

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H2/8/13 H2/12/13*

2 89th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL 1262

4

5 By: Representatives Eubanks, Branscum, Catlett, Clemmer, C. Douglas, Farrer, Gillam, Gossage,

6 Hickerson, Lampkin, Lenderman, Vines, *Bell, Jett*

7 By: Senators J. English, Holland, J. Key

8

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For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

11 EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT; TO DECLARE AN

12 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC

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SCHOOL EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT;

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AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-5-405(b) and (c), concerning professional
24 development for higher education awareness, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) ~~Beginning with the 2009 calendar year, professional~~ Professional
26 development on the availability of, eligibility requirements for, and the
27 process of applying for state-supported student financial assistance shall be
28 required for:

29 (1) All public school superintendents and assistant
30 superintendents; and

31 (2) The following licensed personnel at a public school where
32 students are enrolled in grade seven through grade twelve (7-12):

33 (A) Principals;

34 (B) Assistant principals; and

35 (C) Guidance counselors.

36 (c)(1) The first course shall be a three-hour course to be taken



1 ~~before within calendar year 2009~~, or within the first year of employment:

2 (A) As a public school superintendent;

3 (B) As a public school assistant superintendent; or

4 (C) In one (1) of the following positions for grades seven
5 through twelve (7-12):

6 (i) Principal;

7 (ii) Assistant principal; or

8 (iii) Guidance counselor.

9 (2) After the first three-hour course is completed, a one-hour
10 course ~~is required to~~ shall be completed ~~annually~~ according to the
11 professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

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13 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1703 is amended to read as follows:

14 6-15-1703. Professional development.

15 (a) The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of
16 Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require the following
17 professional development hours according to the professional development
18 schedule under § 6-17-709:

19 (1) ~~Two (2) or more~~ hours of professional development as part of
20 the ~~annual~~ minimum number of hours of professional development required for
21 teachers, designed to enhance understanding of effective parental involvement
22 strategies; and

23 (2) ~~Three (3) or more~~ Two (2) hours of professional development
24 as part of the ~~annual~~ minimum number of hours of professional development
25 required for administrators, designed to enhance understanding of:

26 (A) Effective parent involvement strategies; and

27 (B) The importance of administrative leadership in setting
28 expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

29 ~~(b) The Department of Education shall provide the professional~~
30 ~~development required under this section.~~

31 ~~(c)~~ (b) Each A school district shall provide training at least annually
32 for volunteers who assist in an instructional program for parents.

33
34 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-703 is amended to read as follows:

35 6-17-703. Arkansas history in-service training.

36 (a) ~~Every school district in this state~~ A school district shall

1 provide two (2) hours of substantive and meaningful ~~in-service training~~
2 professional development in Arkansas history ~~each school year~~ for
3 its teachers who provide instruction in Arkansas history according to the
4 professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

5 (b) The school district may provide the professional development:

6 (1) ~~contract~~ By contracting with an education service cooperative
7 ~~to provide the training; or~~

8 (2) By using the Arkansas Online Professional Development
9 Initiative under § 6-17-707.

10 (c) The ~~in-service training~~ professional development under this
11 section shall count toward satisfaction of requirements for professional
12 development in the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and
13 School Districts.

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15 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(a), concerning a professional
16 development plan, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) As used in this section, "professional development" means a set of
18 ~~coordinated set of~~ planned learning activities for teachers, administrators,
19 and ~~classified nonlicensed school~~ employees that ~~are standards-based and~~
20 ~~continuous;~~

21 (1) Is required by statute or the Department of Education; or

22 (2) Meets the following criteria:

23 (A) Is part of the minimum number of professional
24 development hours required by law or by the department;

25 (B) Improves the knowledge, skills, and effectiveness of
26 teachers;

27 (C) Addresses the knowledge and skills of administrators
28 and paraprofessionals concerning effective instructional strategies, methods,
29 and skills;

30 (D) Leads to improved student academic achievement; and

31 (E) Is research-based and standards-based.

32
33 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(c)(1), concerning a professional
34 development plan, is amended to read as follows:

35 (c)(1) ~~Beginning with school year 2004-2005, each~~ Annually, each
36 school district shall prepare a professional development plan.

