

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2024

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1347

Chairperson: Senator Dave Murman

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 13, 2024

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB1347 establishes the Community Schools Act which intends to provide comprehensive programs and services that are carefully selected to meet the unique needs of students and families. This program is only available to a public school with at least 40% of the students being eligible for free or reduced-price lunch or identified for comprehensive or targeted support and intervention.

LB1347 provides that the Department of Education shall approve grants to schools that qualify to become a community school based on the needs and assets assessment of the school. If approved for a grant, the grant will be used for:

1. Provide a community school director to help coordinate services
2. Establish or maintain a school-based leadership team and teacher learning communities and for the local education agency, a communitywide leadership team
3. Implement integrated student supports
4. Implement expanded and enriched learning time and opportunities that may include additional academic instruction, before-school, after-school and summer school programs, job training, internships, etc.
5. Implement at least two active family and community engagement strategies

LB1347 also requires the Department of Education to submit a report to the Legislature on the impact of the Community Schools Act and any recommended revisions. LB1347 appropriates \$1 million from the General Fund to carry out the Act.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Lynne Walz