSI are required to work with parent members of the DAC to adopt and implement the policy. Each school district and the CSI is required to identify an employee whose responsibilities include increasing parent engagement with district schools, and submit the name of the employee to the CDE.

### **State Expenditures**

*For FY 2013-14, this bill increases costs in the Colorado Department of Education by \$150,093 and 1.0 FTE. For FY 2014-15, the bill increases costs by \$146,090 and 1.0 FTE. Costs for this bill are displayed in Table 1 and described below.*

<b>Table 1. Expenditures Under SB 13-193</b>		
<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2013-14</b>	<b>FY 2014-15</b>
Personal Services	\$100,440	\$100,440
FTE	1.0	1.0
Operating Expenses and Capital Outlay	5,653	950
Printing, postage, and travel	12,000	12,000
SACPIE meetings, travel, and reimbursement	32,000	32,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$150,093</b>	<b>\$145,590</b>

The bill requires the addition of 1.0 FTE Director of Parent Engagement in the CDE. New staff will:

- coordinate parent engagement activities for the CDE;
- serve as a representative on SACPIE;
- work with council members to prepare agendas and conduct regional meetings;
- provide training support to school districts and charter schools to increase parent engagement and train district personnel in effective parent engagement strategies;
- identify key indicators of parent engagement and develop a metric to measure the level of parent engagement in schools;
- provide support to schools and districts in convening public meetings related to improvement and turnaround planning; and
- prepare and deliver a report to the state board on the level of parent engagement in Colorado schools.

In addition to new staff, the CDE requires approximately \$44,000 each year to conduct regional meetings of SACPIE and to reimburse council expenses when providing training and professional development on parental engagement in school districts.

### **Expenditures Not Included**

Pursuant to a Joint Budget Committee policy, certain costs associated with this bill are addressed through the annual budget process and centrally appropriated in the Long Bill or supplemental appropriations bills, rather than in this bill. The centrally appropriated costs subject to this policy are summarized in Table 2.

<b>Table 2. Expenditures Not Included Under SB 13-193*</b>		
<b>Cost Components</b>	<b>FY 2013-14</b>	<b>FY 2014-15</b>
Employee Insurance (Health, Life, Dental, and Short-term Disability)	\$6,795	\$6,795
Supplemental Employee Retirement Payments	6,165	6,975
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,960</b>	<b>\$13,770</b>

*\*More information is available at: <http://colorado.gov/fiscalnotes>*

### **School District Impact**

Many Colorado school districts currently have parent engagement policies in place that meet the expectations outlined in the bill. Districts without such policies will incur development and implementation costs including staff time to consult with school and district accountability committees, teachers, and parents, and board time to consider policy alternatives and to adopt a plan.

In addition to current powers and duties, district accountability committees must attempt to increase the level of parent engagement in schools and districts. The DAC must publicize opportunities for committee service, assist districts to implement an engagement plan, and work with district personnel to create individualized student plans. If the SBE directs a school to adopt an improvement plan, this bill shifts responsibility for public engagement from the school's principal to the school's accountability committee. The SAC will have increased responsibilities to conduct meetings and make recommendations to the local school board about improvement plan contents and engaging parents. As additional information becomes available regarding estimates of these costs, this fiscal note will be revised.

Pursuant to Section 22-32-143, C.R.S., as specified by House Bill 11-1277, school districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) may submit estimates of fiscal impacts within seven days of a bill's introduction. As of the date of this fiscal note, no summaries of fiscal impacts were submitted by districts or BOCES for this bill. If summaries of fiscal impacts are submitted by districts or BOCES in the future, they will be noted in subsequent revisions to the fiscal note and posted at this address: <http://www.colorado.gov/lcs>

### **State Appropriations**

Consistent with this final fiscal note, the bill contains a FY 2013-14 appropriation of \$150,093 General Fund and 1.0 FTE to the Colorado Department of Education.

### **Departments Contacted**

Education              Higher Education