

2002 MAR 15 P 6:01

CEFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECREDARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

.

SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2002

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ENROLLED

House Bill No. 4319

(By Fahey, Morgan, Perry, Shelton, Paxton, Harrison and Canterbury)



Passed March 6, 2002

In Effect July 1, 2002

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SECRETARY OF STATE

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H. B. 4319

(BY FAHEY, MORGAN, PERRY, SHELTON, PAXTON, HARRISON AND CANTERBURY)

[Passed March 6, 2002; in effect July 1, 2002.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections five-a, twenty-three-a and twenty-six, article two, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; to further amend said article by adding thereto a new section, designated section five-e; to amend and reenact sections five and nine, article two-e of said chapter; to further amend said article by adding thereto a new section, designated section five-c; to amend and reenact sections one, three and four, article two-i of said chapter; to amend and reenact section eighteen-b, article five of said chapter; to amend article twenty of said chapter by adding thereto a new section, designated section one-d; to amend and reenact section twelve, article two, chapter eighteen-a of said code; to amend and reenact sections one and two-c, article three of said chapter; to amend and reenact sections one, two and twob, article three-a of said chapter; and to amend and reenact section nine, article three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a of said code all relating to education generally; the process for improving education; filing copies of proposed state board of education rules

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with the legislative oversight commission on education accountability; higher education participation in development of public education assessments; requiring public institutions of higher education to include plans for using data in compacts after a certain date; specifying possible uses of data; improving the quality, coordination and efficiency of professional staff development in the public schools; changing the process, parties and time frame for state board establishment of professional staff development goals and master plan for professional staff development; establishing first priority for goals; adding state institutions of higher education to list of agencies to receive master plan for professional staff development; providing for periodic amendments to plan; establishing legislative intent for regional educational service agencies; definition; refocusing agencies' programs and services using performance based accountability model; setting forth legislative purpose in establishing agencies; establishing priorities for agencies' programs and services; requiring state board to promulgate rules by a certain date for effective administration and operation of agencies; prohibiting delegation of state board's constitutional authority for the general supervision of schools to the agencies; providing for discretion in certain programs; providing for selection of staff; prohibiting certain personnel changes before certain date; providing for appointment of regional councils; requiring state board to establish statewide standards for service delivery by agencies; providing for amendments to standards; providing for establishment of procedures for financial operation of agencies; requiring state board to establish by rule procedures for agencies to acquire and hold real property; providing for establishment of agency service areas and requiring each county to be a member of the agency in its geographical area; removing authority for agency board to implement regional programs and services by a majority vote of its board of directors; clarifying submission of agency reports and evaluations; prohibiting a member of a county board from being an employee of an agency; requiring agency executive director to attend annually at

least one meeting of each member county board within the service area; making certain findings with respect to process for improving education; adding progress to the criteria for school accreditation and school system approval; delineating authority and responsibility of state board and Legislature in process for improving education; further specifying intent; requiring state board to promulgate rules specifying that unified school improvement plans are to contain other required plans to extent permitted by law; eliminating certain performance standards and clarifying or strengthening others; strengthening purposes of system; providing for additional state and regional agencies to be used for early detection and intervention in low performing schools; requiring process for accrediting schools and school systems to focus on measurable criteria related to student performance and progress; specifying recommendations to be made to process for improving education council; expanding purposes of office of education performance audits; requiring development of reporting formats for certain information, specifying their use and providing penalty for intentional or grossly negligent reporting of false information; establishing relationship of audit with other required reviews and inspections and prohibiting duplication and more stringent compliance measures; providing for five school-day notice of on site review; authorizing unannounced on-site reviews under certain circumstances; authorizing on-site reviews of limited scope; providing for state board designation of certain expert persons to participate in on-site audits, lead teams and complete reports; revising process for appointment of team to assist person or persons designated by state board to participate in on-site review; requiring office of education performance audits to reimburse substitute expense; providing for exit conferences for on-site reviews; specifying time limit for submitting reports of on site reviews; requiring copies of on-site reports to be provided to process for improving education council; providing for schools and school systems to remain on full accreditation or approval for certain period if certain conditions are met; including

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process for improving education council as an appropriate body for receipt of certain reports on capacity building; including principals academy as potential staff development provider to build capacity; authorizing state board to make determinations on continuing school monitor and to intervene in operation of school or school system at any time under certain limited circumstances: specifying certain types of intervention; specifying process for replacing a school principal; limiting actions of county board that would further impair a low performing school; authorizing state board to appoint a monitor for a school after the state board intervention period has been completed; authorizing state board to delegate certain powers and duties to state superintendent; adding an additional condition when state board intervention in operation of school system is authorized; establishing process for improving education council; providing for membership, reimbursement of expenses, and powers of council; designating governor to convene meetings and serve as council chair; requiring state board to notify council members of proposed changes to certain state board rules; providing for certain members of council to request governor to call meetings; requiring state board or its designees to meet and consult with council; authorizing council members and staff to participate as observers in on-site reviews of schools or school systems; exempting approved virtual and distance learning courses of West Virginia virtual school from mandatory use of primary source instructional materials listed on state multiple list subject to certain requirements; making West Virginia professional staff development advisory council an advisory council to the state board; reducing the number of members on the council; revising purpose and functions; providing that members may be reimbursed for expenses by the state board; providing for a council chair; authorizing state board to promulgate a rule adopting the national standards for school counseling programs; requiring county boards to provide training to implement the rule to the extent funding is available; requiring state board to adopt basic

model for individualized education programs for exceptional students not to exceed federal laws, policies, rules and regulations; providing that professional educators may not be required to prepare and/or implement an individualized education program which exceeds requirements of federal and state laws, policies, rules or regulations; allowing less frequent evaluations for certain professional personnel; providing that classroom teachers may request more frequent evaluations; providing that evaluations serve as basis to improve personnel performance; requiring that personnel demonstrate competence on state board adopted technology standards and providing for an improvement plan for those who can not demonstrate such competence; directing that lesson plans may not be used as a substitute for observations in the performance evaluation process nor for the performance audit documentation; directing that lesson plans may not be required to include certain nonessential items; directing that classroom teachers may not be required to keep records of routine contacts with parents or guardians; replacing outdated references to the college and university system boards and adding chancellor of higher education policy commission; requiring training and professional development through the principals academy to be specifically designed for the principals required to attend; establishing priority order for principals to attend the academy; requiring that training be completed within twelve months, except in the cases of principals whose schools are seriously impaired; requiring center for professional development to provide for all principals to attend the academy at least once every six years subject to available funding; requiring that members of the principals standards advisory council be selected by their relevant constituency organizations; reconstituting the membership on a certain date; requiring the center for professional development to reimburse the expenses of persons attending the academy; removing authorization to pay a stipend to persons who attend the academy outside of their employment term; prohibiting requiring persons to complete training and professional development

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through the academy at certain times; requiring the center for professional development to use alternative methods of scheduling and instructional delivery to minimize time principals are away from school duties; expanding general mission of center for professional development to include assistance and support to regional and local education agencies in identifying and providing programs to meet local needs; establishing term limit for certain board members; requiring educators serving on center for professional development board be experienced educators with recognized knowledge, ability and performance in teaching or management; requiring that one of the three citizen members on the board be a representative of public higher education; providing for co-chairs of the center for professional development; making the executive director of center for professional development a will and pleasure employee of center for professional development board; directing executive director to chair the principals standards advisory council; requiring professional development project to cooperate and coordinate with the institutions of higher education to provide programs to aid teachers in meeting the requirements for additional endorsements; providing for the state board to certify certain professional staff development courses provided by center for professional development to meet the requirements if no agreement with higher education is reached; removing authorization for summer institutes in the principals academy and listing priorities for principal training; clarifying procedures for state board to file rules with legislative oversight commission on education accountability; and authorizing legislative oversight commission on education accountability to make recommendations to the state board and the Legislature regarding rules.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections five-a, twenty-three-a, and twenty-six, article two, chapter eighteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted; that said article be further amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section five-e; that sections five and nine, article two-e of said chapter be amended and reenacted; that said article be further amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section five-c; that sections one, three, and four, article two-i of said chapter be amended and reenacted; that section eighteen-b, article five of said chapter be amended and reenacted; that article twenty of said chapter be further amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section one-d; that section twelve, article two, chapter eighteen-a of said code be amended and reenacted; that sections one and two-c, article three of said chapter be amended and reenacted; that sections one and two-c, article three of said chapter be amended and reenacted; that sections one, two and two-b, article three-a of said chapter be amended and reenacted; and that section nine, article three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a of said code be amended and reenacted, all to read as follows:

CHAPTER 18. EDUCATION.

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-5a. Board rules to be filed with Legislature.

1 The state board of education shall file twenty copies of any rule that it proposes to promulgate, adopt, amend or repeal 2 3 under the authority of the constitution or of this code with the 4 legislative oversight commission on education accountability 5 pursuant to article three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code. "Rule," as used herein, means a regulation, standard, statement 6 7 of policy, or interpretation of general application and future 8 effect.

§18-2-5e. Higher education participation in development and use of public education assessments.

- 1 (a) It is the duty of the state board to consult with the duly
- 2 selected representatives of public higher education appointed
- 3 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section and to make full use
- 4 of their expertise when developing assessment instruments to

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5 be administered in the public schools. Among other things, the
6 higher education representatives shall assist the state board in
7 assuring that assessment instruments provide meaningful data
8 to be used by higher education pursuant to subsection (d) of this
9 section.

10 (b) The chancellor of the higher education policy commis-11 sion shall appoint appropriate representatives from the system 12 of public higher education to participate in the development of 13 any assessment instruments required by rules of the state board 14 to be administered in grades nine through twelve of the public 15 schools of this state. It is the responsibility of these higher 16 education representatives to assist the state board in developing 17 assessments that test the knowledge and skills needed for 18 success in postsecondary education.

19 (d) Not later than the school year beginning in two thousand 20 five, the higher education policy commission shall require that 21 each institution's compact, as set forth in section two, article 22 one-b, chapter eighteen-b of this code, includes provisions for 23 incorporating the data generated by public education assess-24 ments into their decision making processes. The use of the data may include, but is not limited to, consideration as a factor in 25 26 admission to postsecondary education, college placement, or 27 determinations of necessity for remedial course work.

§18-2-23a. Annual professional staff development goals established by state board; coordination of professional development programs; program development, approval and evaluation.

1 (a) *Legislative intent* — The intent of this section is to 2 provide for the coordination of professional development 3 programs by the state board and to promote high quality 4 instructional delivery and management practices for a thorough 5 and efficient system of schools. 6 (b) *Goals* — The state board annually shall establish goals 7 for professional staff development in the public schools of the 8 state. As a first priority, the state board shall require adequate 9 and appropriate professional staff development to ensure high 10 quality teaching that will enable students to achieve the content 11 standards established for the required curriculum in the public 12 schools.

