



General Assembly  
January Session, 2023

**Raised Bill No. 6880**

LCO No. 5525



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING ASSORTED REVISIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 10-220 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
3 *2023*):

4 (e) Each local and regional board of education shall establish a school  
5 district curriculum committee. The committee shall recommend,  
6 develop, review and approve all curriculum for the local or regional  
7 school district. Each local and regional board of education shall post on  
8 its Internet web site all curriculum approved by the committee and all  
9 associated curriculum materials and shall allow a period for public  
10 comment related to such curriculum and curriculum materials at each  
11 regular and special meeting of such board.

12 Sec. 2. Section 10-215 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
13 subsection (d) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

14 (NEW) (d) Each local or regional board of education shall post the

15 nutritional value of each school lunch, breakfast or other such feeding  
16 provided by such board on its Internet web site and in the school  
17 cafeteria or other central area of food consumption of each school in the  
18 local or regional school district.

19 Sec. 3. Section 10-73d of the general statutes is repealed and the  
20 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

21 A public school student who is both under seventeen years of age and  
22 a [mother] parent may request permission from the local or regional  
23 board of education to attend adult education classes. The local or  
24 regional board of education may, by a majority vote of the members of  
25 the board present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the board  
26 called for such purpose, assign such student to adult education classes.

27 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10-221q of the general statutes is  
28 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
29 *2023*):

30 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, each  
31 local and regional board of education and the governing authority for  
32 each state charter school, interdistrict magnet school and endowed  
33 academy approved pursuant to section 10-34, shall permit at schools  
34 under its jurisdiction the sale of only the following beverages to students  
35 from any source, including, but not limited to, school stores, vending  
36 machines, school cafeterias, and any fund-raising activities on school  
37 premises, whether or not school sponsored: (1) Milk that may be whole  
38 milk or flavored but contain no artificial sweeteners and no more than  
39 four grams of sugar per ounce, (2) nondairy milks such as soy or rice  
40 milk, which may be flavored but contain no artificial sweeteners, no  
41 more than four grams of sugar per ounce, no more than thirty-five per  
42 cent of calories from fat per portion and no more than ten per cent of  
43 calories from saturated fat per portion, (3) one hundred per cent fruit  
44 juice, vegetable juice or combination of such juices, containing no added  
45 sugars, sweeteners or artificial sweeteners, (4) beverages that contain  
46 only water and fruit or vegetable juice and have no added sugars,

47 sweeteners or artificial sweeteners, and (5) water, which may be  
48 flavored but contain no added sugars, sweeteners, artificial sweeteners  
49 or caffeine. Portion sizes of beverages, other than water as described in  
50 subdivision (5) of this subsection, that are offered for sale pursuant to  
51 this subsection shall not exceed twelve ounces.

52 Sec. 5. Section 10-15k of the general statutes is repealed and the  
53 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

54 (a) As used in this section: [ "remote learning"]

55 (1) "Remote learning" means instruction by means of one or more  
56 Internet-based software platforms as part of a remote learning model;  
57 and

58 (2) "Eligible student" means a student who resides in the state, but is  
59 unable to attend school in-person due to a medical condition or  
60 vaccination status.

61 (b) The Department of Education shall develop a plan for the creation  
62 and implementation of a state-wide remote learning school that offers  
63 grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, and provides remote learning  
64 to students. In the course of developing such plan, the department shall  
65 (1) consider the findings and recommendations of the report created by  
66 the Connecticut Remote Learning Commission pursuant to section 10-  
67 15j, (2) review remote learning schools and models being implemented  
68 in other states, and (3) estimate the number of eligible students. [who  
69 reside in Connecticut that may be eligible to enroll in such state-wide  
70 remote learning school.] The department shall use, to the extent  
71 permissible under federal guidelines, funds received from the  
72 Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act,  
73 P.L. 116-260, as amended from time to time, to develop such plan.

74 (c) Any state-wide remote learning school that may be created under  
75 such plan shall (1) be maintained by and under the direction and control  
76 of the State Board of Education, (2) provide in each school year not less  
77 than one hundred eighty days of actual school sessions and nine

78 hundred hours of actual school work for grades kindergarten to twelve,  
79 inclusive, provided not more than seven hours of actual school work in  
80 any school day shall count toward the total required for the school year,  
81 (3) offer coursework and a curriculum that is rigorous, aligned with  
82 curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, and in  
83 accordance with the state-wide subject matter content standards,  
84 adopted by the state board pursuant to section 10-4, (4) grant a diploma,  
85 in accordance with the provisions of section 10-5, to any student  
86 enrolled in such state-wide remote learning school who has  
87 satisfactorily completed the high school graduation requirements  
88 described in section 10-221a, and (5) be created with consideration given  
89 to best practices in remote learning, technological capabilities of  
90 students throughout the state and equity.

91 (d) The department shall draft a request for proposals for any items  
92 required to create and implement a state-wide remote learning school.

93 (e) Not later than ~~[July 1, 2023]~~ January 1, 2024, the department shall  
94 submit the plan, the draft request for proposals and any  
95 recommendations for legislation related to the implementation of such  
96 plan to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
97 cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations, in  
98 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

99 *Sec. 6. (Effective July 1, 2023)* The Department of Education shall study  
100 the fiscal impact to the state and to local and regional school districts of  
101 the implementation of a school voucher program in which the amount  
102 of the per pupil average of the state education cost-sharing grant  
103 received by a school district for the school year commencing in 2022,  
104 using the October 2023 student census, would follow a child for the  
105 payment of tuition and fees at an approved nonpublic school. Not later  
106 than January 1, 2024, the department shall submit, in accordance with  
107 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint  
108 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
109 matters relating to education a report on the results of the study.

