



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6498

January Session, 2011

* _____HB06498APP__051111_____*

AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION DATES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL REFORM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsections (b) to (d), inclusive, of section 10-221a of the
2 general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (b) For classes graduating from 2004 to [2017] 2019, inclusive, no
5 local or regional board of education shall permit any student to
6 graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any student who has
7 not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty credits, not fewer
8 than four of which shall be in English, not fewer than three in
9 mathematics, not fewer than three in social studies, including at least a
10 one-half credit course on civics and American government, not fewer
11 than two in science, not fewer than one in the arts or vocational
12 education and not fewer than one in physical education.

13 (c) Commencing with classes graduating in [2018] 2020, and for each
14 graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education
15 shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a
16 diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed (1) a
17 minimum of twenty-five credits, including not fewer than: (A) Nine
18 credits in the humanities, including not fewer than (i) four credits in
19 English, including composition; (ii) three credits in social studies,

20 including at least one credit in American history and at least one-half
21 credit in civics and American government; (iii) one credit in fine arts;
22 and (iv) one credit in a humanities elective; (B) eight credits in science,
23 technology, engineering and mathematics, including not fewer than (i)
24 four credits in mathematics, including algebra I, geometry and algebra
25 II or probability and statistics; (ii) three credits in science, including at
26 least one credit in life science and at least one credit in physical science;
27 and (iii) one credit in a science, technology, engineering and
28 mathematics elective; (C) three and one-half credits in career and life
29 skills, including not fewer than (i) one credit in physical education; (ii)
30 one-half credit in health and safety education, as described in section
31 10-16b; and (iii) two credits in career and life skills electives, such as
32 career and technical education, English as a second language,
33 community service, personal finance, public speaking and nutrition
34 and physical activity; (D) two credits in world languages, subject to the
35 provisions of subsection (g) of this section; and (E) a one credit senior
36 demonstration project or its equivalent, as approved by the State Board
37 of Education; and (2) end of the school year examinations for the
38 following courses: (A) Algebra I, (B) geometry, (C) biology, (D)
39 American history, and (E) grade ten English.

40 (d) Commencing with classes graduating in [2018] 2020, and for
41 each graduating class thereafter, local and regional boards of education
42 shall provide adequate student support and remedial services for
43 students beginning in grade seven. Such student support and remedial
44 services shall provide alternate means for a student to complete any of
45 the high school graduation requirements or end of the school year
46 examinations described in subsection (c) of this section, if such student
47 is unable to satisfactorily complete any of the required courses or
48 exams. Such student support and remedial services shall include, but
49 not be limited to, (1) allowing students to retake courses in summer
50 school or through an on-line course; (2) allowing students to enroll in a
51 class offered at a constituent unit of the state system of higher
52 education, as defined in section 10a-1, pursuant to subdivision (4) of
53 subsection (g) of this section; (3) allowing students who received a

54 failing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on an
55 end of the school year exam to take an alternate form of the exam; and
56 (4) allowing those students whose individualized education plans state
57 that such students are eligible for an alternate assessment to
58 demonstrate competency on any of the five core courses through
59 success on such alternate assessment.

60 Sec. 2. Subsection (j) of section 10-221a of the general statutes is
61 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
62 *passage*):

63 (j) For the school year commencing July 1, [2012] 2014, and each
64 school year thereafter, a local or regional board of education shall
65 collect information for each student enrolled in a public school,
66 beginning in grade six, that records students' career and academic
67 choices in grades six to twelve, inclusive.

68 Sec. 3. Section 18 of public act 10-111 is repealed and the following is
69 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

70 (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, [2013] 2015, to June 30, [2018]
71 2020, inclusive, the Department of Education shall, within available
72 appropriations, provide grants to local and regional school districts to
73 begin implementation of the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of
74 section 10-221a of the general statutes, as amended by this act.

75 (b) On or before November 1, [2012] 2014, and biennially thereafter,
76 each local or regional board of education seeking grant assistance from
77 the department pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall report to
78 the department on the status of the school district's implementation of
79 the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of section 10-221a of the
80 general statutes, as amended by this act, and an explanation for the
81 reasons why funds are necessary for the next biennium to implement
82 the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of said section 10-221a.