The state board shall submit the goals to the state department of education, the center for professional development, the regional educational service agencies, the higher education policy commission and the legislative oversight commission on education accountability on or before the fifteenth day of January, each year.

The goals shall include measures by which the effectiveness of the professional staff development programs will be evaluated. The professional staff development goals may include separate goals for teachers, principals, paraprofessional service personnel and classroom aides and others in the public schools.

In establishing the goals, the state board shall review 24 25 reports that may indicate a need for professional staff develop-26 ment including, but not limited to, the report of the center for 27 professional development created in article three-a, chapter 28 eighteen-a of this code, student test scores on the statewide 29 student assessment program, the measures of student and school 30 performance for accreditation purposes, school and school 31 district report cards, and its plans for the use of funds in the 32 strategic staff development fund pursuant to section thirty-two, 33 article two, chapter eighteen of this code.

(c) The center for professional development shall design a
proposed professional staff development program plan to
achieve the goals of the state board and shall submit the

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proposed plan to the state board for approval as soon aspossible following receipt of the state board goals each year.

39 The proposed plan shall include a strategy for evaluating 40 the effectiveness of the professional staff development programs delivered under the plan and a cost estimate. The state 41 42 board shall review the proposed plan and return it to the center 43 for professional development noting whether the proposed plan 44 is approved or is not approved, in whole or in part. If a pro-45 posed plan is not approved in whole, the state board shall note 46 its objections to the proposed plan or to the parts of the proposed plan not approved and may suggest improvements or 47 specific modifications, additions or deletions to address more 48 49 fully the goals or eliminate duplication. If the proposed plan is 50 not wholly approved, the center for professional development 51 shall revise the plan to satisfy the objections of the state board. State board approval is required prior to implementation of the 52 53 professional staff development plan.

54 (d) The state board approval of the proposed professional staff development plan shall establish a master plan for profes-55 56 sional staff development which shall be submitted by the state 57 board to the affected agencies and to the legislative oversight 58 commission on education accountability. The master plan shall 59 include the state board approved plans for professional staff 60 development by the state department of education, the center for professional development, the state institutions of higher 61 62 education and the regional educational service agencies to meet 63 the professional staff development goals of the state board. The 64 master plan also shall include a plan for evaluating the effec-65 tiveness of the professional staff development delivered through 66 the programs and a cost estimate.

67 The master plan shall serve as a guide for the delivery of 68 coordinated professional staff development programs by the 69 state department of education, the center for professional

development, the state institutions of higher education and the 70 71 regional educational service agencies beginning on the first day 72 of June in the year in which the master plan was approved 73 through the thirtieth day of May in the following year: Pro-74 vided. That nothing in this section shall prohibit changes in the 75 master plan, subject to state board approval, to address staff 76 development needs identified after the master plan was ap-77 proved.

§18-2-26. Establishment of multicounty regional educational service agencies; purpose; authority of state board; governance; annual performance standards.

1 (a) *Legislative intent* — The intent of the Legislature in 2 providing for establishment of regional education service 3 agencies, hereinafter referred to in this section as agency or 4 agencies, is to provide for high quality, cost effective education 5 programs and services to students, schools and school systems.

6 Since the first enactment of this section in one thousand 7 nine hundred seventy-two, the focus of public education has 8 shifted from a reliance on input models to determine if educa-9 tion programs and services are providing to students a thorough 10 and efficient education to a performance based accountability 11 model which relies on the following:

(1) Development and implementation of standards which
set forth the things that students should know and be able to do
as the result of a thorough and efficient education including
measurable criteria to evaluate student performance and
progress;

17 (2) Development and implementation of assessments to
18 measure student performance and progress toward meeting the
19 standards;

(3) Development and implementation of a system for
holding schools and school systems accountable for student
performance and progress toward obtaining a high quality
education which is delivered in an efficient manner; and

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(4) Development and implementation of a method for
building the capacity and improving the efficiency of schools
and school systems to improve student performance and
progress.

(b) *Purpose* — In establishing the agencies the Legislature
envisions certain areas of service in which the agencies can best
assist the state board in implementing the standards based
accountability model pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
and, thereby, in providing high quality education programs.
These areas of service include the following:

34 (1) Providing technical assistance to low performing35 schools and school systems;

36 (2) Providing high quality, targeted staff development
37 designed to enhance the performance and progress of students
38 in state public education;

39 (3) Facilitating coordination and cooperation among the
40 county boards within their respective regions in such areas as
41 cooperative purchasing; sharing of specialized personnel,
42 communications and technology; curriculum development; and
43 operation of specialized programs for exceptional children;

(4) Installing, maintaining and/or repairing education
related technology equipment and software with special
attention to the state level basic skills and SUCCESS programs;

47 (5) Receiving and administering grants under the provisions48 of federal and/or state law; and

49 (6) Developing and/or implementing any other programs or50 services as directed by law or by the state board.

51 (c) *State board rule* — The state board shall reexamine the 52 powers and duties of the agencies in light of the changes in state 53 level education policy that have occurred and shall establish 54 multi-county regional educational service agencies by rule, 55 promulgated in accordance with the provisions of article three-56 b, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code.

57 The rule shall contain all information necessary for the 58 effective administration and operation of the agencies. In 59 developing the rule, the state board may not delegate its 60 constitutional authority for the general supervision of schools 61 to the agencies, however, it may allow the agencies greater 62 latitude in the development and implementation of programs in the service areas outlined in subsection (b) of this section with 63 64 the exceptions of providing technical assistance to low perform-65 ing schools and school systems and providing high quality, 66 targeted staff development designed to enhance the perfor-67 mance and progress of students in state public education. These 68 two areas constitute the most important responsibilities for the 69 agencies.

The rule establishing the agencies shall be promulgated
before the first day of November, two thousand two, and shall
be consistent with the provisions of this section. It shall include,
but is not limited to, the following procedures:

74 (1) Providing for a uniform governance structure for the75 agencies containing at least these elements:

(A) Selection by the state board of an executive director
who shall be responsible for the administration of his or her
respective agency. The rule shall provide for the state board to

consult with the appropriate regional council during theselection process;

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(B) Development of a job description and qualifications for
the position of executive director, together with procedures for
informing the public of position openings and for taking and
evaluating applications for these positions;

85 (C) Provisions for the agencies to employ other staff, as 86 necessary, with the approval of the state board and upon the 87 recommendation of the executive director: Provided, That prior 88 to the first day of July, two thousand three, no person who is an 89 employee of an agency on the effective date of this section may 90 be terminated or have his or her salary and benefit levels 91 reduced as the sole result of the changes made to this section or 92 by state board rule;

93 (D) Appointment by the county boards of a regional council 94 in each agency area consisting of representatives of county 95 boards and county superintendents from within that area for the 96 purpose of advising and assisting the executive director in 97 carrying out his or her duties. The state board may provide for 98 membership on the regional council for representatives from 99 other agencies and institutions who have interest or expertise in 100 the development or implementation of regional education 101 programs; and

(E) Selection by the state superintendent of a representative
from the state department of education to serve on each regional
council. These representatives shall meet with their respective
regional councils at least quarterly;

106 (2) Establishing statewide standards by the state board for 107 service delivery by the agencies. These standards may be 108 revised annually and shall include, but are not limited to, 109 programs and services to fulfill the purposes set forth in110 subsection (b) of this section;

(3) Establishing procedures for developing and adopting an
annual basic operating budget for each agency and for other
budgeting and accounting procedures as the state board may
require;

(4) Establishing procedures to clarifying that agencies mayacquire and hold real property;

(5) Dividing the state into appropriate, contiguous geographical areas and designating an agency to serve each area.
The rule shall provide that each of the state's counties is
contained within a single service area and that all counties
located within the boundaries of each agency, as determined by
the state board, shall be members of that agency; and

(6) Such other standards or procedures as the state boardfinds necessary or convenient.

125 (d) Regional services — In furtherance of the purposes 126 provided for in this section, the state board and the regional 127 council of each agency shall continually explore possibilities 128 for the delivery of services on a regional basis which will 129 facilitate equality in the education offerings among counties in 130 its service area, permit the delivery of high quality education 131 programs at a lower per student cost, strengthen the cost 132 effectiveness of education funding resources, reduce adminis-133 trative and/or operational costs, including the consolidation of 134 administrative, coordinating and other county level functions 135 into region level functions, and promote the efficient adminis-136 tration and operation of the public school systems generally.

137 Technical, operational, programmatic or professional
138 services are among the types of services appropriate for
139 delivery on a regional basis.

140 (e) Virtual education — The state board, in conjunction 141 with the various agencies, shall develop an effective model for the regional delivery of instruction in subjects where there 142 143 exists low student enrollment or a shortage of certified teachers or where the delivery method substantially improves the quality 144 145 of an instructional program. The model shall incorporate an 146 interactive electronic classroom approach to instruction. To the 147 extent funds are appropriated or otherwise available, county boards or regional educational service agencies may adopt and 148 149 utilize the model for the delivery of the instruction.

(f) Computer information system — Each county board of
education shall use the uniform integrated regional computer
information system recommended by the state board for data
collection and reporting to the state department of education.
County boards of education shall bear the cost of and fully
participate in the implementation of the system by using one of
the following methods:

(1) Acquiring necessary, compatible equipment to partici-pate in the regional computer information system; or

159 (2) Following receipt of a waiver from the state superintendent, operating a comparable management information system 160 161 at a lower cost which provides at least all uniform integrated regional computer information system software modules and 162 allows on-line, interactive access for schools and the county 163 board office onto the statewide communications network. All 164 data formats shall be the same as for the uniform integrated 165 166 regional information system and will reside at the regional computer. 167

Any county granted a waiver shall receive periodic notification of any incompatibility or deficiency in its system. No
county shall expand any system either through the purchase of
additional software or hardware that does not advance the goals

and implementation of the uniform integrated regional com-puter information system as recommended by the state board.

174 (g) Reports and evaluations — Each agency shall submit to 175 the state superintendent on such date and in such form as 176 specified in the rules adopted by the state board a report and 177 evaluation of the technical assistance and other services 178 provided and utilized by the schools within each respective 179 region and their effectiveness. Additionally, any school may 180 submit an evaluation of the services provided by the agency to 181 the state superintendent at any time. This report shall include an 182 evaluation of the agency program, suggestions on methods to 183 improve utilization and suggestions on the development of new 184 programs and the enhancement of existing programs. The 185 reports and evaluations submitted pursuant to this subsection shall be submitted to the state board and shall be made available 186 187 upon request to the standing committees on education of the 188 West Virginia Senate and House of Delegates and to the 189 secretary of education and the arts.

(h) *Funding sources* — An agency may receive and
disburse funds from the state and federal governments, from
member counties, or from gifts and grants.

