



# The District's Dime

Going Beyond the Budget Book

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*The DC Fiscal Policy Institute blog*  
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September 26, 2013

## Education Bills To Watch This Fall

By Soumya Bhat

The official start of fall brings about cooler weather, intense analysis of RGIII, and an equally in-depth focus on the education legislation being considered by the DC Council! (Don't worry—DCFPI is here to help you with that last one.) With a number of education bills facing the Council's Committee on Education, and mark-ups set to begin as early as next week, it's time to start weighing in on the proposals.

Over the summer, several hearings were held on these bills, and, in the last week, a consortium of groups—including parents, researchers, and advocates—released a comprehensive [report](#). This document outlines a set of guiding principles to inform council discussions, along with specific recommendations for each of the [seven bills](#) introduced by Education Committee Chair David Catania. These bills would have a huge impact on how the District's education system is funded, governed, and held accountable for years to come.

DCFPI urges residents to become familiar with these bills and find out where your councilmember stands on the issues you care most about. See below for a list of the education bills to watch, with links to the full bill language, along with the introducing councilmember and co-sponsors.

<b>Education Bills to Watch</b>	<b>Bill Introducer</b>	<b>Co-Sponsors</b>
<a href="#"><u>Public Education Governance Improvement Act of 2013</u></a>	Catania	Grosso, Barry, Cheh, Bonds, Mendelson
<a href="#"><u>Parent and Student Empowerment Act of 2013</u></a>	Catania	Alexander, Grosso, Barry, Evans, Wells, McDuffie, Cheh, Graham, Mendelson
<a href="#"><u>Focused Student Achievement Act of 2013</u></a>	Catania	Alexander, Grosso, Barry, Bonds, Cheh, Orange, Evans, Graham, Mendelson
<a href="#"><u>Comprehensive Planning and Utilization of School Facilities Act of 2013</u></a>	Catania	Alexander, Grosso, Evans, Barry, Wells, Cheh, Graham
<a href="#"><u>Fair Student Funding and School-Based Budgeting Act of 2013</u></a>	Catania	Barry, Grosso, Bonds, Bowser, Cheh, Alexander, Evans, McDuffie, Orange, Mendelson
<a href="#"><u>Individual School Accountability Act of 2013</u></a>	Catania	Grosso, Barry, Cheh, Bowser, Alexander, Mendelson
<a href="#"><u>Unified Public Education Lottery Act of 2013</u></a>	Catania	Grosso, Evans, McDuffie, Bonds, Bowser, Cheh, Alexander, Graham, Barry, Mendelson
<a href="#"><u>Increasing Access to High Quality Educational Opportunities Act of 2013</u></a>	Mendelson (at the request of the mayor)	