



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6880

January Session, 2023



AN ACT CONCERNING ASSORTED REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS 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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2023*):

4 (e) Each local and regional board of education shall establish a
5 school district curriculum committee. The committee shall
6 recommend, develop, review and approve all curriculum for the local
7 or regional school district. Each local and regional board of education
8 shall make available all curriculum approved by the committee and all
9 associated curriculum materials in accordance with the requirements
10 of the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, 20 USC 1232h.

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

13 (NEW) (d) Each local or regional board of education shall post on its
14 Internet web site and in the school cafeteria or other central area of
15 food consumption of each school in the local or regional school district
16 a notice that the nutritional value of each school lunch, breakfast or
17 other such feeding provided by such board is in compliance with the
18 meal requirements for the National School Lunch Program and School

19 Breakfast Program established by the United States Department of
20 Agriculture.

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 Section 10-73d of the general statutes is repealed and the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

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

30 Sec. 4. Section 10-15k of the general statutes is repealed and the
31 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

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

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

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

39 (b) The Department of Education shall develop a plan for the
40 creation and implementation of a state-wide remote learning school
41 that offers grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, and provides
42 remote learning to students. In the course of developing such plan, the
43 department shall (1) consider the findings and recommendations of the
44 report created by the Connecticut Remote Learning Commission
45 pursuant to section 10-15j, (2) review remote learning schools and
46 models being implemented in other states, and (3) estimate the number
47 of eligible students. [who reside in Connecticut that may be eligible to
48 enroll in such state-wide remote learning school.] The department

49 shall use, to the extent permissible under federal guidelines, funds
50 received from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental
51 Appropriations Act, P.L. 116-260, as amended from time to time, to
52 develop such plan.

53 (c) Any state-wide remote learning school that may be created
54 under such plan shall (1) be maintained by and under the direction
55 and control of the State Board of Education, (2) provide in each school
56 year not less than one hundred eighty days of actual school sessions
57 and nine hundred hours of actual school work for grades kindergarten
58 to twelve, inclusive, provided not more than seven hours of actual
59 school work in any school day shall count toward the total required for
60 the school year, (3) offer coursework and a curriculum that is rigorous,
61 aligned with curriculum guidelines approved by the State Board of
62 Education, and in accordance with the state-wide subject matter
63 content standards, adopted by the state board pursuant to section 10-4,
64 (4) grant a diploma, in accordance with the provisions of section 10-5,
65 to any student enrolled in such state-wide remote learning school who
66 has satisfactorily completed the high school graduation requirements
67 described in section 10-221a, and (5) be created with consideration
68 given to best practices in remote learning, technological capabilities of
69 students throughout the state and equity.

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

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

78 Sec. 5. Section 10-220 of the general statutes is amended by adding
79 subsection (g) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

80 (NEW) (g) Each local or regional board of education conducting a
81 regular or special meeting of such board shall make available for
82 public inspection the agenda for the meeting or any associated
83 documents that may be reviewed by members of the board at such
84 meeting and post such agenda and documents on the Internet web site
85 of such board.

86 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) The Commissioner of
87 Education shall appoint a parent advisory committee and a teacher
88 advisory committee to include the perspective of each committee in the
89 development and implementation of policies by the Department of
90 Education. Each committee shall have the following duties: (1) Advise
91 the commissioner and the administrators and staff of the department,
92 (2) hold meetings at least quarterly, of which at least two annually
93 shall be in person, (3) provide recommendations on the topics,
94 determined in consultation with department administrators, related to
95 improving elementary and secondary education, including, but not
96 limited to, teacher recruitment, special education, testing and
97 assessment, equitable distribution of teachers, diversity among
98 teachers, school safety and social and emotional learning, (4) submit
99 annual reports summarizing the work of such committee to the
100 department, and (5) consult with department administrators, as
101 needed, on the annual report or any recommendations provided
102 pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection.

