

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
4

As Engrossed: H2/13/09 S3/3/09

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1272

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

7 *By: Senators Elliott, Steele*
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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

15 TO INCREASE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN
16 ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1702(b)(5), concerning a public school
23 parental involvement plan, is amended to read as follows:

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

26 (B) To help parents in assisting students, the school
27 shall:

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

31 (a) What students will be learning;

32 (b) How students will be assessed;

33 (c) What parents should expect for their
34 child's education; and

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



1 (ii) Provide instruction to a parent on how to
 2 incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home
 3 environment, including without limitation:

4 (a) Role play and demonstration by trained
 5 volunteers;

6 (b) The use of and access to Department of
 7 Education website tools for parents;

8 (c) Assistance with nutritional meal planning
 9 and preparation; and

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

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

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 16 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1703 is amended to read as follows:
 17 6-15-1703. Staff development.

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

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

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

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

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

36 (b) Each school district shall provide training at least annually for

1 volunteers who assist in an instructional program for parents.

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3 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1705 is amended to read as follows:
4 6-15-1705. Incorporation of parental involvement into teacher
5 education programs.

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

- 10 (1) ~~the~~ The importance of parental involvement; ~~and~~
11 (2) ~~how to successfully encourage~~ Successful strategies for
12 encouraging parents to be partners in their child's education; and
13 (3) The relationship between cultural diversity and parental
14 involvement.

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16 /s/ Blount
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