(i) *Employee expenses* — Notwithstanding any other
provision of this code to the contrary, employees of agencies
shall be reimbursed for travel, meals and lodging at the same
rate as state employees under the travel management office of
the department of administration.

A county board member may not be an employee of anagency.

200 (j) Meetings and compensation –

(1) Agencies shall hold at least one half of their regularmeetings during hours other than those of a regular school day.

The executive director of each agency shall attend at least one meeting of each of the member county boards of education each year to explain the agency's services, garner suggestions for program improvement and provide any other information as may be requested by the county board.

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208 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the 209 contrary, county board members serving on regional councils 210 may receive compensation at a rate not to exceed one hundred 211 dollars per meeting attended, not to exceed fifteen meetings per 212 year. County board members serving on regional councils may 213 be reimbursed for travel at the same rate as state employees 214 under the rules of the travel management office of the depart-215 ment of administration.

216 (k) Computer installation, maintenance and repair — 217 Agencies shall serve as the lead agency for computer installa-218 tion, maintenance and repair for the basic skills and SUCCESS 219 computer programs. Each agency shall submit a quarterly status 220 report on turn around time for computer installation, mainte-221 nance and repair to the state superintendent of schools who 222 shall then submit a report to the legislative oversight commis-223 sion on education accountability. The status report for turn 224 around time for computer installation, maintenance and repair shall be based on the following suggested time schedules: 225

226	Network File Servers forty-eight hours
227	Local Area Networks forty-eight hours
228 229	West Virginia Education Information System twenty-four hours
230	Computer Workstations three to five days
231	Printers three to five days

232 Other Peripherals three to five days 233 Agencies also shall submit an audit report to the legislative 234 oversight commission on education accountability each year. 235 (1) Professional development — Pursuant to the processes 236 and provisions of section twenty-three-a, article two, chapter 237 eighteen of this code, each agency shall provide coordinated 238 professional development programs within its region to meet 239 the professional development goals established by the state 240 board.

ARTICLE 2E. HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

§18-2E-5. Process for improving education; education standards and accountability measures; office of education performance audits; school accreditation and school system approval; intervention to correct impairments.

1 (a) Legislative findings, purpose and intent.

2 (1) The Legislature finds that the process for improving3 education includes four primary elements, these being:

- 4 (A) Standards which set forth the things that students 5 should know and be able to do as the result of a thorough and 6 efficient education including measurable criteria to evaluate 7 student performance and progress;
- 8 (B) Assessments of student performance and progress9 toward meeting the standards;

10 (C) A system for holding schools and school systems 11 accountable for student performance and progress toward 12 obtaining a high quality education which is delivered in an 13 efficient manner; and

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(D) A method for building the capacity and improving the
efficiency of schools and school systems to improve student
performance and progress.

17 (2) The Legislature further finds that as the constitutional 18 body charged with the general supervision of schools as 19 provided by general law, the state board has the authority and 20 the responsibility to establish the standards, assess the perfor-21 mance and progress of students against the standards, hold 22 schools and school systems accountable, and assist schools and 23 school systems to build capacity and improve efficiency so that 24 the standards are met, including, when necessary, seeking 25 additional resources in consultation with the Legislature and the 26 governor.

27 (3) The Legislature also finds that as the constitutional body 28 charged with providing for a thorough and efficient system of 29 schools, the Legislature has the authority and the responsibility 30 to establish and be engaged constructively in the determination 31 of the things that students should know and be able to do as the 32 result of a thorough and efficient education. This determination 33 is made by using the process for improving education to 34 determine when school improvement is needed, by evaluating 35 the results and the efficiency of the system of schools, by 36 ensuring accountability, and by providing for the necessary 37 capacity and its efficient use.

(4) Therefore, the purpose of this section is to establish a
process for improving education that includes the four primary
elements as set forth in subdivision one of this subsection to
provide assurances that a thorough and efficient system of
schools is being provided for all West Virginia public school
students on an equal education opportunity basis and that the
high quality standards are, at a minimum, being met.

45 (5) The intent of the Legislature in enacting this section is 46 to establish a process through which the Legislature, the governor and the state board can work in the spirit of coopera-47 48 tion and collaboration intended in the process for improving 49 education to consult and examine, when necessary, the perfor-50 mance and progress of students, schools and school systems and 51 consider alternative measures to ensure that all students 52 continue to receive the thorough and efficient education to 53 which they are entitled. However, nothing in this section 54 requires any specific level of funding by the Legislature.

55 (b) Unified county and school improvement plans. — The 56 state board shall promulgate rules in accordance with article 57 three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code establishing a 58 unified county improvement plan for each county board and a 59 unified school improvement plan for each public school in this 60 state. The rules shall specify that the unified school improve-61 ment plan shall include all appropriate plans required by law 62 including, but not limited to the following:

63 (1) The report required to be delivered to the county-wide
64 council on productive and safe schools pursuant to subsection
65 (f), section two, article five-a of this chapter;

(2) Plans or applications required in the area of technology
pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 6845, section seven, article two-e of this
chapter, state board policy or rule or any other county, state or
federal law;

(3) The strategic plan to manage the integration of special
needs students as required by section five, article five-a, of this
chapter; and

(4) the school based improvement plan set forth in the
Elementary and Secondary Education Act pursuant to 29 U.S.C.

75 §6301 et seq.

The plans are required to be included only to the extentpermitted by state and federal law.

(c) *High quality education standards and efficiency standards.* — In accordance with the provisions of article threeb, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code, the state board shall adopt
and periodically review and update high quality education
standards for student, school and school system performance
and processes in the following areas:

- 84 (1) Curriculum;
- 85 (2) Workplace readiness skills;
- 86 (3) Finance;
- 87 (4) Transportation;
- 88 (5) Special education;
- 89 (6) Facilities;
- 90 (7) Administrative practices;
- 91 (8) Training of county board members and administrators;
- 92 (9) Personnel qualifications;
- 93 (10) Professional development and evaluation;
- 94 (11) Student performance and progress;
- 95 (12) School and school system performance and progress;
- 96 (13) A code of conduct for students and employees;
- 97 (14) Indicators of efficiency; and
- 98 (15) Any other areas determined by the state board.

99 (d) *Performance measures.* — The standards shall assure
100 that all graduates are prepared for gainful employment or for
101 continuing post-secondary education and training and that
102 schools and school systems are making progress in achieving
103 the education goals of the state.

The standards shall include measures of student performance and progress and measures of school and school system performance, progress and processes that enable student performance. The measures of student performance and progress and school and school system performance, progress and processes shall include, but are not limited to, the followling:

(1) The acquisition of student proficiencies as indicated by
student performance and progress by grade level measured,
where possible, by a uniform statewide assessment program;

- 114 (2) School attendance rates;
- 115 (3) The student dropout rate;
- 116 (4) The high school graduation rate;

(5) The percentage of graduates who enrolled in college and
the percentage of graduates who enrolled in other post-secondary education within one year following high school graduation;

(6) The percentage of graduates who received additional
certification of their skills, competence and readiness for
college, other post-secondary education or employment above
the level required for graduation; and

(7) The percentage of students who enrolled in and the
percentage of students who successfully completed advanced
placement, dual credit and honors classes, respectively, by
grade level.

(e) Indicators of efficiency. — In accordance with the
provisions of article three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code,
the state board shall adopt and periodically review and update
indicators of efficiency for student and school system performance and processes in the following areas:

(1) Curriculum delivery including, but not limited to, theuse of distance learning;

- 135 (2) Transportation;
- 136 (3) Facilities;
- 137 (4) Administrative practices;

138 (5) Personnel;

(6) Utilization of regional educational service agency
programs and services, including programs and services that
may be established by their assigned regional educational
service agency, or other regional services that may be initiated
between and among participating county boards; and

144 (7) Any other indicators as determined by the state board.

145 (f) Assessment and accountability of school and school system performance and processes. - In accordance with the 146 147 provisions of article three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code, 148 the state board shall establish by rule a system of education 149 performance audits which measures the quality of education 150 and the preparation of students based on the standards and 151 measures of student, school and school system performance, 152 progress and processes, including, but not limited to, the standards and measures set forth in subsections (c) and (d) of 153 154 this section. The system of education performance audits shall 155 assist the state board, the Legislature and the governor in 156 ensuring that the standards and measures established pursuant 157 to this section are, at a minimum, being met and that a thorough 158 and efficient system of schools is being provided. The system 159 of education performance audits shall include: (1) The assess-160 ment of student performance and progress, school and school 161 system performance and progress, and the processes in place in 162 schools and school systems which enable student performance 163 and progress; (2) the review of school and school system 164 unified improvement plans; and (3) the periodic on-site review 165 of school and school system performance and progress and 166 compliance with the standards.

167 (g) Uses of school and school system assessment informa-168 tion. - The state board and the process for improving education council established pursuant to section five-c of this article 169 170 shall use information from the system of education performance 171 audits to assist them in ensuring that a thorough and efficient system of schools is being provided and to improve student, 172 173 school and school system performance and progress. Informa-174 tion from the system of education performance audits further 175 shall be used by the state board for these purposes, including, 176 but not limited to, the following: (1) Determining school 177 accreditation and school system approval status; (2) holding 178 schools and school systems accountable for the efficient use of 179 existing resources to meet or exceed the standards; and (3) 180 targeting additional resources when necessary to improve 181 performance and progress. Primary emphasis in determining 182 school accreditation and school system approval status is based 183 on student performance and progress, school and school system 184 performance and progress and such other measures as selected 185 by the state board. The state board shall make accreditation 186 information available to the Legislature, the governor, the general public and to any individuals who request the informa-187 188 tion, subject to the provisions of any act or rule restricting the release of information. 189

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190 Based on the assessment of student, school and school 191 system performance and progress, the state board shall establish early detection and intervention programs using the available 192 193 resources of the department of education, the regional educa-194 tional service agencies, the center for professional development 195 and the principals academy, as appropriate, to assist under-196 achieving schools and school systems to improve performance 197 before conditions become so grave as to warrant more substan-198 tive state intervention. Assistance shall include, but is not 199 limited to, providing additional technical assistance and 200 programmatic, professional staff development, providing 201 monetary, staffing and other resources where appropriate, and, 202 if necessary, making appropriate recommendations to the 203 process for improving education council.

204 (h) Office of education performance audits.

205 (1) To assist the state board and the process for improving 206 education council in the operation of a system of education 207 performance audits that will enable them to evaluate whether a 208 thorough and efficienteducation is being provided, and to assist 209 the state board in making determinations regarding the accredi-210 tation status of schools and the approval status of school 211 systems, the state board shall establish an office of education 212 performance audits which shall be operated under the direction 213 of the state board independently of the functions and supervi-214 sion of the state department of education and state superinten-215 dent. The office of education performance audits shall report 216 directly to and be responsible to the state board in carrying out 217 its duties under the provisions of this section.