103 (b) The parent advisory committee and the teacher advisory
104 committee shall each consist of not fewer than ten members. The
105 Commissioner of Education shall appoint the members of each
106 committee from applications submitted to the Department of
107 Education for the purpose of serving on either such committee, in the
108 form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, with the goal of
109 appointing a membership to each committee that is representative of
110 the diversity of teachers and students in the state and in areas of
111 expertise designated by department administrators, in consultation
112 with any existing parent advisory committee and teacher advisory

113 committee.

114 (c) The members of the teacher advisory committee shall be regular
115 or special education teachers in the state, not less than five of whom
116 shall also have been members of the Connecticut Teacher of the Year
117 Council in any year as a teacher of the year, finalist or semifinalist. The
118 members of the parent advisory committee shall include
119 representation for urban, suburban and rural school districts and for
120 schools providing an elementary school, middle school and high
121 school education. The commissioner shall appoint only those
122 individuals as members of each committee who have (1) an
123 understanding of current issues in public education, (2) experience
124 working in educational policy, (3) (A) exceptional instructional
125 practice with an ability to engage students as a teacher, or (B)
126 demonstrated a history of holding leadership roles within schools or
127 advocacy groups as a parent, and (4) submitted an application to the
128 department's Talent Office for membership on the parent advisory
129 committee or the teacher advisory committee.

130 (d) For the initial appointments made to the parent advisory group
131 and the teacher advisory group, not fewer than five members of each
132 advisory group shall be appointed for a term of one year from the date
133 of appointment and the remaining five members of each advisory
134 group shall be appointed for a term of two years from the date of
135 appointment. The members appointed to each advisory group in each
136 subsequent year thereafter shall be appointed for a term of two years
137 from the date of appointment. Any member may be reappointed for
138 more than one term, provided such member reapplies for each new
139 term. Members shall continue to serve until their successors are
140 appointed. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term
141 shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term by the
142 Commissioner of Education from the existing pool of applicants for
143 such committee.

144 (e) The members of the parent advisory group and the teacher
145 advisory group shall serve without compensation, except the

146 Department of Education shall, within the limits of available funds,
147 reimburse (1) such members for expenses necessarily incurred in the
148 performance of their duties, and (2) the local or regional board of
149 education that employs a member of the teacher advisory group for
150 payments to substitute teachers incurred as a result of such member
151 performing necessary duties for such committee.

152 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 10-220a of the general statutes is
153 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
154 *1, 2023*):

155 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide an in-
156 service training program for its teachers, administrators and pupil
157 personnel who hold the initial educator, provisional educator or
158 professional educator certificate. Such program shall provide such
159 teachers, administrators and pupil personnel with information on (1)
160 the nature and the relationship of alcohol and drugs, as defined in
161 subdivision (17) of section 21a-240, to health and personality
162 development, and procedures for discouraging their abuse, (2) health
163 and mental health risk reduction education that includes, but need not
164 be limited to, the prevention of risk-taking behavior by children and
165 the relationship of such behavior to substance abuse, pregnancy,
166 sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV-infection and AIDS, as
167 defined in section 19a-581, violence, teen dating violence, domestic
168 violence and child abuse, (3) school violence prevention, conflict
169 resolution, the prevention of and response to youth suicide and the
170 identification and prevention of and response to bullying, as defined in
171 subsection (a) of section 10-222d, except that those boards of education
172 that implement any evidence-based model approach that is approved
173 by the Department of Education and is consistent with subsection (c)
174 of section 10-145a, sections 10-222d, 10-222g and 10-222h, subsection
175 (g) of section 10-233c and sections 1 and 3 of public act 08-160, shall not
176 be required to provide in-service training on the identification and
177 prevention of and response to bullying, (4) cardiopulmonary
178 resuscitation and other emergency life saving procedures, (5) the

179 requirements and obligations of a mandated reporter, (6) the detection
180 and recognition of, and evidence-based structured literacy
181 interventions for, students with dyslexia, as defined in section 10-3d,
182 (7) culturally responsive pedagogy and practice, including, but not
183 limited to, the video training module relating to implicit bias and anti-
184 bias in the hiring process in accordance with the provisions of section
185 10-156hh, [and] (8) the principles and practices of social-emotional
186 learning and restorative practices, and (9) emergency response to
187 students who experience a seizure in a school, including, but not
188 limited to, the recognition of the signs and symptoms of seizures, the
189 appropriate steps for seizure first aid, information about seizure action
190 plans for students and, for those authorized to administer medication
191 under section 10-212a, the administration of seizure rescue medication
192 or prescribed electrical stimulation using a Vagus Nerve Stimulator
193 magnet. Each local or regional board of education may allow any
194 paraprofessional or noncertified employee to participate, on a
195 voluntary basis, in any in-service training program provided pursuant
196 to this section.

