



KASC was invited to attend the Governor's budget briefing on June 3, 2009 and we would like to share that information with our members. Below are the main points of the Governor's *proposal* for the June 15 special legislative session:

- The Governor is firmly committed to education. Even though education funding accounts for the majority of the state general fund, he wants to protect the main education funding (SEEK). In many other states, education is taking a big hit.
- The details for the ***2010** budget are:
 - Districts are guaranteed the same amount of per-pupil funding for SEEK as in 2009.
 - *KDE Update from June 3: The Governor's proposed funding for 2009-10 includes a projected increase in average daily attendance. If there are excess funds, they will be distributed back to local school districts using the SEEK formula and will increase the base per pupil amount.*
 - Teachers will receive a 1% salary increase that will come from local school district funds.
 - The Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System funding will remain the same as 2009.
 - There will be a 2.6% overall reduction, excluding SEEK. KDE will determine how the 2.6% reduction will impact Flexible Focus Funds — extended school services, professional development, safe schools, preschool and textbooks.
 - School district personnel **will not** lose any paid holidays, but state employees, including KDE staff, will lose between 3 and 5 days.
- The Governor also supports giving school districts flexibility in the use of the required 2% contingency funds. KDE staff will analyze state law and regulation related to that requirement and provide input to the Governor and his staff.
- The Governor plans to use \$700 million of the stimulus money from the federal government to offset KY's budget deficit. (That money is called the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.) This is different from the special education and Title I stimulus money allocated to school districts.

We ask your help in actively supporting the Governor in his plan for protecting education funds. This is a separate issue from the slot machine proposal or other proposals to increase revenue for the future. Let others in your school community know about his commitment to education, and ask your legislators to support this proposal during the special session.