(2) The office shall be headed by a director who shall be
appointed by the state board and who shall serve at the will and
pleasure of the state board. The salary of the director shall not
exceed the salary of the state superintendent of schools.

(3) The state board shall organize and sufficiently staff the
office to fulfill the duties assigned to it by law and by the state
board. Employees of the state department of education who are
transferred to the office of education performance audits retain
their benefit and seniority status with the department of
education.

228 (4) Under the direction of the state board, the office of 229 education performance audits shall receive from the West 230 Virginia education information system staff research and 231 analysis data on the performance and progress of students, 232 schools and school systems, and shall receive assistance, as 233 determined by the state board, from staff at the state department 234 of education, the regional education service agencies, the center 235 for professional development, the principals academy and the 236 state school building authority to carry out the duties assigned 237 to the office.

(5) In addition to other duties which may be assigned to itby the state board or by statute, the office of education perfor-mance audits also shall:

(A) Assure that all statewide assessments of student
performance are secure as required in section one-a of this
article;

(B) Administer all accountability measures as assigned bythe state board, including, but not limited to, the following:

(i) Processes for the accreditation of schools and the
approval of school systems. These processes shall focus on
those measurable criteria related to student performance and
progress and to the delivery of instruction which will enable
student performance and progress; and

(ii) Recommendations to the state board on appropriate
action, including, but not limited to, accreditation and approval
action;

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(C) Determine, in conjunction with the assessment and accountability processes, what capacity may be needed by schools and school systems to meet the standards established by the Legislature and the state board, and recommend to the school, the school system, the state board and the process for improving education council, plans to establish those needed capacities;

(D) Determine, in conjunction with the assessment and accountability processes, whether statewide system deficiencies exist in the capacity to establish and maintain a thorough and efficient system of schools, including the identification of trends and the need for continuing improvements in education, and report those deficiencies and trends to the state board and the process for improving education council;

268 (E) Determine, in conjunction with the assessment and 269 accountability processes, staff development needs of schools 270 and school systems to meet the standards established by the 271 Legislature and the state board, and make recommendations to 272 the state board, the process for improving education council, the 273 center for professional development, the regional educational 274 service agencies, the higher education policy commission, and 275 the county boards;

(F) Identify, in conjunction with the assessment and accountability processes, exemplary schools and school systems and best practices that improve student, school and school system performance, and make recommendations to the state board and the process for improving education council for recognizing and rewarding exemplary schools and school systems and promoting the use of best practices. The state 283 board shall provide information on best practices to county
284 school systems and shall use information identified through the
285 assessment and accountability processes to select schools of
286 excellence; and

287 (G) Develop reporting formats, such as check lists, which 288 shall be used by the appropriate administrative personnel in 289 schools and school systems to document compliance with 290 various of the applicable laws, policies and process standards 291 as considered appropriate and approved by the state board, 292 including, but not limited to, compliance with limitations on the 293 number of pupils per teacher in a classroom and the number of 294 split grade classrooms. Information contained in the reporting 295 formats shall be examined during an on-site review to deter-296 mine compliance with laws, policies and standards. Intentional 297 and grossly negligent reporting of false information is ground 298 for dismissal

(i) On-site reviews.

(1) At the direction of the state board or by weighted
selection by the office of education performance audits, an onsite review shall be conducted by the office of education
performance audits of any school or school system for purposes, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 305 (A) Verifying data reported by the school or county board;
- 306 (B) Documenting compliance with policies and laws;

307 (C) Evaluating the effectiveness and implementation status
308 of school and school system unified improvement plans;

- 309 (D) Investigating official complaints submitted to the state
- 310 board that allege serious impairments in the quality of educa-
- 311 tion in schools or school systems;

312 (E) Investigating official complaints submitted to the state
313 board that allege that a school or county board is in violation of
314 policies or laws under which schools and county boards
315 operate; and

316 (F) Determining and reporting whether required reviews 317 and inspections have been conducted by the appropriate 318 agencies, including, but not limited to, the state fire marshal, 319 the health department, the school building authority and the 320 responsible divisions within the department of education, and 321 whether noted deficiencies have been or are in the process of 322 being corrected. The office of education performance audits 323 may not conduct a duplicate review or inspection nor mandate 324 more stringent compliance measures.

325 (2) The selection of schools and school systems for an on-326 site review shall use a weighted sample so that those with lower 327 performance and progress indicators and those that have not 328 had a recent on-site review have a greater likelihood of being 329 selected. The director of the office of education performance 330 audits shall notify the county superintendent of schools five school days prior to commencing an on-site review of the 331 332 county school system and shall notify both the county superin-333 tendent and the principal five school days prior to commencing 334 an on-site review of an individual school: Provided. That the 335 state board may direct the office of education performance 336 audits to conduct an unannounced on-site review of a school or 337 school system if the state board believes circumstances warrant 338 an unannounced on-site review.

(3) The office of education performance audits may conduct
on-site reviews which are limited in scope to specific areas in
addition to full reviews which cover all areas.

342 (4) An on-site review of a school or school system shall343 include a person or persons who has expert knowledge and

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344 experience in the area or areas to be reviewed and who is 345 designated by the state board from the department of education 346 and the agencies responsible for assisting the office. If the size 347 of the school or school system being reviewed necessitates the 348 use of an on-site review team or teams, the person or persons 349 designated by the state board shall advise and assist the director 350 to appoint the team or teams. The person or persons designated 351 by the state board shall be the team leaders.

352 The persons designated by the state board shall be responsi-353 ble for completing the report on the findings and recommenda-354 tions of the on-site review in their area of expertise. It is the 355 intent of the Legislature that the persons designated by the state 356 board participate in all on-site reviews that involve their area of 357 expertise to the extent practicable so that the on-site review 358 process will evaluate compliance with the standards in a 359 uniform, consistent and expert manner.

(5) The office of education performance audits shall
reimburse a county board for the costs of substitutes required to
replace county board employees while they are serving on a
review team.

364 (6) At the conclusion of an on-site review of a school 365 system, the director and team leaders shall hold an exit confer-366 ence with the superintendent and shall provide an opportunity 367 for principals to be present for at least the portion of the 368 conference pertaining to their respective schools. In the case of 369 an on-site review of a school, the exit conference shall be held 370 with the principal and the superintendent shall be provided the 371 opportunity to be present.

(7) The office of education performance audits shall report
the findings of the on-site reviews to the state board for
inclusion in the evaluation and determination of a school's or
county board's accreditation or approval status as applicable.

The report on the findings of an on-site review shall be submitted to the state board within thirty days following the conclusion of the on-site review and to the county superintendent and principals of schools within the reviewed school system within forty-five days following the conclusion of the on-site review. A copy of the report shall be provided to the process for improving education council.

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(j) School accreditation. -- The state board annually shall
review the information from the system of education performance audits submitted for each school and shall issue to every
school one of the following approval levels: Exemplary
accreditation status, full accreditation status, temporary
accreditation status, conditional accreditation status, or seriously impaired status.

390 (1) Full accreditation status shall be given to a school when 391 the school's performance and progress on the standards adopted by the state board pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this 392 393 section are at a level which would be expected when all of the 394 high quality education standards are being met. A school which 395 meets or exceeds the measures of student performance and 396 progress set forth in subsection (d) of this section, and which 397 does not have any deficiencies which would endanger student 398 health or safety or other extraordinary circumstances as defined 399 by the state board, shall remain on full accreditation status for 400 six months following an on-site review in which other deficien-401 cies are noted. The school shall have an opportunity to correct 402 those deficiencies, notwithstanding other provisions of this 403 subsection.

404 (2) Temporary accreditation status shall be given to a
405 school when the measure of the school's performance and
406 progress is below the level required for full accreditation status.
407 Whenever a school is given temporary accreditation status, the
408 county board shall ensure that the school's unified improvement

plan is revised to increase the performance and progress of the
school to a full accreditation status level. The revised unified
school improvement plan shall include objectives, a time line,
a plan for evaluation of the success of the improvements, cost
estimates, and a date certain for achieving full accreditation.
The revised plan shall be submitted to the state board for
approval.

416 (3) Conditional accreditation status shall be given to a 417 school when the school's performance and progress on the 418 standards adopted by the state board are below the level 419 required for full accreditation, but the school's unified improve-420 ment plan has been revised to achieve full accreditation status 421 by a date certain, the plan has been approved by the state board 422 and the school is meeting the objectives and time line specified 423 in the revised plan.

424 (4) Exemplary accreditation status shall be given to a 425 school when the school's performance and progress on the 426 standards adopted by the state board pursuant to subsections (c) 427 and (d) of this section substantially exceed the minimal level 428 which would be expected when all of the high quality education 429 standards are being met. The state board shall promulgate 430 legislative rules in accordance with the provisions of article 431 three-b, chapter twenty-nine-a, designated to establish standards 432 of performance and progress to identify exemplary schools.

(5) The state board shall establish and adopt standards of
performance and progress to identify seriously impaired schools
and the state board may declare a school seriously impaired
whenever extraordinary circumstances exist as defined by the
state board.

438 (A) These circumstances shall include, but are not limited439 to, the following:

(i) The failure of a school on temporary accreditation status
to obtain approval of its revised unified school improvement
plan within a reasonable time period as defined by the state
board;

444 (ii) The failure of a school on conditional accreditation
445 status to meet the objectives and time line of its revised unified
446 school improvement plan; or

(iii) The failure of a school to achieve full accreditation bythe date specified in the revised plan.

449 (B) Whenever the state board determines that the quality of 450 education in a school is seriously impaired, the state board shall 451 appoint a team of improvement consultants to make recommen-452 dations within sixty days of appointment for correction of the 453 impairment. When the state board approves the recommenda-454 tions, they shall be communicated to the county board. If 455 progress in correcting the impairment as determined by the state 456 board is not made within six months from the time the county 457 board receives the recommendations, the state board shall place 458 the county board on temporary approval status and provide consultation and assistance to the county board to assist it in the 459 460 following areas:

461 (i) Improving personnel management;

462 (ii) Establishing more efficient financial management463 practices;

464 (iii) Improving instructional programs and rules; or

465 (iv) Making any other improvements that are necessary to466 correct the impairment.

