

AN ACT

relating to staff development requirements in public schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 21.451, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(a) The staff development provided by a school district must be:

(1) conducted in accordance with ~~minimum~~ standards developed by the district; and

(2) designed to improve education in the district
~~[commissioner for program planning, preparation, and improvement.~~
~~The staff development.~~

~~[(1) must include training in:~~

~~[(A) technology,~~

~~[(B) conflict resolution, and~~

~~[(C) discipline strategies, including classroom management, district discipline policies, and the student code of conduct adopted under Section 37.001 and Chapter 37,~~

~~[(2) must include training that:~~

~~[(A) relates to instruction of students with disabilities, and~~

~~[(B) is designed for educators who work primarily outside of the area of special education, and~~

1 ~~[(3) may include instruction as to what is permissible~~
2 ~~under law, including opinions of the United States Supreme Court,~~
3 ~~in regard to prayers in public school].~~

4 (b) The staff development must be predominantly
5 campus-based, related to achieving campus performance objectives
6 established under Section 11.253, and developed and approved by the
7 campus-level committee established under Section 11.251. [~~Campus~~
8 ~~staff development may include activities that enable the campus~~
9 ~~staff to plan together to enhance existing skills, to share~~
10 ~~effective strategies, to reflect on curricular and instructional~~
11 ~~issues, to analyze student achievement results, to reflect on means~~
12 ~~of increasing student achievement, to study research, to practice~~
13 ~~new methods, to identify students' strengths and needs, to develop~~
14 ~~meaningful programs for students, to appropriately implement~~
15 ~~site-based decision-making, and to conduct action research. The~~
16 ~~campus staff development activities may be conducted using study~~
17 ~~teams, individual research, peer coaching, workshops, seminars,~~
18 ~~conferences, or other reasonable methods that have the potential to~~
19 ~~improve student achievement.]~~

20 (d) The staff development may:

21 (1) include training in:

22 (A) technology;

23 (B) conflict resolution; and

24 (C) discipline strategies, including classroom
25 management, district discipline policies, and the student code of
26 conduct adopted under Section 37.001 and Chapter 37;

27 (2) include training that:

1 (A) relates to instruction of students with
2 disabilities; and

3 (B) is designed for educators who work primarily
4 outside the area of special education; and

5 (3) include instruction as to what is permissible
6 under law, including opinions of the United States Supreme Court,
7 regarding prayer in public school.

8 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2003-2004
9 school year.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

David Southworth

President of the Senate

Tom Caddell

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1024 was passed by the House on April 1, 2003, by a non-record vote; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1024 on May 23, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Robert Haney
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1024 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 22, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Patsy Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 20 JUN '03

Date

Rick Perry
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
10:30 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 20 2003
Kevin Shea
Secretary of State