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SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(e), concerning a professional development plan, is amended to read as follows:

~~(e)(1) The professional development offerings may meet the objectives of subdivision (e)(2) of this section developed by the National Staff Development Council and shall comply with the rules of the State Board of Education governing professional development.~~

~~(2) Professional development that improves the learning of all students;~~

~~(A) Requires skillful school and school district leaders who guide continuous instructional improvement;~~

~~(B) Organizes educators into learning communities whose goals are aligned with those of the school and school district;~~

~~(C) Provides resources to support educator learning and collaboration;~~

~~(D) Uses disaggregated student data to determine educator learning priorities, monitor progress, and help sustain continuous improvements;~~

~~(E) Uses multiple sources of information to guide educator improvement and demonstrate its impact;~~

~~(F) Prepares educators to apply research to decision making;~~

~~(G) Uses learning strategies appropriate to the intended goal;~~

~~(H) Applies knowledge about human learning and change;~~

~~(I) Prepares educators to understand and appreciate all students;~~

~~(J) Creates safe, orderly, and supportive learning environments;~~

~~(K) Holds high expectations for the students' academic achievement;~~

~~(L) Deepens educators' content knowledge;~~

~~(M) Provides educators with research-based instructional strategies to assist students in meeting rigorous academic standards;~~

~~(N) Prepares educators to use various types of classroom assessments appropriately;~~

1 ~~(O) Provides educators with knowledge and skills to~~
2 ~~appropriately involve families and other stakeholders in education;~~

3 ~~(P) Provides educators with knowledge and skills needed to~~
4 ~~teach students with disabilities, including without limitation autism; and~~

5 ~~(Q) Provides educators with knowledge and skills needed to~~
6 ~~teach culturally and linguistically diverse students.~~

7 (e) The professional development under this section:

8 (1) Shall comply with the Arkansas Department of Education Rules
9 Governing Professional Development; and

10 (2) May provide educators with knowledge and skills needed to
11 teach:

12 (A) Students with disabilities, including without
13 limitation autism; and

14 (B) Culturally and linguistically diverse students.

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16 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code §6-17-708 is amended to read as follows:

17 6-17-708. Teen suicide awareness and prevention in-service training.

18 (a)(1) ~~Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, the~~ The Department of
19 Education shall require two (2) hours of ~~in-service training~~ professional
20 development in teen suicide awareness and prevention ~~one (1) time every five~~
21 ~~(5) school years~~ for licensed public school personnel according to the
22 professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

23 (2) The ~~in-service training~~ professional development under this
24 section may be accomplished through self-review of suitable suicide
25 prevention materials approved by the department.

26 (b) The ~~in-service training~~ professional development under this
27 section shall count toward the satisfaction of requirements for professional
28 development in the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and
29 School Districts and for licensure requirements for licensed personnel.

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31 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 7, is amended
32 to add an additional section to read as follows:

33 6-17-709. Professional development schedule.

34 (a) Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, a school district or an
35 open-enrollment public charter school shall make available to the appropriate
36 licensed personnel the following professional development:

1 (1) In the 2013-2014 school year and every fourth school year
2 thereafter:

3 (A) The one (1) hour of higher education scholarship
4 awareness professional development required under § 6-5-405; and

5 (B) The professional development for mandated reporters
6 and licensed elementary and secondary public school personnel required under
7 § 6-61-133;

8 (2) In the 2014-2015 school year and every fourth school year
9 thereafter, the parental involvement professional development under § 6-15-
10 1703;

11 (3) In the 2015-2016 school year and every fourth school year
12 thereafter, the teen suicide awareness and prevention professional
13 development required under § 6-17-708; and

14 (4) In the 2016-2017 school year and every fourth school year
15 thereafter, the Arkansas history professional development required under § 6-
16 17-703.

17 (b)(1) Two (2) hours of the professional development required by
18 subsection (a) of this section shall be counted in one (1) school year toward
19 the minimum number of hours of professional development required for licensed
20 educators under the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing
21 Professional Development.

22 (2) If additional hours are obtained by a licensed educator, the
23 school district may count those hours as part of the minimum number of hours
24 of professional development required for licensed educators under the
25 Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Professional Development.

26 (c) Annually, the State Board of Education may require up to six (6)
27 hours of integrated professional development for licensed educators in
28 educational technology.

29 (d) The Department of Education shall establish the curriculum under
30 this section in collaboration with educational agencies and associations
31 including without limitation the:

32 (1) Department of Higher Education;

33 (2) Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators;

34 (3) Arkansas Education Association;

35 (4) Arkansas School Boards Association; and

36 (5) Arkansas Association for Supervision and Curriculum

1 Development.

2 (e)(1) The professional development under this subsection shall not
3 be provided by a school district but shall be provided by:

4 (A) The Department of Education;

5 (B) An institutions of higher education; or

6 (C) Providers approved by the Department of Education.

7 (2)(A) Before a person receives a building level administrator's
8 license, the person shall successfully complete the teacher evaluation
9 professional development program.

10 (B) A person who receives an initial building level
11 administrator's license shall complete the certification assessment for the
12 teacher evaluation professional development program before or after receiving
13 the initial building level administrator's license.