83 (c) On or before February 1, [2013] 2015, and biennially thereafter,
84 the department shall report, in accordance with the provisions of

85 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of
86 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
87 education on the status of implementation of the provisions of
88 subsections (c) and (d) of section 10-221a of the general statutes, as
89 amended by this act, by local and regional boards of education in the
90 state. Such report shall include, (1) an explanation of any existing state
91 and federal funds currently available to assist in such implementation,
92 (2) recommendations regarding the appropriation of additional state
93 funds to support local and regional boards of education in the
94 implementation of subsections (c) and (d) of said section 10-221a, and
95 (3) recommendations for any statutory changes that would facilitate
96 implementation of subsections (c) and (d) of said section 10-221a by
97 local and regional boards of education.

98 Sec. 4. Section 10-5e of the general statutes is repealed and the
99 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

100 On and after July 1, [2012] 2014, the Department of Education shall
101 commence development or approval of the end of the school year
102 examinations to be administered pursuant to subdivision (2) of
103 subsection (c) of section 10-221a, as amended by this act. Such
104 examinations shall be developed or approved on or before July 1,
105 [2014] 2016.

106 Sec. 5. Subsection (g) of section 10-223e of the general statutes is
107 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
108 *passage*):

109 (g) (1) (A) On and after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of
110 education for a school that has been identified as in need of
111 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may establish a
112 school governance council for each school so identified.

113 (B) On and after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of
114 education for a school that has been designated as a low achieving
115 school, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, due

116 to such school failing to make adequate yearly progress in
117 mathematics and reading at the whole school level shall establish a
118 school governance council for each school so designated.

119 (2) (A) The school governance council for high schools shall consist
120 of (i) seven members who shall be parents or guardians of students
121 attending the school, (ii) two members who shall be community
122 leaders within the school district, (iii) five members who shall be
123 teachers at the school, (iv) one nonvoting member who is the principal
124 of the school, or his or her designee, and (v) two nonvoting student
125 members who shall be students at the school. The parent or guardian
126 members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of students
127 attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election, each
128 household with a student attending the school shall have one vote. The
129 community leader members shall be elected by the parent or guardian
130 members and teacher members of the school governance council. The
131 teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the school. The
132 nonvoting student members shall be elected by the student body of the
133 school.

134 (B) The school governance council for elementary and middle
135 schools shall consist of (i) seven members who shall be parents or
136 guardians of students attending the school, (ii) two members who shall
137 be community leaders within the school district, (iii) five members
138 who shall be teachers at the school, and (iv) one nonvoting member
139 who is the principal of the school, or his or her designee. The parent or
140 guardian members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of
141 students attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election,
142 each household with a student attending the school shall have one
143 vote. The community leader members shall be elected by the parent or
144 guardian members and teacher members of the school governance
145 council. The teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the
146 school.

147 (C) Terms of voting members elected pursuant to this subdivision
148 shall be for two years and no members shall serve more than two

149 terms on the council. The nonvoting student members shall serve one
150 year and no student member shall serve more than two terms on the
151 council.

152 (D) (i) Schools that have been designated as a low achieving school
153 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section due to such
154 school failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and
155 reading at the whole school level prior to July 1, 2010, and are among
156 the lowest five per cent of schools in the state based on achievement
157 shall establish a school governance council for the school not later than
158 January 15, 2011.

159 (ii) Schools that have been designated as a low achieving school,
160 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, due to such
161 school failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and
162 reading at the whole school level prior to July 1, 2010, but are not
163 among the lowest five per cent of schools in the state based on
164 achievement, shall establish a school governance council for the school
165 not later than November 1, 2011.

