MSBO School Finance Committee Zoom

November 20, 2020 Raymond M. Davis, Thrun Law Firm, P.C.



Caution

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Topics

- I. MIOSHA Emergency Rule: Remote Work
- II. MDHHS Emergency Order
- III. Support Staff Employment
 - SSAA Sec. 11p vs. Michigan
 Constitution IX, Sec. 18
 - Employee considerations
 - Contractor Considerations

I. MIOSHA Emergency Rule 10/14/20

- Remote Work Policy
- Prohibit "In-person work" for employees to the extent their work activity can be feasibly completed remotely

I. MIOSHA Emergency Rule

- Impact on Teachers
 - Oln person
 - Report to work when virtual
- Impact on Support Staff

I. MIOSHA Emergency Rule

- Remote work policy
- Factors to consider whether remote work is "feasible"
- Contemporaneously document "feasibility"
- Employee who volunteers to work in person
- Penalty: \$7,000 per violation

- Gr 9-12: In-person instruction prohibited, except for ELL or special education students
- Gr K-8: In-person instruction permitted, subject to local health dept and district decisions
- Gr K-12: Sports and extracurriculars prohibited
- Must design gatherings (including classrooms) to encourage/maintain 6-feet distancing to the extent possible

- Are all in-person instruction and educational support services prohibited?
- May schools continue to offer sports and extracurricular activities?
- May we allow students to gather in the cafeteria for meals?
- Are students permitted to use gyms, exercise facilities, and pools?

- Are in-person IEP or 504 team meetings permitted?
- Must we modify students' IEPs or 504 plans?
- What about services to students "in need"?
 - Child care
 - Mental health services
 - Technology access
 - Meals
 - Others?

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 - Others?

III. Support Staff Employment

- CARES Act conditions, SSAA Section 11p., a district must "to the greatest extent practicable, continue to pay employees and contractors."
- Michigan Constitution Article IX, §
 18 "the credit of the state shall not
 be granted to, nor in aid of any
 person, association or corporation,
 public or private, except as
 authorized by this constitution."

III. Support Staff Employment

- Keeping hourly staff
- Require in-person work?
 - o "feasible" remote work?
- No work to be performed remotely.

III. Support Staff Employment

- For layoffs, follow CBA or Board Policy
- Contemporaneously record why it is not "practicable" to continue employment
- Alternatives: benefit leave days or "on call" status [possible impact on retirement]

IV. Contractors

- Avoid joint employment
- Follow contract terms

Q&A

Always Remember: There is Light at the End of the Tunnel



THANK YOU!

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