14 (3)(A) The Department of Education shall not issue an initial
15 teaching license until the applicant verifies that he or she has obtained the
16 required professional development concerning:

17 (A) Mandated reporters under § 6-61-133;

18 (B) Parental involvement under § 6-15-1703;

19 (C) Teen suicide awareness and prevention under § 6-
20 17-708; and

21 (D) Arkansas history under § 6-17-703.

22 (B) For a teaching license issued under the state's
23 reciprocity provisions to an out-of-state teacher, the Department of
24 Education shall issue a provisional license until the licensee obtains the
25 professional development identified in subdivision (e)(3)(A) of this section.

26

27 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2602(2), concerning the definition of
28 "professional development" for purposes of the lifetime teaching license, is
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (2) "Professional development" ~~means a coordinated set of~~
31 ~~planned, learning development activities for teachers that are standards-~~
32 ~~based and that meet the focus areas for professional development required by~~
33 ~~the department~~ has the same meaning as the meaning given to the term under §
34 6-17-704; and

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36 SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2303(15)(A), concerning the

1 definition of "professional development" for school funding purposes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (15)(A) "Professional development" ~~means a coordinated set of~~
4 ~~planned learning activities for teachers and administrators that are~~
5 ~~standards-based~~ has the same meaning as the meaning given to the term under §
6 6-17-704.

7
8 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 6-61-133(c), concerning professional
9 development for mandated reporters and licensed elementary and secondary
10 public school personnel, is amended to read as follows:

11 6-61-133. ~~Training~~ Professional development for ~~mandatory mandated~~
12 reporters and licensed elementary and secondary public school personnel.

13 (a) As used in this section:

14 (1) "Child maltreatment" means the abuse, sexual abuse, neglect,
15 sexual exploitation, or abandonment of a child under the Child Maltreatment
16 Act, § 12-18-101 et seq.; and

17 (2) "Licensed school personnel" means a person who works with
18 students in an elementary or secondary public school, a public charter
19 school, a school district, or an education service cooperative for whom a
20 license issued by the State Board of Education is a condition of employment,
21 including without limitation a:

22 (A) School or school district administrator;

23 (B) Teacher;

24 (C) Coach for a school athletics program;

25 (D) School counselor;

26 (E) School social worker;

27 (F) School psychologist; and

28 (G) School nurse.

29 (b) For each degree program at an institution of higher education in
30 this state that is a prerequisite for licensure or certification in a
31 profession in which the professional is a child maltreatment mandated
32 reporter under the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq., the
33 Department of Higher Education shall coordinate with all the institutions of
34 higher education to ensure that before receiving a degree, each graduate
35 receives the ~~training~~ professional development identified in subdivision
36 (d)(1) of this section.

1 (c) Licensed school personnel shall obtain the ~~training~~ professional
2 development identified in subsection (d) of this section ~~within twelve (12)~~
3 ~~months of:~~

4 (1) ~~The~~ Not more than one (1) year before the individual's
5 initial licensure; and

6 (2) ~~All subsequent renewals of the individual's license~~
7 According to the professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

8 (d)(1) The ~~training~~ professional development required under this
9 section shall include without limitation:

10 (A) Recognizing the signs and symptoms of child
11 maltreatment;

12 (B) The legal requirements of the Child Maltreatment Act,
13 § 12-18-101 et seq., and the duties of mandated reporters under the act; and

14 (C) Methods for managing disclosures regarding child
15 victims.

16 (2) In addition to the ~~training~~ professional development
17 required under subdivision (d)(1) of this section, licensed school personnel
18 shall obtain ~~training~~ professional development in connecting a victim of
19 child maltreatment to appropriate in-school services and other agencies,
20 programs, and services needed to provide the child with the emotional and
21 educational support the child needs to continue to be successful in school.

22 (e)(1) The ~~training~~ professional development obtained by licensed
23 school personnel may be obtained as in-person or online ~~training~~ professional
24 development.

25 (2) The Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission
26 shall approve the curriculum for the ~~training~~ professional development.

27 (3) Licensed school personnel shall document completed ~~training~~
28 professional development according to the rules of the State Board of
29 Education.

30 ~~(f) Licensed school personnel may substitute for the required number~~
31 ~~of hours of staff development on parental involvement plans under § 6-15-1703~~
32 ~~an equal number of hours of training obtained under this section.~~
33

34 SECTION 12. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
35 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that it is the state's
36 constitutional obligation to provide a general, suitable, and efficient free

1 system of public schools in the state; that the professional development of
2 public school teachers and administrators is critical to the delivery of a
3 constitutionally adequate education; and that this act is immediately
4 necessary for school districts and educators to prepare for the professional
5 development requirements needed for the 2013-2014 school year. Therefore, an
6 emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for
7 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become
8 effective on:

9 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

10 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
11 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
12 bill; or

13 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
14 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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16 */s/Eubanks*
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