467 (C) If the impairment is not corrected by a date certain as 468 set by the state board: 469 (i) The state board shall appoint a monitor who shall be 470 paid at county expense to cause improvements to be made at the 471 school to bring it to full accreditation status within a reasonable 472 time period as determined by the state board. The monitor's 473 work location shall be at the school and the monitor shall work 474 collaboratively with the principal. The monitor shall, at a 475 minimum, report monthly to the state board on the measures 476 being taken to improve the school's performance and the 477 progress being made. The reports may include requests for 478 additional assistance and recommendations required in the 479 judgment of the monitor to improve the school's performance, 480 including, but not limited to, the need for targeting resources 481 strategically to eliminate deficiencies;

482 (ii) The state board may make a determination, in its sole 483 judgment, that the improvements necessary to provide a 484 thorough and efficient education to the students at the school 485 cannot be made without additional targeted resources, in which 486 case, it shall establish a plan in consultation with the county board that includes targeted resources from sources under the 487 488 control of the state board and the county board to accomplish 489 the needed improvements. Nothing in this subsection shall be 490 construed to allow a change in personnel at the school to 491 improve school performance and progress, except as provided 492 by law;

493 (iii) If the impairment is not corrected within one year after 494 the appointment of a monitor, the state board may make a 495 determination, in its sole judgment, that continuing a monitor 496 arrangement is not sufficient to correct the impairment and may 497 intervene in the operation of the school to cause improvements 498 to be made that will provide assurances that a thorough and 499 efficient system of schools will be provided. This intervention 500 may include, but is not limited to, establishing instructional 501 programs, taking such direct action as may be necessary to 502 correct the impairments, declaring the position of principal is

503 vacant and assigning a principal for the school who shall serve 504 at the will and pleasure of and, under the sole supervision of, 505 the state board: Provided, That prior to declaring that the 506 position of the principal is vacant, the state board must make a 507 determination that all other resources needed to correct the 508 impairment are present at the school. If the principal who was 509 removed elects not to remain an employee of the county board. 510 then the principal assigned by the state board shall be paid by 511 the county board. If the principal who was removed elects to 512 remain an employee of the county board, then the following 513 procedure applies:

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(I) The principal assigned by the state board shall be paid
by the state board until the next school term, at which time the
principal assigned by the state board shall be paid by the county
board;

(II) The principal who was removed shall be placed on the
preferred recall list for all positions in the county for which the
principal is certified, as defined in section seven, article four of
this chapter; and

(III) The principal who was removed shall be paid by the
county board and may be assigned to administrative duties,
without the county board being required to post that position
until the end of the school term;

(6) The county board shall take no action nor refuse anyaction if the effect would be to impair further the school inwhich the state board has intervened.

(7) The state board may appoint a monitor pursuant to the
provisions of this subsection to assist the school principal after
intervention in the operation of a school is completed.

(k) Transfers from seriously impaired schools. — Whenever a school is determined to be seriously impaired and fails to

improve its status within one year, any student attending the
school may transfer once to the nearest fully accredited school,
subject to approval of the fully accredited school and at the

537 expense of the school from which the student transferred.

(1) School system approval. — The state board annually
shall review the information submitted for each school system
from the system of education performance audits and issue one
of the following approval levels to each county board: Full
approval, temporary approval, conditional approval, or
nonapproval.

544 (1) Full approval shall be given to a county board whose 545 education system meets or exceeds all of the high quality 546 standards for student, school and school system performance, 547 progress and processes adopted by the state board and whose 548 schools have all been given full, temporary or conditional 549 accreditation status. A school system which meets or exceeds 550 the measures of student performance and progress set forth in 551 subsection (d) of this section, and which does not have any 552 deficiencies which would endanger student health or safety or 553 other extraordinary circumstances as defined by the state board, 554 shall remain on full accreditation status for six months follow-555 ing an on-site review in which other deficiencies are noted. The 556 school shall have an opportunity to correct those deficiencies, 557 notwithstanding other provisions of this subsection.

558 (2) Temporary approval shall be given to a county board 559 whose education system is below the level required for full 560 approval. Whenever a county board is given temporary ap-561 proval status, the county board shall revise its unified county 562 improvement plan to increase the performance and progress of 563 the school system to a full approval status level. The revised 564 plan shall include objectives, a time line, a plan for evaluation 565 of the success of the improvements, a cost estimate, and a date

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566 certain for achieving full approval. The revised plan shall be567 submitted to the state board for approval.

(3) Conditional approval shall be given to a county board
whose education system is below the level required for full
approval, but whose unified county improvement plan meets
the following criteria:

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572 (i) The plan has been revised to achieve full approval status573 by a date certain;

574 (ii) The plan has been approved by the state board; and

(iii) The county board is meeting the objectives and timeline specified in the revised plan.

577 (4) Nonapproval status shall be given to a county board 578 which fails to submit and gain approval for its unified county 579 improvement plan or revised unified county improvement plan 580 within a reasonable time period as defined by the state board or 581 which fails to meet the objectives and time line of its revised 582 unified county improvement plan or fails to achieve full 583 approval by the date specified in the revised plan.

(A) The state board shall establish and adopt additional
standards to identify school systems in which the program may
be nonapproved and the state board may issue nonapproval
status whenever extraordinary circumstances exist as defined by
the state board.

589 (B) Whenever a county board has more than a casual 590 deficit, as defined in section one, article one of this chapter, the 591 county board shall submit a plan to the state board specifying 592 the county board's strategy for eliminating the casual deficit. 593 The state board either shall approve or reject the plan. If the 594 plan is rejected, the state board shall communicate to the county 595 board the reason or reasons for the rejection of the plan. The 596 county board may resubmit the plan any number of times. 597 However, any county board that fails to submit a plan and gain 598 approval for the plan from the state board before the end of the 599 fiscal year after a deficit greater than a casual deficit occurred 600 or any county board which, in the opinion of the state board, 601 fails to comply with an approved plan may be designated as 602 having nonapproval status.

603 (C) Whenever nonapproval status is given to a school system, the state board shall declare a state of emergency in the 604 605 school system and shall appoint a team of improvement 606 consultants to make recommendations within sixty days of 607 appointment for correcting the emergency. When the state board approves the recommendations, they shall be communi-608 609 cated to the county board. If progress in correcting the emer-610 gency, as determined by the state board, is not made within six months from the time the county board receives the recommen-611 612 dations, the state board shall intervene in the operation of the 613 school system to cause improvements to be made that will 614 provide assurances that a thorough and efficient system of 615 schools will be provided. This intervention may include, but is 616 not limited to, the following:

(i) Limiting the authority of the county superintendent and
county board as to the expenditure of funds, the employment
and dismissal of personnel, the establishment and operation of
the school calendar, the establishment of instructional programs
and rules and any other areas designated by the state board by
rule, which may include delegating decision-making authority
regarding these matters to the state superintendent;

(ii) Declaring that the office of the county superintendentis vacant;

(iii) Delegating to the state superintendent both the authority to conduct hearings on personnel matters and school closure
or consolidation matters and, subsequently, to render the

resulting decisions, and the authority to appoint a designee for
the limited purpose of conducting hearings while reserving to
the state superintendent the authority to render the resulting
decisions; and

633 (iv) Taking any direct action necessary to correct the634 emergency including, but not limited to, the following:

(I) Delegating to the state superintendent the authority to
replace administrators and principals in low performing schools
and to transfer them into alternate professional positions within
the county at his or her discretion; and

(II) Delegating to the state superintendent the authority to
fill positions of administrators and principals with individuals
determined by the state superintendent to be the most qualified
for the positions. Any authority related to intervention in the
operation of a county board granted under this paragraph is not
subject to the provisions of article four, chapter eighteen-a of
this code;

(m) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the
state board may intervene immediately in the operation of the
county school system with all the powers, duties and responsibilities contained in subsection (1) of this section, if the state
board finds the following:

(1) That the conditions precedent to intervention exist as
provided in this section; and that delaying intervention for any
period of time would not be in the best interests of the students
of the county school system or

(2) That the conditions precedent to intervention exist as
provided in this section and that the state board had previously
intervened in the operation of the same school system and had
concluded that intervention within the preceding five years.

659 (n) Capacity. -- The process for improving education 660 includes a process for targeting resources strategically to 661 improve the teaching and learning process. Development of 662 unified school and school system improvement plans, pursuant 663 to subsection (b) of this section, is intended, in part, to provide 664 mechanisms to target resources strategically to the teaching and 665 learning process to improve student, school and school system 666 performance. When deficiencies are detected through the 667 assessment and accountability processes, the revision and 668 approval of school and school system unified improvement 669 plans shall ensure that schools and school systems are effi-670 ciently using existing resources to correct the deficiencies. 671 When the state board determines that schools and school 672 systems do not have the capacity to correct deficiencies, the 673 state board shall work with the county board to develop or 674 secure the resources necessary to increase the capacity of 675 schools and school systems to meet the standards and, when 676 necessary, seek additional resources in consultation with the 677 Legislature and the governor.

678 The state board shall recommend to the appropriate body 679 including, but not limited to, the process for improving educa-680 tion council, the Legislature, county boards, schools and 681 communities methods for targeting resources strategically to 682 eliminate deficiencies identified in the assessment and account-683 ability processes. When making determinations on recommen-684 dations, the state board shall include, but is not limited to, the 685 following methods:

(1) Examining reports and unified improvement plans
regarding the performance and progress of students, schools
and school systems relative to the standards and identifying the
areas in which improvement is needed;

690 (2) Determining the areas of weakness and of ineffective-691 ness that appear to have contributed to the substandard perfor-

692 mance and progress of students or the deficiencies of the school693 or school system;

694 (3) Determining the areas of strength that appear to have
695 contributed to exceptional student, school and school system
696 performance and progress and promoting their emulation
697 throughout the system;

698 (4) Requesting technical assistance from the school699 building authority in assessing or designing comprehensive700 educational facilities plans;

(5) Recommending priority funding from the schoolbuilding authority based on identified needs;

(6) Requesting special staff development programs from the
center for professional development, the principals academy,
higher education, regional educational service agencies and
county boards based on identified needs;

707 (7) Submitting requests to the Legislature for appropriations708 to meet the identified needs for improving education;

709 (8) Directing county boards to target their funds strategi-710 cally toward alleviating deficiencies;

(9) Ensuring that the need for facilities in counties withincreased enrollment are appropriately reflected and recom-mended for funding;

(10) Ensuring that the appropriate person or entity is heldaccountable for eliminating deficiencies; and

(11) Ensuring that the needed capacity is available from the
state and local level to assist the school or school system in
achieving the standards and alleviating the deficiencies.

§18-2E-5c. Process for improving education council established; membership; expenses; meetings; powers.

1 (a) Process for improving education council — There is 2 hereby established the process for improving education council 3 for the purpose of providing opportunities for consultation 4 among state policy leaders on the process for improving 5 education, including, but not limited to, determination of the 6 things that students should know and be able to do as the result 7 of a thorough and efficient education, the performance and 8 progress of students toward meeting the high quality standards 9 established by the state board, and any further improvements necessary to increase the capacity of schools and school 10 11 systems to deliver a thorough and efficient education.