166 (3) The school governance council shall have the following
167 responsibilities: (A) Analyzing school achievement data and school
168 needs relative to the improvement plan for the school prepared
169 pursuant to this section; (B) reviewing the fiscal objectives of the draft
170 budget for the school and providing advice to the principal of the
171 school before such school's budget is submitted to the superintendent
172 of schools for the district; (C) participating in the hiring process of the
173 school principal or other administrators of the school by conducting
174 interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the
175 superintendent of schools for the school district and the local and
176 regional board of education; (D) assisting the principal of the school in
177 making programmatic and operational changes for improving the
178 school's achievement, including program changes, adjusting school
179 hours and days of operation, and enrollment goals for the school; (E)
180 working with the school administration to develop and approve a
181 school compact for parents, legal guardians and students that includes

182 an outline of the criteria and responsibilities for enrollment and school
183 membership consistent with the school's goals and academic focus,
184 and the ways that parents and school personnel can build a
185 partnership to improve student learning; (F) developing and
186 approving a written parent involvement policy that outlines the role of
187 parents and legal guardians in the school; (G) utilizing records relating
188 to information about parents and guardians of students maintained by
189 the local or regional board of education for the sole purpose of the
190 election described in subdivision (2) of this subsection. Such
191 information shall be confidential and shall only be disclosed as
192 provided in this subparagraph and shall not be further disclosed; and
193 (H) if the council determines it necessary and subject to the provisions
194 of subdivision [(9)] (8) of this subsection recommending reconstitution
195 of the school in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (6) of
196 this subsection.

197 (4) The school governance council may: (A) In those schools that
198 require an improvement plan, review the annual draft report detailing
199 the goals set forth in the state accountability plan prepared in
200 accordance with subsection (a) of this section and provide advice to the
201 principal of the school prior to submission of the report to the
202 superintendent of schools; (B) in those schools where an improvement
203 plan becomes required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, assist
204 the principal of the school in developing such plan prior to its
205 submission to the superintendent of schools; (C) work with the
206 principal of the school to develop, conduct and report the results of an
207 annual survey of parents, guardians and teachers on issues related to
208 the school climate and conditions; and (D) provide advice on any other
209 major policy matters affecting the school to the principal of the school,
210 except on any matters relating to provisions of any collective
211 bargaining agreement between the exclusive bargaining unit for
212 teachers pursuant to section 10-153b and local or regional boards of
213 education.

214 (5) The local or regional board of education shall provide

215 appropriate training and instruction to members of the school
216 governance council to aid them in the execution of their duties.

217 (6) (A) The school governance council may, by an affirmative vote of
218 the council, recommend the reconstitution of the school into one of the
219 following models: (i) The turnaround model, as described in the
220 Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (ii) the restart model, as
221 described in the Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (iii) the
222 transformation model, as described in the Federal Register of
223 December 10, 2009; (iv) any other model that may be developed by
224 federal law; (v) a CommPACT school, pursuant to section 10-74g; or
225 (vi) an innovation school, pursuant to section 10-74h. Not later than ten
226 days after the school governance council informs the local or regional
227 board of education of its recommendation for the school, such board
228 shall hold a public hearing to discuss such vote of the school
229 governance council and shall, at the next regularly scheduled meeting
230 of such board or ten days after such public hearing, whichever is later,
231 conduct a vote to accept the model recommended by the school
232 governance council, select an alternative model described in this
233 subdivision or maintain the current school status. If the board selects
234 an alternative model, the board shall meet with such school
235 governance council to discuss an agreement on which alternative to
236 adopt not later than ten days after such vote of the board. If no such
237 agreement can be achieved, not later than forty-five days after the last
238 such meeting between the board and the school governance council,
239 the Commissioner of Education shall decide which of the alternatives
240 to implement. If the board votes to maintain the current school status,
241 not later than forty-five days after such vote of the board, the
242 Commissioner of Education shall decide whether to implement the
243 model recommended by the school governance council or to maintain
244 the current school status. If the final decision pursuant to this
245 subdivision is adoption of a model, the local or regional board of
246 education shall implement such model during the subsequent school
247 year in conformance with the general statutes and applicable
248 regulations, and the provisions specified in federal regulations and

249 guidelines for schools subject to restructuring pursuant to Section
250 1116(b)(8) of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110 or any other
251 applicable federal laws or regulations.

