



1 certified and licensed teachers and administrators of the district.  
2 Programs shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations  
3 of a professional development committee appointed by the board of  
4 education for the district. For the fiscal years ending June 30,  
5 2011, and June 30, 2012, a school district board of education may  
6 elect not to adopt and offer a professional development program for  
7 certified and licensed teachers and administrators of the district.  
8 If a school district elects not to adopt and offer a professional  
9 development program, the district may expend any monies allocated  
10 for professional development for any purpose related to the support  
11 and maintenance of the school district as determined by the board of  
12 education of the school district.

13 B. Each professional development committee shall include  
14 classroom teachers, administrators and parents, guardians or  
15 custodians of children in the school district and shall consult with  
16 a higher education faculty. A majority of the members of the  
17 professional development committee shall be composed of classroom  
18 teachers. The teacher members shall be selected by a designated  
19 administrator of the school district from a list of names submitted  
20 by the teachers in the school district. The members selected shall  
21 be subject to the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the  
22 district. At a minimum, once every four (4) years the committee  
23 shall include at least one school counselor in its membership.

1 C. In developing program recommendations, each professional  
2 development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach  
3 to analyze student data and determine district and school  
4 professional development needs. The professional development  
5 programs adopted shall be directed toward development of  
6 competencies and instructional strategies in the core curriculum  
7 areas for the following goals:

8 1. Increasing the academic performance index scores for the  
9 district and each school site;

10 2. Closing achievement gaps among student subgroups;

11 3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-  
12 mandated tests and the ACT;

13 4. Increasing high school graduation rates; and

14 5. Decreasing college remediation rates.

15 D. 1. Each program may also include components on classroom  
16 management and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents,  
17 guardians or custodians of students, special education, and racial  
18 and ethnic education, which all personnel defined as teachers in  
19 Section 1-116 of this title shall be required to complete on a  
20 periodic basis.

21 2. The State Board of Education shall provide guidelines to  
22 assist school districts in developing and implementing racial and  
23 ethnic education components into professional development programs.

1 At least once a year a program shall be offered which includes a  
2 component of teacher training on recognition and reporting of child  
3 abuse and neglect which all teachers shall be required to complete.

4 ~~Additionally at~~

5 3. At least one time per year, beginning in the 2009-2010  
6 school year, training in the area of autism shall be offered and all  
7 resident teachers of students in early childhood programs through  
8 grade three shall be required to complete the autism training during  
9 the resident year and at least one time every three (3) years  
10 thereafter. All other teachers and education support professionals  
11 of students in early childhood programs through grade three shall be  
12 required to complete the autism training at least one time every  
13 three (3) years. The autism training shall include a minimum  
14 awareness of the characteristics of autistic children, resources  
15 available and an introduction to positive behavior supports to  
16 challenging behavior.

17 4. Each ~~adopted~~ program shall allow school counselors to  
18 receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or credit required  
19 each year through programs or courses specifically designed for  
20 school counselors.

21 5. Each program shall allow personnel employed as full-time  
22 employees of a single school district, as identified in the policies  
23 and procedures for special education by the State Department of

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1 Education, to be provided the opportunity to participate in training  
2 applicable to their field that will enable them to maintain  
3 professional licensure. For personnel employed as full-time  
4 employees who are not granted professional leave days as provided  
5 for in Section 1-109 of this title, school districts shall allow not  
6 more than thirty (30) hours each school year to be used to  
7 participate in training applicable to their field as provided for in  
8 this paragraph. Subject to school district policy or a collective  
9 bargaining agreement, school districts may grant additional  
10 professional leave time for individual employees for training  
11 applicable to their field as provided for in this paragraph.

12 E. Districts are authorized to utilize any means for  
13 professional development that is not prohibited by law including,  
14 but not limited to, professional development provided by the  
15 district, any state agency, institution of higher education, or any  
16 private entity.

17 ~~D.~~ F. Except as otherwise provided for in this subsection, each  
18 licensed or certified teacher in this state shall be required by the  
19 district board of education to meet the professional development  
20 requirements established by the board, or established through the  
21 negotiation process. Except as otherwise provided for in this  
22 subsection, the professional development requirements established by  
23 each board of education shall require every teacher to annually

1 complete a minimum number of the total number of points required to  
2 maintain employment. Failure of any teacher to meet district board  
3 of education professional development requirements may be grounds  
4 for nonrenewal of such teacher's contract by the board. Such  
5 failure may also be grounds for nonconsideration of salary  
6 increments affecting the teacher. For the fiscal years ending June  
7 30, 2011, and June 30, 2012, a licensed or certified teacher shall  
8 not be required to complete any points of the total number of  
9 professional development points required. Provided, a teacher may  
10 elect to complete some or all of the minimum number of points  
11 required for the two (2) fiscal years and any points completed shall  
12 be counted toward the total number of points required to maintain  
13 employment. If a teacher does not complete some or all of the  
14 minimum number of points required for one (1) or both fiscal years,  
15 the total number of points required to maintain employment shall be  
16 adjusted and reduced by the number of points not completed.

17 ~~E.~~ G. Each district shall annually submit a report to the State  
18 Department of Education on the district level professional  
19 development needs, activities completed, expenditures, and results  
20 achieved for each school year by each goal as provided in subsection  
21 C of this section. If a school district elects not to adopt and  
22 offer a professional development program as provided for in  
23 subsection A of this section, the district shall not be required to

1 submit an annual report as required pursuant to this subsection but  
2 shall report to the State Department of Education its election not  
3 to offer a program and all professional development activities  
4 completed by teachers and administrators of the school district.

5 ~~F.~~ H. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department  
6 shall develop an online system for reporting as required in  
7 subsection ~~E~~ G of this section. The Department shall also make such  
8 information available on its website.

9 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2011.

10 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
11 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby  
12 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
13 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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15 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON COMMON EDUCATION, dated 03-30-2011  
16 - DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.

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