197 Sec. 8. Subsection (e) of section 10-16x of the general statutes is
198 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
199 *1, 2023*):

200 (e) The Department of Education shall, [provide grant recipients
201 with technical assistance, evaluation, program monitoring,
202 professional development and accreditation support] in collaboration
203 with regional educational service centers, support grant recipients by
204 (1) monitoring and evaluating programs and activities, (2) conducting
205 a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of programs and
206 implementing risk assessments, (3) providing technical assistance and
207 training to eligible applicants, and (4) ensuring program activities are
208 aligned with state academic standards. The department may retain up
209 to [four] seven and one-half per cent of the amount appropriated for
210 the grant program for purposes of this subsection.

211 Sec. 9. Section 10-212k of the general statutes is repealed and the

212 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

213 On and after September 1, [2023] 2024, each local and regional board
214 of education shall provide free menstrual products, as defined in
215 section 18-69e, in women's restrooms, all-gender restrooms and at least
216 one men's restroom, which restrooms are accessible to students in
217 grades three to twelve, inclusive, in each school under the jurisdiction
218 of such boards and in a manner that does not stigmatize any student
219 seeking such products, pursuant to guidelines established by the
220 Commissioner of Public Health under section 19a-131l. To carry out
221 the provisions of this section, the local and regional boards of
222 education may (1) accept donations of menstrual products and grants
223 from any source for the purpose of purchasing such products, and (2)
224 partner with a nonprofit or community-based organization.

225 Sec. 10. Subdivision (21) of section 10-183b of the general statutes is
226 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
227 *1, 2023*):

228 (21) "Public school" means any day school conducted within or
229 without this state under the orders and superintendence of a duly
230 elected school committee, a board of education, the State Board of
231 Education, the Office of Early Childhood, the Board of Regents for
232 Higher Education, or any of its constituent units, The University of
233 Connecticut Board of Trustees, the board of governors or any of its
234 constituent units, the Technical Education and Career System, the E. O.
235 Smith School, the Children's Center and its successors, the State
236 Education Resource Center established pursuant to section 10-4q of the
237 2014 supplement to the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to
238 January 1, 2013, the State Education Resource Center established
239 pursuant to section 10-357a, joint activities of boards of education
240 authorized by subsection (b) of section 10-158a and (A) any institution
241 supported by the state at which teachers are employed or any
242 incorporated secondary school not under the orders and
243 superintendence of a duly elected school committee or board of
244 education but located in a town not maintaining a high school and

245 providing free tuition to pupils of the town in which it is located, and
 246 which has been approved by the State Board of Education under the
 247 provisions of part II of chapter 164, or (B) on and after July 1, 2023, any
 248 school operated by an interdistrict magnet school operator described in
 249 section 10-264s, provided [that] such institution, [or such] secondary
 250 school or school is classified as a public school by the retirement board.

251 Sec. 11. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The Teachers' Retirement Board shall
 252 classify each school operated by Goodwin University Magnet Schools,
 253 Inc., and Goodwin University Educational Services, Inc., as a public
 254 school, as defined in subdivision (21) of section 10-183b of the general
 255 statutes, as amended by this act, and shall admit each teacher, as
 256 defined in subdivision (28) of section 10-183b of the general statutes,
 257 employed by Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc., and Goodwin
 258 University Educational Services, Inc., into the Connecticut teachers'
 259 retirement system.

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>	10-15k
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-220(g)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-220a(a)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-16x(e)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-212k
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	10-183b(21)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*