12 (b) Council membership — The legislative oversight commission on education accountability, together with the 13 14 governor, ex officio, or the governor's designee, and the 15 chancellor of the higher education policy commission, ex 16 officio, or the chancellor's designee, comprise the process for improving education council. Ex officio members are entitled 17 18 to vote. The governor or the governor's designee shall convene 19 the council, as appropriate, and shall serve as chair. The council 20 may meet at any time at the call of the governor or the gover-21 nor's designee.

(c) *Compensation* — Members of the council shall serve
without compensation, but shall be reimbursed as provided by
law by their respective agencies for all reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of their
official duties under this section upon presentation of an
itemized sworn statement of their expenses.

28 (d) Powers of the council.

29 The council has the following powers:

30 (1) To meet and consult with the state board, or their
31 designees, and make recommendations on issues related to
32 student, school and school system performance. The following
33 steps are part of the consultation process:

34 (A) The state board shall notify each member of the council
35 whenever the state board proposes to amend its rules on any of
36 the following issues:

37 (i) High quality education standards and efficiency38 standards established pursuant to section five of this article;

(ii) Indicators of efficiency established pursuant to sectionfive of this article; and

41 (iii) Assessment and accountability of school and school
42 system performance and processes established pursuant to
43 section five of this article.

(B) If the governor, or the governor's designee, believes it
is necessary for the council to meet and consult with the state
board, or its designees, on changes proposed to any of the issues
outlined in subdivision one of this subsection, he or she may
convene a meeting of the council.

49 (C) If both the president of the Senate and the speaker of
50 the House of Delegates believe it is necessary for the council to
51 meet and consult with the state board, or its designees, they
52 shall notify the governor who shall convene a meeting of the
53 council.

(D) If the chancellor, or the chancellor's designee, believes
that it is necessary for the council to meet and consult with the
state board, or its designees, he or she may request the governor
to convene a meeting of the council.

58 (2) To require the state board, or its designees, to meet with
59 the council to consult on issues that lie within the scope of the
60 council's jurisdiction;

61 (3) To participate as observers in any on-site review of a
62 school or school system conducted by the office of education
63 performance audits; and

64 (4) To authorize any employee of the agencies represented
65 by council members to participate as observers in any on-site
66 review of a school or school system conducted by the office of
67 education performance audits.

§18-2E-9. West Virginia virtual school.

1 (a) Findings: — The Legislature finds that:

2 (1) West Virginia schools have improved and expanded
3 internet access which enables schools to offer courses through
4 the internet and other new and developing technologies;

5 (2) Current technology is available to provide students with 6 more resources for learning and new and developing technolo-7 gies offer even more promise for expanded learning opportuni-8 ties;

9 (3) A number of states and other jurisdictions have devel-10 oped internet-based instruction which is available currently and 11 which is being used by schools in this state;

(4) To educate better the students of West Virginia, more
course and class offerings can be made available through
technology, especially to students who are geographically
disadvantaged;

16 (5) Virtual learning enables students to learn from remote17 sites, learn at times other than the normal school day and learn

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18 at a different pace and gives students access to courses that19 would not be available in their area;

20 (6) There is a need to assure that internet-based courses and
21 courses offered through new and developing technologies are
22 of high quality; and

23 (7) The state and county school systems can benefit from24 the purchasing power the state can offer.

(b) The Legislature hereby creates the West Virginia virtual
school. The West Virginia virtual school shall be located within
the office of technology and information systems within the
West Virginia department of education.

(c) The state superintendent of schools shall appoint the
director of the West Virginia virtual school with the approval
of the state board.

32 (d) The director of the West Virginia virtual school has the33 following powers and duties:

34 (1) To contract with providers for courses and other35 services;

36 (2) To review courses and courseware and make determina37 tions and recommendations relative to the cost and quality of
38 the courses and the alignment with the instructional goals and
39 objectives of the state board;

40 (3) To develop policy recommendations for consideration41 by the state board, which may include, but not be limited to, the42 following:

43 (A) Hardware and software considerations for the offering44 of courses on the internet or other developing technologies;

(B) Standards of teachers and other school employees who
are engaged in the activities surrounding the offering of courses
on the internet or other developing technologies;

48 (C) Sharing of resources with other agencies of govern49 ment, both within and outside West Virginia, to facilitate the
50 offering of courses on the internet or other developing technolo51 gies;

52 (D) Methods for including courses offered on the internet
53 or through other developing technologies in alternative educa54 tion programs;

(E) Methods for making courses offered on the internet or
through other developing technologies available for students
receiving home instruction;

(F) Methods for brokering the courses offered on theinternet or through other developing technologies;

60 (G) Methods for applying for grants;

(H) Methods for employing persons who are the most
familiar with the instructional goals and objectives to develop
the courses to be offered on the internet and through other
developing technologies; and

(I) Proper funding models that address all areas of funding
including, but not limited to, which county, if any, may include
a student receiving courses on the internet or through other
developing technologies in enrollment and who, if anyone, is
required to pay for the courses offered on the internet or
through other developing technologies; and

(4) Any other powers and duties necessary to address thefindings of the Legislature in subsection (a) of this section.

(e) Subject to the process outlined in this section, the West
Virginia virtual school's approved virtual and distance learning
courses are exempt from the mandatory use of primary source

76 instructional materials listed on the state multiple list.

(f) The West Virginia department of education shall report
the progress of the West Virginia virtual school to the legislative oversight commission on education accountability on or
before the first day of September, two thousand.

ARTICLE 2I. STAFF DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS.

§18-2I-1. Legislative purpose.

1 The purpose of this article is to create the West Virginia 2 professional staff development advisory council and eight regional professional staff development councils to advise and 3 4 assist the state board with ensuring the coordination and quality 5 of professional staff development programs that address locally identified needs for professional staff development and meet 6 7 the goals for professional staff development established by the 8 state board.

§18-2I-3. Creation of West Virginia professional staff development advisory council; members; and functions.

- 1 (a) There shall be a West Virginia professional staff 2 development advisory council which shall consist of the 3 following members:
- 4 (1) The chairpersons of each of the eight regional staff 5 development councils established in section five of this article;
- 6 (2) The coordinators of each of the eight regional educa-7 tional service agency staff development councils;

8 (3) The assistant superintendent for the division of instruc-9 tional and student services of the state department of education;

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(4) The secretary of education and the arts or his or herdesignee, who shall chair the council;

12 (5) The chancellor of the higher education policy commis-13 sion or his or her designee;

14 (6) The executive director of the West Virginia center for15 professional development;

16 (7) The presidents, or their designees, of each of the two
17 professional organizations or associations representing teachers
18 in the state with the greatest number of teacher members.

(b) Any member of the advisory council may be reimbursed
by the state board for the cost of reasonable and necessary
expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties
under this article.

§18-2I-4. Functions of the West Virginia professional staff development advisory council.

The council shall advise and assist the state board in all
 phases of developing or amending the goals for professional
 staff development required by subsection (b) of this section.
 Advice and assistance shall include, but is not limited to the
 following:

6 (a) Reporting to the state board on the professional staff
7 development needs identified by the public schools within the
8 respective regions;

9 (b) Recommending effective professional staff development 10 programs to meet identified needs;

(c) Providing local input on the proposed goals and on the
professional staff development plan proposed by the center for
professional development pursuant to subsection (c) of this
section;

(d) Communicating professional staff development information and findings to the regional and county staff development councils: and

(e) Advancing the coordination and quality of professionalstaff development programs in the public schools of WestVirginia.

ARTICLE 5. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-5-18b. School counselors in public schools.

1 (a) A school counselor means a professional educator who

2 holds a valid school counselor's certificate in accordance with

3 article three of this chapter.

4 (b) Each county board shall provide counseling services for5 each pupil enrolled in the public schools of the county.

6 (c) The school counselor shall work with individual pupils 7 and groups of pupils in providing developmental, preventive 8 and remedial guidance and counseling programs to meet 9 academic, social, emotional and physical needs; including programs to identify and address the problem of potential 10 11 school dropouts. The school counselor also may provide consultant services for parents, teachers and administrators and 12 13 may use outside referral services, when appropriate, if no 14 additional cost is incurred by the county board.

(d) The state board may adopt rules consistent with the 15 16 provisions of this section that define the role of a school counselor based on the "National Standards for School Coun-17 18 seling Programs" of the American school counselor association. 19 A school counselor is authorized to perform such services as are 20 not inconsistent with the provisions of the rule as adopted by 21 the state board. To the extent that any funds are made available 22 for this purpose, county boards shall provide training for counselors and administrators to implement the rule as adopted 23 24 by the state board.

(e) Each county board shall develop a comprehensive dropout prevention program utilizing the expertise of school
counselors and any other appropriate resources available.

(f) School counselors shall be full-time professional
personnel, shall spend at least seventy-five percent of work time
in a direct counseling relationship with pupils, and shall devote
no more than one fourth of the work day to administrative
activities: *Provided*, That such activities are counselor related.

(g) Nothing in this section prohibits a county board from
exceeding the provisions of this section, or requires any specific
level of funding by the Legislature.

ARTICLE 20. EDUCATION OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN.

§18-20-1d. Adoption of a state model for individualized education program.

- The state board shall adopt a basic model for individualized
 education programs to be used by all special education teachers
 throughout the public schools of the state when preparing
 individualized education programs for students with exceptional
- 5 needs.

- 6 The model shall comply with, but may not exceed, all state
- 7 laws and federal laws, policies, rules, and regulations relating
- 8 to providing education services to students with exceptional
- 9 needs and shall include instructions for adapting the model to
- 10 specific exceptionalities.
- 11 No professional educator may be required to prepare or
- 12 implement an individualized education program which exceeds
- 13 the requirements of federal and state laws, policies, rules or
- 14 regulations.

CHAPTER 18A. SCHOOL PERSONNEL.

ARTICLE 2. SCHOOL PERSONNEL.

§18A-2-12. Performance evaluations of school personnel; professional personnel evaluation process.

- (a) The state board of education shall adopt a written
 system for the evaluation of the employment performance of
 personnel, which system shall be applied uniformly by county
 boards of education in the evaluation of the employment
 performance of personnel employed by the board.
- 6 (b) The system adopted by the state board of education for
 7 evaluating the employment performance of professional
 8 personnel shall be in accordance with the provisions of this
 9 section.
- (c) For purposes of this section, "professional personnel"
 "professional" or "professionals", means professional personnel
 as defined in section one, article one of this chapter.
- (d) In developing the professional personnel performance
 evaluation system, and amendments thereto, the state board
 shall consult with the professional development project of the
 center for professional development created in section three,

article three-a of this chapter. The center shall participate
actively with the state board in developing written standards for
evaluation which clearly specify satisfactory performance and
the criteria to be used to determine whether the performance of
each professional meets such standards.