252 (B) Any school governance council for a school may recommend
253 reconstitution, pursuant to subparagraph (H) of subdivision (3) of this
254 subsection, during the third year after such school governance council
255 was established if the school for such governance council has not
256 reconstituted as a result of receiving a school improvement grant
257 pursuant to Section 1003(g) of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary
258 Education Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq., or such reconstitution was initiated
259 by a source other than the school governance council.

260 (7) A school governance council shall be considered a component of
261 parental involvement for purposes of federal funding pursuant to
262 Section 1118 of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110.

263 [(8) The Commissioner of Education shall evaluate the school
264 governance councils established on or before January 15, 2011, based
265 on the criteria described in subsection (a) of section 10-4s. On or before
266 October 1, 2014, the commissioner shall report, in accordance with the
267 provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the
268 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
269 on the evaluation conducted pursuant to this subdivision. Such report
270 shall also include recommendations whether to continue to allow
271 school governance councils to recommend reconstitution pursuant to
272 this subsection.]

273 [(9)] (8) The [department] Department of Education shall allow not
274 more than twenty-five schools per school year to reconstitute pursuant
275 to this subsection. The department shall notify school districts and
276 school governance councils when this limit has been reached. For
277 purposes of this subdivision, a reconstitution shall be counted towards
278 this limit upon receipt by the department of notification of a final
279 decision regarding reconstitution by the local or regional board of
280 education.

281 Sec. 6. Section 10-4s of the general statutes is repealed and the
282 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

283 (a) [The Department of Education shall monitor, within available
284 appropriations, those schools that have reconstituted pursuant to
285 subsection (g) of section 10-223e to determine whether such schools
286 have demonstrated progress with regard to the following indicators:
287 (1) The reconstitution model adopted by the school; (2) the length of
288 the school day and school year; (3) the number and type of disciplinary
289 incidents; (4) the number of truants; (5) the dropout rate; (6) the
290 student attendance rate; (7) the average scale scores on the state-wide
291 mastery examination pursuant to section 10-14n; (8) for high schools,
292 the number and percentage of students completing advanced
293 placement coursework; (9) the teacher attendance rate; and (10) the
294 existence and size of the parent-teacher organization for the school.
295 Such monitoring shall be conducted over the two-year period
296 following such reconstitution.] On or before December 1, 2011, and
297 biennially thereafter, the Department of Education shall report, in
298 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
299 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
300 relating to education on the number of school governance councils
301 established pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-223e, as amended
302 by this act.

303 (b) [On or before January 1, 2012, the department shall report, in
304 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
305 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
306 relating to education on (1) the number of school governance councils
307 established pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-223e, and (2) the
308 number of schools that have been reconstituted and the models, as
309 described in said subsection (g), that have been adopted as part of such
310 reconstitution.] On or before December 1, 2013, and biennially
311 thereafter, the department shall include in the report described in
312 subsection (a) of this section an evaluation of the establishment and
313 effectiveness of the school governance councils established pursuant to

314 subsection (g) of section 10-223e, as amended by this act.

315 (c) [On or before January 1, 2013, the department shall report, in
316 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
317 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
318 relating to education on (1) the monitoring conducted pursuant to
319 subsection (a) of this section, (2) recommendations relating to changes
320 in the reconstitution options available to schools, including whether
321 school governance councils may continue to recommend reconstitution
322 pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-223e, (3) comparison of the
323 models adopted, and (4) the level of progress of schools adopting each
324 model in relation to the indicators described in subsection (a) of this
325 section.] On or before December 1, 2015, and biennially thereafter, the
326 department shall include in the report described in subsection (a) of
327 this section: (1) The number of school governance councils that have
328 recommended reconstitution pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-
329 223e, as amended by this act; (2) the number of such school governance
330 councils that have initiated reconstitution pursuant to said subsection
331 (g) of section 10-223e, and the reconstitution models adopted; and (3)
332 recommendations whether to continue to allow school governance
333 councils to recommend reconstitution pursuant to said subsection (g)
334 of section 10-223e.

