

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1272

4
5 By: Representatives Blount, Allen, T. Baker, Cash, Davis, Hardy, House, Hoyt, Rainey, J. Roebuck,
6 Shelby, Stewart

For An Act To Be Entitled

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9
10 AN ACT TO INCREASE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN
11 ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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14 TO INCREASE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN
15 ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1702(b)(5), concerning a public school
21 parental involvement plan, is amended to read as follows:

22 (5)(A) Acknowledge that parents play an integral role in
23 assisting student learning.

24 (B) To help parents in assisting students, the school
25 shall:

26 (i) Schedule regular parent involvement meetings at
27 which parents are given a report on the state of the school and an overview
28 of:

29 (a) What students will be learning;

30 (b) How students will be assessed;

31 (c) What parents should expect for their
32 child's education; and

33 (d) How a parent can assist and make a
34 difference in his or her child's education;

35 (ii)(a) Provide an opportunity for home instruction
36 for parents from minority or low socioeconomic backgrounds by providing



1 instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate
2 learning activities in the home environment.

3 (b) The home instruction for parents from
4 minority or low socioeconomic backgrounds shall include one (1) or more of
5 the following:

6 (1) Role play and demonstration by
7 trained volunteers;

8 (2) The use of and access to Department
9 of Education website tools for parents;

10 (3) Assistance with nutritional meal
11 planning and preparation; and

12 (4) Other strategies or curricula
13 developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction
14 approved by the Department of Education; and

15 ~~(ii)~~ (iii) Engage in other activities determined by
16 the school to help a parent assist in his or her child’s learning;

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18 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1703 is amended to read as follows:
19 6-15-1703. Staff development.

20 (a) ~~By September 1, 2003, the~~ The State Board of Education’s Standards
21 for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall
22 require:

23 (1) ~~no~~ No fewer than two (2) hours of professional development
24 opportunities for teachers, which may be included in the ~~thirty (30) minimum~~
25 number of hours of professional development required, ~~as of January 1, 2003,~~
26 designed to enhance understanding of effective parental involvement
27 strategies; and

28 ~~(b) (2)~~ (2) ~~By September 1, 2003, the State Board of Education’s~~
29 ~~Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts~~
30 ~~shall require no~~ No fewer than three (3) hours of professional development
31 opportunities for administrators, in addition to the ~~thirty (30) minimum~~
32 number of hours of professional development required, ~~as of January 1, 2003,~~
33 designed to enhance understanding of:

34 ~~(1)~~ (A) Effective parent involvement strategies; and

35 ~~(2)~~ (B) The importance of administrative leadership in
36 setting expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental

1 participation.

2 (b) Each school district shall provide training at least annually for
3 the volunteers who conduct home visits in a home instruction program under §
4 6-15-1702(b)(5).

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6 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1705 is amended to read as follows:

7 6-15-1705. Incorporation of parental involvement into teacher
8 education programs.

9 The Department of Education and the Department of Higher Education
10 shall collaborate with institutions of higher education to incorporate into
11 teacher and administrator education programs ~~information~~ instruction
12 regarding:

13 (1) the The importance of parental involvement; ~~and~~

14 (2) how to successfully encourage Successful strategies for
15 encouraging parents to be partners in their child's education; and

16 (3) The relationship between cultural diversity and parental
17 involvement.

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