

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 514

5 By: Senators Irvin, J. English
6 By: Representative G. Hodges
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PERSONNEL POLICIES FOR
10 CLASSIFIED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES; TO AMEND VARIOUS
11 PROVISIONS OF THE LAW THAT RELATE TO TOPICS COVERED
12 BY, THE COMPOSITION OF, AND THE MEETING REQUIREMENTS
13 FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL
14 POLICIES FOR CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES; AND FOR OTHER
15 PURPOSES.
16
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Subtitle

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19 TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE LAW
20 THAT RELATE TO TOPICS COVERED BY, THE
21 COMPOSITION OF, AND THE MEETING
22 REQUIREMENTS FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S
23 COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL POLICIES FOR
24 CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES.
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26

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
28

29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2301 is amended to read as follows:
30 6-17-2301. Requirement.

31 (a) Each school district in the State of Arkansas shall have a set of
32 written personnel policies, including the salary schedule for classified
33 employees.

34 (b) ~~For the purposes of this subchapter, there shall be five (5)~~
35 ~~classifications of classified employees as provided in § 6-17-2303.~~

36 (c) Personnel policies of concern to the classified personnel policies



1 committee shall include, ~~but are not limited to,~~ without limitation the
2 following terms and conditions of employment:

- 3 (1) Salary schedule, fringe benefits, and other compensation
- 4 issues;
- 5 (2) Annual school calendar, including work days and holidays;
- 6 (3) Evaluation procedures;
- 7 (4) Leave;
- 8 (5) Grievance procedures;
- 9 (6) Termination, nonrenewal, or suspension;
- 10 (7) Reduction in force; ~~and~~
- 11 (8) Assignments; and
- 12 (9) Bylaws, rules, and procedures related to the classified
- 13 personnel policies committee.

14 ~~(d)(1)(A)(c)(1)(A)~~ A school district shall not receive in any year any
15 additional state funding from the Public School Fund until the school
16 district has posted on the school district’s website, in accordance with § 6-
17 11-129, its current personnel policies for classified employees, including
18 any salary schedules as required by this subchapter.

19 (B) The school district shall maintain in a central
20 records location a written copy of the policies signed by the president of
21 the school district’s board of directors.

22 (2) By September 15 of each year, a school district shall
23 provide the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education with the website
24 address at which its current personnel policies for classified employees,
25 including the salary schedule, may be found.

26 ~~(e)(d)~~ The division shall notify any school district that has not
27 posted its policies on the school district website or provided the division
28 with the website address in accordance with this section.

29
30 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2303 is amended to read as follows:
31 6-17-2303. Committee for each school district.

32 (a)~~(1)~~ Each school district shall have a committee on personnel
33 policies for classified employees ~~which consists of at least one (1)~~
34 ~~nonmanagement classified representative from each of the following five (5)~~
35 classifications, that shall consist of at least five (5) nonmanagement
36 classified representatives.

- ~~(A) Maintenance, operation, and custodians;~~
- ~~(B) Transportation;~~
- ~~(C) Food service;~~
- ~~(D) Secretary and clerk; and~~
- ~~(E) Aides and paraprofessionals.~~

~~(2) All other job classifications of classified employees not identified in the five (5) classifications may be grouped together and added as an at-large classification and shall have at least one (1) nonmanagement classified representative on the committee on classified personnel policies.~~

(b)(1) There shall be no more than three (3) classified employee administrators on the committee, one (1) of whom may be the superintendent of schools.

(2) The classified employee administrators on the committee shall be appointed by the school district board of directors or its designee.

(c) ~~The~~ A nonmanagement classified employee member of the committee shall be elected by a ~~majority of all~~ vote of nonmanagement classified employees ~~voting by secret ballot~~ according to rules and procedures established in a school district's written personnel policy.

~~(d) The election shall be conducted solely and exclusively by the nonmanagement classified employees, including distribution of ballots to all nonmanagement classified employees.~~

~~(e)(d)(1)~~ The An election under this section shall be conducted by mid-October annually no later than October 15.

(2) If the nonmanagement classified employee members of a school district's committee on personnel policies for classified employees fail to conduct an election by October 15 as required under subdivision (d)(1) of this section, the school district board of directors may appoint a nonmanagement classified employee in order to fill any vacancy on the school district's committee on personnel policies for classified employees.

~~(f)(e)~~ There shall be no additional monetary compensation for service on the committee.

(f) All meetings of a committee on personnel policies for classified employees shall be audio recorded and made publicly available to ensure transparency.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2304(b)(2), concerning changes or

1 additions to classified personnel policies, is amended to read as follows:

2 (2)~~(A)~~ Any change or addition to the classified personnel
3 policies may take effect before the next fiscal year only if the change or
4 addition is approved by a majority of the committee on personnel policies for
5 classified employees employed by the school district voting by secret ballot.

6 ~~(B) The voting and counting of ballots shall be conducted~~
7 ~~by the classified personnel policy committee.~~

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9 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2305(a) and (b), concerning
10 organizational meetings and minutes of a school district’s committee on
11 personnel policies for classified employees, is amended to read as follows:

12 (a) The school district’s committee on personnel policies for
13 classified employees shall organize itself in ~~October~~ the first quarter of
14 each school year, elect a chair and secretary, and develop a calendar of
15 meetings throughout the year to review the school district’s personnel
16 policies to:

17 (1) Determine whether additional policies or amendments to
18 existing policies are needed;

19 (2) Review any policies or changes to policies proposed by the
20 board of directors; and

21 (3) Propose additional policies or amendments to existing
22 personnel policies to the board of directors.

23 (b) Minutes of the committee meetings shall be promptly ~~reported and~~
24 ~~distributed to members of the board of directors and posted in the work sites~~
25 ~~of the school district, including administrative offices~~ placed on the school
26 district’s website.