

## **ED 613: Discussion Three**

**NAME OF BILL:** H.F. 630 Omnibus E-12 Education Finance and Policy Bill (Passed May 20, 2013)

**SUMMARY:** The reason I chose this particular three-year-old bill is because from it spawned much of the World's Best Workforce initiative that we have begun earnestly working toward across the state. And I believe that this initiative has allowed school districts the ability to identify and work to reduce the specific achievement gaps that exist in their unique learning communities.

According to presentations given to our school board and staff with regard to this piece of legislations the main goals of the World's Best Workforce bill are as follows:

- Help students meet school readiness goals
- Help all third grade students achieve grade-level literacy
- Close the academic achievement gap among all racial and ethnic groups of students and between students living in poverty and their more privileged peers.
- Have all students graduate from high school
- Have all students attain college and career preparedness

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) presentation we received as teachers last year summarized, the World's Best Workforce legislation as a statute aimed at encouraging school boards to "plan to support and improve teaching and learning". According to the MDE, the following components are key to the success of this law:

- Clearly defined student achievement goals and benchmarks Process to evaluate each student's progress toward meeting the state and local academic standards
- A system to review and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction and curriculum
- Practices that integrate high-quality instruction, rigorous curriculum, instructional technology, and a collaborative professional culture that support teacher quality, performance and effectiveness
- Evidence-based strategies for improving curriculum, instruction and student achievement  
An annual budget for continuation of district plan implementation

**HISTORY:** The Omnibus bill mentioned above, and more specifically the World's Best Workforce initiative set forth by that bill, currently lies manifest in the following Minnesota state statute:

120B.11 SCHOOL DISTRICT PROCESS FOR REVIEWING CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT; STRIVING FOR THE WORLD'S BEST WORKFORCE.