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(e) The performance evaluation system shall contain, butshall not be limited to, the following information:

(1) The professional personnel positions to be evaluated,
whether they be teachers, substitute teachers, administrators,
principals, or others;

27 (2) The frequency and duration of the evaluations, which 28 shall be on a regular basis and of such frequency and duration as to insure the collection of a sufficient amount of data from 29 which reliable conclusions and findings may be drawn: Pro-30 vided, That for school personnel with five or more years of 31 experience, who have not received an unsatisfactory rating, 32 33 evaluations shall be conducted no more than once every three 34 years unless the principal determines an evaluation for a particular school employee is needed more frequently; Pro-35 vided, however, That a classroom teacher may exercise the 36 37 option of being evaluated at more frequent intervals.

38 (3) The evaluation shall serve the following purposes:

39 (A) Serve as a basis for the improvement of the perfor-40 mance of the personnel in their assigned duties;

(B) Provide an indicator of satisfactory performance forindividual professionals;

43 (C) Serve as documentation for a dismissal on the grounds44 of unsatisfactory performance; and

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45 (D) Serve as a basis for programs to increase the profes-46 sional growth and development of professional personnel;

(4) The standards for satisfactory performance for profes-47 48 sional personnel and the criteria to be used to determine 49 whether the performance of each professional meets such 50 standards and other criteria for evaluation for each professional position evaluated. Effective the first day of July two thousand 51 three and thereafter, professional personnel, as appropriate, 52 shall demonstrate competency in the knowledge and implemen-53 tation of the technology standards adopted by the state board. 54 55 If a professional fails to demonstrate competency, in the knowledge and implementation of these standards, he or she 56 57 will be subject to an improvement plan to correct the deficien-58 cies; and

(5) Provisions for a written improvement plan, which shall be specific as to what improvements, if any, are needed in the performance of the professional and shall clearly set forth recommendations for improvements, including recommendations for additional education and training during the professional's recertification process.

65 (f) A professional whose performance is considered to be unsatisfactory shall be given notice of deficiencies. A 66 remediation plan to correct deficiencies shall be developed by 67 68 the employing county board of education and the professional. The professional shall be given a reasonable period of time for 69 remediation of the deficiencies and shall receive a statement of 70 the resources and assistance available for the purposes of 71 72 correcting the deficiencies.

(g) No person may evaluate professional personnel for the
purposes of this section unless the person has an administrative
certificate issued by the state superintendent and has successfully completed education and training in evaluation skills

77 through the center for professional development, or equivalent education training approved by the state board, which will 78 79 enable the person to make fair, professional, and credible 80 evaluations of the personnel whom the person is responsible for 81 evaluating. After the first day of July, one thousand nine 82 hundred ninety-four, no person may be issued an administrative 83 certificate or have an administrative certificate renewed unless 84 the state board determines that the person has successfully 85 completed education and training in evaluation skills through 86 the center for professional development, or equivalent educa-87 tion and training approved by the state board.

88 (h) Any professional whose performance evaluation 89 includes a written improvement plan shall be given an opportu-90 nity to improve his or her performance through the implementa-91 tion of the plan. If the next performance evaluation shows that 92 the professional is now performing satisfactorily, no further 93 action may be taken concerning the original performance 94 evaluation. If the evaluation shows that the professional is still 95 not performing satisfactorily, the evaluator either shall make additional recommendations for improvement or may recom-96 97 mend the dismissal of the professional in accordance with the 98 provisions of section eight of this article.

(i) Lesson plans are intended to serve as a daily guide for
teachers and substitutes for the orderly presentation of the
curriculum. Lesson plans may not be used as a substitute for
observations by an administrator in the performance evaluation
process. A classroom teacher, as defined in section one, article
one of this chapter, may not be required to include in his or her
lesson plans any of the following:

106 (1) Teach and reteach strategies;

107 (2) Write to learn activities;

108 (3) Cultural diversity;

109 (4) Color coding; or

(5) Any other similar items which are not required to serveas a guide to the teacher or substitute for daily instruction; and

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(j) The Legislature finds that classroom teachers must be
free of unnecessary paper work so that they can focus their time
on instruction. Therefore, classroom teachers may not be
required to keep records or logs of routine contacts with parents
or guardians.

ARTICLE 3. TRAINING, CERTIFICATION, LICENSING, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

§18A-3-1. Teacher preparation programs; program approval and standards; authority to issue teaching certificates.

1 (a) The education of professional educators in the state shall 2 be under the general direction and control of the state board of education after consultation with the secretary of education and 3 4 the arts and the chancellor of the higher education policy 5 commission, who shall represent the interests of teacher 6 preparation programs within the institutions of higher education 7 in this state as those institutions are defined in section two, 8 article one, chapter eighteen-b of this code.

9 The education of professional educators in the state 10 includes all programs leading to certification to teach or serve in the public schools including: (1) Those programs in all 11 12 institutions of higher education, including student teaching in 13 the public schools; (2) beginning teacher internship programs; 14 (3) the granting of West Virginia certification to persons who 15 received their preparation to teach outside the boundaries of this state; (4) any alternative preparation programs in this state 16 leading to certification, including programs established pursu-17

ant to the provisions of section one-a of this article and programs which are in effect on the effective date of this section;
and (5) any continuing professional education, professional
development and in-service training programs for professional
educators employed in the public schools in the state.

(b) The state board of education, after consultation with the 23 24 secretary of education and the arts and the chancellor of the 25 higher education policy commission, who shall represent the 26 interests of teacher preparation programs within the institutions 27 of higher education in this state as those institutions are defined 28 in section two, article one, chapter eighteen-b of this code, shall 29 adopt standards for the education of professional educators in 30 the state and for the awarding of certificates valid in the public 31 schools of this state subject to the following conditions:

(1) The standards approved by the board for teacher
preparation shall include a provision for the study of multicultural education. As used in this section, multicultural education
means the study of the pluralistic nature of American society
including its values, institutions, organizations, groups, status
positions and social roles.

(2) Effective the first day of January, one thousand nine
hundred ninety-three, the standards approved by the board shall
also include a provision for the study of classroom management
techniques and shall include methods of effective management
of disruptive behavior which shall include societal factors and
their impact on student behavior.

(c) To give prospective teachers the teaching experience
needed to demonstrate competence as a prerequisite to certification, the state board of education may enter into an agreement
with county boards for the use of the public schools. Such
agreement shall recognize student teaching as a joint responsibility of the teacher preparation institution and the cooperating

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50 public schools and shall include: (1) The minimum qualifica-51 tions for the employment of public school teachers selected as 52 supervising teachers; (2) the remuneration to be paid public 53 school teachers by the state board, in addition to their contractual salaries, for supervising student teachers; and (3) minimum 54 55 standards to guarantee the adequacy of the facilities and 56 program of the public school selected for student teaching. The 57 student teacher, under the direction and supervision of the 58 supervising teacher, shall exercise the authority of a substitute 59 teacher.

60 (d) The state superintendent of schools may issue certifi-61 cates to graduates of teacher education programs and alternative 62 teacher education programs approved by the state board of 63 education and in accordance with rules adopted by the state 64 board after consultation with the secretary of education and the 65 arts and the chancellor of the higher education policy commis-66 sion. A certificate to teach shall not be granted to any person 67 who is not a citizen of the United States, is not of good moral 68 character and physically, mentally and emotionally qualified to 69 perform the duties of a teacher and who has not attained the age 70 of eighteen years on or before the first day of October of the 71 year in which his of her certificate is issued; except that an 72 exchange teacher from a foreign country, or an alien person 73 who meets the requirements to teach, may be granted a permit 74 to teach within the public schools of the state.

75 (e) In consultation with the secretary of education and the 76 arts and the chancellor of the higher education policy commis-77 sion institutions of higher education approved for teacher 78 preparation may cooperate with each other, with the center for 79 professional development and with one or more county boards 80 in the organization and operation of centers to provide selected 81 phases of the teacher preparation program such as student 82 teaching, beginning teacher internship programs, instruction in 83 methodology and seminar programs for college students, teachers with provisional certification, professional supportteam members and supervising teachers.

The institutions of higher education, the center for professional development and county boards may by mutual agreement budget and expend funds for the operation of the centers through payments to the appropriate fiscal office of the participating institutions, the center for professional development and the county boards.

92 (f) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to
93 require the discontinuation of an existing student teacher
94 training center or school which meets the standards of the state
95 board of education.

96 (g) All institutions of higher education approved for teacher 97 preparation in the school year of one thousand nine hundred 98 sixty-two—sixty-three shall continue to hold that distinction so 99 long as they meet the minimum standards for teacher prepara-100 tion. Nothing contained herein shall infringe upon the rights 101 granted to any institution by charter given according to law 102 previous to the adoption of this code.

§18A-3-2c. Training through the principals academy.

(a) Principal training and professional development
 required. — After the effective date of this section and subject
 to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, every
 principal shall complete training and professional development
 through the principals academy as provided in subsection (b) of
 this section.

7 (b) Principal training and professional development
8 through the academy. — The academy and the persons required
9 to complete training and professional development through the
10 academy shall adhere to the following guidelines:

(1) All persons assigned as a principal for the first time in
a West Virginia school after the first day of July, two thousand
two, shall complete specialized training and professional
development for newly appointed principals through the
academy within the first twelve months following assignment;

16 (2) All principals of schools which have been designated as 17 seriously impaired, in accordance with section five, article two-18 e, chapter eighteen of this code, shall complete specialized 19 training and professional development through the academy 20 specifically designed to assist the principal to improve school 21 performance commencing as soon as practicable following 22 receipt of the designation.

23 (3) All principals who are subject to an improvement plan, 24 in accordance with section twelve, article two of this chapter, 25 shall complete specialized training and professional develop-26 ment through the academy specifically designed for principals 27 subject to an improvement plan. The specialized training and 28 professional development shall be completed within twelve 29 months from the date that the principal is first subject to the 30 improvement plan;

(4) All principals who transfer to a school with a significantly different grade configuration shall complete specialized
training and professional development for principals in schools
with the grade configuration to which they transferred through
the academy within the first twelve months following transfer;
and

37 (5) All persons serving as school principals shall complete
38 training and professional development through the academy
39 designed to build the qualities, proficiencies and skills required
40 of all principals as determined by the state board.

41 (c) Academy and requirements to complete training and
42 professional development subject to funding. — The require43 ment that principals complete training and professional devel-

44 opment through the academy shall be subject to the availability 45 of funds for the principals academy from legislative appropria-46 tion and from other sources. If these funds are insufficient to 47 provide for the total cost of the training and professional development required by subsection (b) of this section, then the 48 49 academy shall provide training and professional development 50 for the persons described in subdivisions (1) through (5), of 51 subsection (b) according to the priority in which the subdivi-52 sions appear in that subsection. If such funds are insufficient to 53 provide for the training and professional development of all the 54 persons described in one or more of subdivisions (1) through 55 (5), subsection (b) of this section, the academy is authorized to 56 determine which persons described within the subdivision or 57 subdivisions shall be admitted and which shall not be admitted: 58 *Provided*, That the principals academy shall make every effort 59 to ensure that all principals receive training and professional 60 development through the academy at least once every six years effective the first day of July, two thousand two and thereafter: 61 62 Provided, however, That nothing in this section shall be 63 construed to require any specific level of funding by the 64 Legislature.