335 (d) On or before December 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter, the
336 department shall include in the report described in subsection (a) of
337 this section an evaluation of those schools that have reconstituted
338 pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-223e, as amended by this act.
339 Such evaluation shall determine whether such schools have
340 demonstrated progress with regard to the following indicators: (1) The
341 reconstitution model adopted by the school; (2) the length of the school
342 day and school year; (3) the number and type of disciplinary incidents;
343 (4) the number of truants; (5) the dropout rate; (6) the student
344 attendance rate; (7) the average scale scores on the state-wide mastery
345 examination pursuant to section 10-14n; (8) for high schools, the
346 number and percentage of students completing advanced placement

347 coursework; (9) the teacher attendance rate; and (10) the existence and
348 size of the parent-teacher organization for the school.

349 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 10-221r of the general statutes is
350 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
351 *passage*):

352 (a) For the school year commencing July 1, 2011, and each school
353 year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall
354 provide an advanced placement course program. For purposes of this
355 section, "advanced placement course program" means a program that
356 provides [courses] college or university-level instruction as part of a
357 course for which credit is earned at the high school level, such as
358 courses for which an advanced placement examination is available
359 through the College Board, a diploma program offered by the
360 International Baccalaureate, or courses offered through an articulation
361 agreement between the local or regional board of education and the
362 constituent units of higher education, as defined in section 10a-1, or the
363 board of governors for an independent college or university, as
364 defined in section 10a-37.

365 Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 10-151b of the general statutes is
366 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
367 *passage*):

368 (a) The superintendent of each local or regional board of education
369 shall continuously evaluate or cause to be evaluated each teacher, in
370 accordance with guidelines established by the State Board of
371 Education, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, [for the
372 development of evaluation programs] and such other guidelines as
373 may be established by mutual agreement between the local or regional
374 board of education and the teachers' representative chosen pursuant to
375 section 10-153b. [, continuously evaluate or cause to be evaluated each
376 teacher.] An evaluation pursuant to this subsection shall include, but
377 need not be limited to, strengths, areas needing improvement,
378 strategies for improvement and multiple indicators of student

379 academic growth. Claims of failure to follow the established
380 procedures of such evaluation programs shall be subject to the
381 grievance procedure in collective bargaining agreements negotiated
382 subsequent to July 1, 2004. The superintendent shall report the status
383 of teacher evaluations to the local or regional board of education on or
384 before June first of each year. For purposes of this section, the term
385 "teacher" shall include each professional employee of a board of
386 education, below the rank of superintendent, who holds a certificate or
387 permit issued by the State Board of Education.

388 Sec. 9. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to
389 examine issues relating to the changes to the high school graduation
390 requirements pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-221a of the
391 general statutes, as amended by this act, including, but not limited to,
392 special programming needs, requirement waivers and the appropriate
393 subject areas for courses pursuant to said subsection (c) of section 10-
394 221a.

395 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members: (1) The
396 Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee, (2) one
397 representative from each of the following associations, designated by
398 the association, the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education,
399 the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents,
400 Connecticut Federation of School Administrators, the Connecticut
401 Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers-
402 Connecticut, and (3) persons selected by the Commissioner of
403 Education, including, but not limited to, teachers and any other person
404 the commissioner deems appropriate.

405 (c) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
406 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
407 filled by the appointing authority.

408 (d) The representative from the Connecticut Association of Public
409 School Superintendents shall serve as the chairperson of the task force.
410 Such chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the task force,

411 which shall be held no later than sixty days after the effective date of
 412 this section.

413 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
 414 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education
 415 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

416 (f) Not later than January 1, 2013, the task force shall submit a report
 417 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee
 418 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
 419 education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
 420 general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
 421 submits such report or January 1, 2013, whichever is later.

422 Sec. 10. Section 10-4t of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 423 *from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-221a(b) to (d)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10-221a(j)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	PA 10-111, Sec. 18
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	10-5e
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	10-223e(g)
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	10-4s
Sec. 7	<i>from passage</i>	10-221r(a)
Sec. 8	<i>from passage</i>	10-151b(a)
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

APP *Joint Favorable*