110 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 10-221o of the general statutes is  
111 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
112 *2023*):

113 (a) Each local and regional board of education shall require each  
114 school under its jurisdiction to (1) offer all full day students a daily lunch  
115 period of not less than [twenty] thirty minutes, and (2) include in the  
116 regular school day for each student enrolled in elementary school time  
117 devoted to physical exercise of not less than twenty minutes in total,  
118 except that a planning and placement team may develop a different  
119 schedule for a child requiring special education and related services in  
120 accordance with chapter 164 and the Individuals With Disabilities  
121 Education Act, 20 USC 1400 et seq., as amended from time to time. In  
122 the event of a conflict with this section and any provision of chapter 164,  
123 such other provision of chapter 164 shall be deemed controlling.  
124 Nothing in this subsection shall prevent a local or regional board of  
125 education from including an additional amount of time, beyond the  
126 twenty minutes required for physical exercise, devoted to undirected  
127 play during the regular school day for each student enrolled in  
128 elementary school.

129 Sec. 8. Section 10-220 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
130 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

131 (NEW) (g) Each local or regional board of education conducting a  
132 regular or special meeting of such board shall make available for public  
133 inspection the agenda for the meeting or any associated documents that  
134 may be reviewed by members of the board at such meeting and post  
135 such agenda and documents on the Internet web site of such board.

136 Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Commissioner of  
137 Education shall appoint a parent advisory committee and a teacher  
138 advisory committee to include the perspective of each committee in the  
139 development and implementation of policies by the Department of  
140 Education. Each committee shall have the following duties: (1) Advise  
141 the commissioner and the administrators and staff of the department,

142 (2) hold not fewer than quarterly meetings, two of which shall be in  
143 person, (3) provide recommendations on the topics, determined in  
144 consultation with department administrators, related to improving  
145 elementary and secondary education, including, but not limited to,  
146 teacher recruitment, special education, testing and assessment,  
147 equitable distribution of teachers, diversity among teachers, school  
148 safety and social and emotional learning, and (4) submit annual reports  
149 summarizing the work of such committee to the department and be  
150 available to consult with department administrators on the annual  
151 report or any recommendations provided pursuant to subdivision (3) of  
152 this subsection.

153 (b) The parent advisory committee and the teacher advisory  
154 committee shall each consist of not fewer than ten members. The  
155 Commissioner of Education shall appoint the members of each  
156 committee from a pool of applications submitted to the Department of  
157 Education for such purpose, with the goal of appointing a membership  
158 of each committee that is representative of the diversity of teachers and  
159 students in the state and the areas of expertise designated by  
160 department administrators, in consultation with any existing parent  
161 advisory committee and teacher advisory committee. The members of  
162 the teacher advisory committee shall be current regular or special  
163 education teachers in the state, not less than five of whom shall also have  
164 been members of the Connecticut Teachers of the Year Council in any  
165 year as a teacher of the year, finalist or semifinalist. The members of the  
166 parent advisory committee shall include representation for urban,  
167 suburban and rural school districts and for schools providing an  
168 elementary school, middle school and high school education. The  
169 commissioner shall only appoint those individuals as members of each  
170 committee who have (1) an understanding of current issues in public  
171 education, (2) experience working in educational policy, (3) (A)  
172 exceptional instructional practice with an ability to engage students as  
173 a teacher, or (B) demonstrated a history of holding leadership roles  
174 within schools or advocacy groups as a parent, and (4) submitted an  
175 application to the department's Talent Office for membership on the

176 parent advisory committee or the teacher advisory committee.

177 (c) For the initial appointments made to the parent advisory group  
 178 and the teacher advisory group, not fewer than five members of each  
 179 advisory group shall be appointed for a term of one year from the date  
 180 of appointment and the remaining five members of each advisory group  
 181 shall be appointed for a term of two years from the date of appointment.  
 182 The members appointed to each advisory group in each subsequent year  
 183 thereafter shall be appointed for a term of two years from the date of  
 184 appointment. Any member may be reappointed for more than one term,  
 185 provided such member reapplies for each new term. Members shall  
 186 continue to serve until their successors are appointed. Any vacancy  
 187 occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the balance  
 188 of the unexpired term by the Commissioner of Education from the  
 189 existing pool of applicants for such committee.

190 (d) The members of the parent advisory group and the teacher  
 191 advisory group shall serve without compensation, except, within the  
 192 limits of available funds, (1) such members shall be reimbursed for  
 193 expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties, and (2)  
 194 the local or regional board of education that employs a member of the  
 195 teacher advisory group shall be reimbursed for payments to substitute  
 196 teachers incurred as a result of such member performing necessary  
 197 duties for such committee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-220(e)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-215(d)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-73d
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-221q(a)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-15k
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-221o(a)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-220(g)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To (1) require boards of education to post online curriculum materials and the nutrition value of school meals, (2) allow all minor parents to request enrollment in adult education, (3) allow public schools to serve whole milk, (4) study the implementation of a state-wide virtual school for children with medical conditions or who are unvaccinated, (5) study the fiscal impact of school voucher programs, (6) increase lunch time for students from twenty minutes to thirty minutes, (7) require the posting of a meeting agenda and any associated documents on the board of education's web site, and (8) require the Commissioner of Education to appoint a parent advisory group and a teacher advisory group.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*