

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	HF 2705/HSB 717	House Committee: Passed on 2/18 (16-7)
Committee:	Education	House Floor:
Floor Manager	Representative Gehlbach	Senate Floor:
Date:	March 3, 2026	Governor:
Staff:	Kristin Rozeboom (1-3015)	

School Board Omnibus

- Requires a school board to give notice for bond sales in at least one electronic or written publication with nationwide circulation.
- Notice for school board vacancies can be on the district website.
- Authorizes the use of e-signatures and electronic contracts in some situations.
- Requires schools to give school boards access to information.

Section by Section Analysis

Division I—School Board and Officers—Duties and Responsibilities

Section 1. Section 279.6(1)(a)

Adds that the board shall publish a school board vacancy on their website.

Section 2. Section 279.8C Board of Directors—access to information-New Section

The school board shall have access to and may review any of the following:

- The curriculum associated with any instruction provided to students enrolled in the school district.
- Materials located in a library operated by the school district, including a library located in a classroom.

A district shall not prohibit a school board member from attending classes to observe, not to evaluate, if the member has given reasonable prior notice to the superintendent and principal of the attendance center.

A district shall not prohibit a school board member from accessing materials used in a professional development program that the district requires for the employees.

A district shall provide copies of materials used in professional development programs to a member of the school board upon request.

“Professional development program” means the same as 256.145.

Section 3. Section 279.20(2)

Allows the school board to use electronic signatures when entering into contracts.

Section 4. Section 279.35

Salaries shall be published annually on the district's website and must remain for at least 30 days. The secretary must publish a link to the publication within 2 weeks following adjournment of the meeting and the link must be prominently displayed on the district's website.

Section 5. Section 280.12(2) & (3)

Strikes school improvement committee recommendation section and replaces it with:

- Utilize the recommendations of the school improvement advisory committee to determine school district or accredited nonpublic school needs, including but not limited to all of the following:
 - Major educational needs
 - Student learning goals
 - Long-range and annual improvement goals
 - Desired levels of student performance
 - Harassment or bullying prevention goals
 - Monitor school district and accredited nonpublic school progress toward meeting the goals

Section 6. Section 291.1 President—duties

The president of the school board has the authority to enter into original or electronic contracts and use electronic signatures.

Division II. Electronic Bids on Public Bonds

Section 7. Section 75.14

Makes conforming changes.

Division III School District Funds

Section 8. Section 298A.2(2)(a) New Subparagraph

Adds TSS funds.

Division IV—Statewide School Infrastructure Funding

Section 9. Section 423F.3(4)

Amended to add that a school district affected by reorganization that has issued bonds and that has not approved a revenue purpose statement shall first use revenues to make timely and sufficient payment of principal and interest, and premium if applicable on the outstanding bonds.

Division V Open Enrollment

Section 10. Section 282.18(17)

If a pupil is chronically absent, participating in a school engagement meeting, or a party to an absenteeism prevention plan, the pupil shall not be permitted to transfer to an online school until that has been resolved.

Section 11. Applicability

This division applies to applications and notifications related to open enrollment on or after the effective date of this division of this act.

Division VI—County Conference Board

Section 12. Section 441.2

Allows a designated member of a city council to sit on the conference board.

Adds language that members of the school boards of each school district containing a high school in the city are one voting unit.

Amendment Analysis

Amendment H-8101 by Ramirez—Strikes Sec. 8 which allows TSS funds to be received into school district flex accounts if left over.