65 (d) Principals standards advisory council. — To assist the 66 state board in the performance of the duties described in subsection (e) of this section, there is hereby created a "Princi-67 68 pals Standards Advisory Council," which shall consist of nine 69 persons, as follows: The executive director of the center for professional development, who shall serve as the ex officio 70 71 chair; three principals, one from an elementary school and one 72 from a middle school or a junior high school selected by the 73 West Virginia association of elementary and middle school 74 principals, and one from a high school selected by the West 75 Virginia association of secondary school principals; one county 76 school superintendent selected by the West Virginia association 77 of school administrators; and two representatives from higher

78 education who teach in principal preparation programs selected 79 by the teacher education advisory council; and two citizen 80 representatives who are knowledgeable on issues addressed in 81 this section, appointed by the governor. Members of the 82 principals standards advisory council who are public employees 83 shall be granted release time from their employment for 84 attending meetings of the council. Members may be reimbursed 85 for reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in the 86 performance of their official duties by the center for profes-87 sional development. The terms of all members appointed to the 88 principals standards advisory council under the prior enactment 89 of this section shall terminate on the thirty-first day of August, two thousand two. The principals standards advisory council as 90 91 amended on the effective date of this section shall become 92 effective on the first day of September, two thousand two.

93 (e) Establishment of standards. — On or before the first 94 day of October, one thousand nine hundred ninety-six, the state 95 board shall approve and promulgate rules regarding the 96 minimum qualities, proficiencies and skills that will be required of principals after the first day of January, one thousand nine 97 98 hundred ninety-seven. The state board shall promulgate and 99 may from time to time amend such rules after consultation with 100 the principals standards advisory council created in subsection 101 (d) of this section. The rules promulgated by the state board 102 shall address at least the following:

(1) Staff relations, including, but not limited to, the
development and use of skills necessary to make a positive use
of faculty senates, manage faculty and staff with courtesy and
mutual respect, coach and motivate employees, and build
consensus as a means of management;

108 (2) School community leadership qualities, including, but
109 not limited to, the ability to organize and leverage community
110 initiative, communicate effectively, work effectively with local

school improvement councils, manage change, resolve conflictand reflect the highest personal values;

(3) Educational proficiencies, including, but not limited to,
knowledge of curriculum, instructional techniques, student
learning styles, student assessment criteria, school personnel
performance, evaluation skills and family issues; and

(4) Administrative skills, including, but not limited to,organizational, fiscal, public policy and total quality manage-ment skills and techniques.

120 (f) *Waivers.* — Any person desiring to be relieved of the 121 requirements of all or any part of this section may apply in 122 writing to the state board for a waiver. Upon a showing of 123 reasonable cause why relief should be granted, the state board 124 may grant a waiver, upon such terms and conditions as the state 125 board shall determine proper, as to all or any part of this 126 section.

(g) *Failure to comply.* — Any person who fails or refuses
to complete training and professional development through the
academy, as required by the provisions of this section, and who
fails to obtain a waiver, as described in subsection (f) of this
section, shall be ineligible to be employed as, or serve in the
capacity of, a principal.

(h) *Tracking of requirement.* — On or before the first day
of January, one thousand nine hundred ninety-seven, the state
board shall establish a system to track the progress of each
person required to complete training through the academy and
shall regularly advise such persons of their progress.

(i) Payment of reasonable and necessary expenses and
stipends. — The center for professional development shall
reimburse persons attending the academy for reasonable and
necessary expenses. A person may not be required to complete

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training and professional development through the principals 142 143 academy before the fifteenth day of September and after the 144 first day of June of the school year. The center for professional development shall utilize alternative methods of instructional 145 146 delivery and scheduling, including electronic delivery, as 147 considered appropriate to minimize the amount of time principals completing training and professional development through 148 149 the academy are required to be away from their school duties. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require any specific 150 151 level of funding by the Legislature.

ARTICLE 3A. CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

§18A-3A-1. Center for professional development established; intent and mission; principals academy curriculum and expenses; authorization to charge fees.

1 (a) Teaching is a profession that directly correlates to the 2 social and economic well-being of a society and its citizens. Superior teaching is essential to a well educated and productive 3 4 populace. Strong academic leadership provided by principals 5 and administrators skilled in modern management principles is 6 also essential. The intent of this article is to recognize the value 7 of professional involvement by experienced educators, princi-8 pals and administrators in building and maintaining a superior force of professional educators and to establish avenues for 9 applying such involvement. 10

11 (b) The general mission of the center is to advance the quality of teaching and management in the schools of West 12 13 Virginia through (1) the implementation primarily of statewide 14 training, professional staff development and technical assistance programs and practices as recommended by the state 15 board to assure the highest quality of teaching and manage-16 ment; and (2) the provision of technical and other assistance 17 and support to regional and local education agencies in identify-18 19 ing and providing high quality professional staff development

20 and training programs and implementing best practices to meet 21 their locally identified needs. The center also may implement 22 local programs if the state board, in its master plan for profes-23 sional staff development established pursuant to section twenty-24 three-a, article two, chapter eighteen of this code, determines 25 that there is a specific local need for the programs. Addition-26 ally, the center shall perform such duties as are assigned to it by 27 law.

Nothing in this article shall be construed to require anyspecific level of funding by the Legislature.

30 (c) The center board shall consist of eleven persons as 31 follows: The secretary of education and the arts, ex officio, and 32 the state superintendent of schools, ex officio, both of whom 33 shall be entitled to vote; three members of the state board, 34 elected by the state board; three experienced educators, of 35 whom two shall be working classroom teachers, and one of 36 whom shall be a school or county administrator appointed by 37 the governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, 38 all of whom shall be experienced educators who have achieved 39 recognition for their superior knowledge, ability and perfor-40 mance in teaching or management, as applicable; and three 41 citizens of the state, one of whom shall be a representative of 42 public higher education, and all of who shall be knowledgeable 43 in matters relevant to the issues addressed by the center, 44 including, but not limited to, professional development and 45 management principles, appointed by the governor by and with 46 the advice and consent of the Senate Not more than two 47 appointees shall be residents within the same congressional 48 district. The center board shall be cochaired by the secretary of 49 education and the arts and the state superintendent.

50 All successive elections shall be for two-year terms. 51 Members elected from the state board may serve no more than 52 two consecutive two-year terms. The state board shall elect

another member to fill the unexpired term of any person so 53 54 elected who subsequently vacates state board membership. Of 55 the initial appointed members, three shall be appointed for one-56 year terms and three shall be appointed for two-year terms. All 57 successive appointments shall be for two-year terms. An 58 experienced educator may serve no more than two consecutive 59 two-year terms. The governor shall appoint a new member to 60 fill the unexpired term of any vacancy in the appointed mem-61 bership.

(d) The center for professional development board shall
meet at least quarterly and the appointed members shall be
reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses actually
incurred in the performance of their official duties from funds
appropriated or otherwise made available for such purposes
upon submission of an itemized statement therefor.

68 (e) From appropriations to the center for professional development, the center board shall employ and fix the com-69 70 pensation of an executive director with knowledge and experi-71 ence in professional development and management principles 72 and such other staff as may be necessary to carry out the 73 mission and duties of the center. The executive director shall 74 serve at the will and pleasure of the center board. The executive 75 director of the center also shall serve as the chair of the princi-76 pals standards advisory council created in section two-c, article 77 three of this chapter, and shall convene regular meetings of this 78 council to effectuate the purposes of this council.

When practicable, personnel employed by state higher education agencies and state, regional and county public education agencies shall be made available to the center to assist in the operation of projects of limited duration.

(f) The center shall assist in the delivery of programs andactivities pursuant to this article to meet statewide, and if

85 needed as determined by the goals and master plan for profes-86 sional staff development established by the state board pursuant 87 to section twenty-three-a, article two, chapter eighteen of this 88 code, the local professional development needs of teachers, 89 principals and administrators and may contract with existing agencies or agencies created after the effective date of this 90 91 section or others to provide training programs in the most 92 efficient manner. Existing programs currently based in agencies 93 of the state shall be continued in the agency of their origin 94 unless the center establishes a compelling need to transfer or 95 cancel the existing program. The center shall recommend to the governor the transfer of funds to the providing agency, if 96 97 needed, to provide programs approved by the center.

(g) The center for professional development shall implement training and professional development programs for the
principals academy based upon the minimum qualities,
proficiencies and skills necessary for principals in accordance
with the standards established by the state board pursuant to the
terms of section two-c, article three of this chapter.

104 (h) In accordance with section two-c, article three of this 105 chapter, the center shall be responsible for paying reasonable 106 and necessary expenses for persons attending the principals 107 academy: *Provided*, That nothing in this section shall be 108 construed to require any specific level of funding by the 109 Legislature.

110 (i) Persons attending the professional development offerings of the center and such other courses and services as shall 111 112 be offered by the center for professional development, except 113 the principals academy shall be assessed fees which shall be 114 less than the full cost of attendance. There is hereby created in 115 the state treasury a special revenue account known as the 116 "center for professional development fund". All moneys collected by the center shall be deposited in the fund for 117

expenditure by the center board for the purposes specified in this section. Moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year are subject to reappropriation by the Legislature.

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§18A-3A-2. Professional development project.

1 Subject to the provisions of section twenty-three-a, article 2 two, chapter eighteen of this code, through this project the

3 center shall:

4 (1) Identify, coordinate, arrange and otherwise assist in the 5 delivery of professional development programs and activities 6 that help professional educators acquire the knowledge, skills, 7 attitudes, practices and other such pertinent complements 8 deemed essential for an individual to demonstrate appropriate 9 performance as a professional personnel in the public schools of West Virginia. The basis for such performance shall be the 10 11 laws, policies and regulations adopted for the public schools of West Virginia, and amendments thereto. The center also may 12 13 permit and encourage school personnel such as classroom aides, 14 higher education teacher education faculty and higher education faculty in programs such as articulated tech prep associate 15 degree and other programs to participate in appropriate profes-16 sional development programs and activities with public school 17 18 professional educators;

19 (2) Identify, coordinate, arrange and otherwise assist in the 20 delivery of professional development programs and activities 21 that help principals and administrators acquire knowledge, 22 skills, attitudes and practices in academic leadership and management principles for principals and administrators and 23 24 such other pertinent complements deemed essential for princi-25 pals and administrators to demonstrate appropriate performance 26 in the public schools of West Virginia. The basis for such 27 performance shall be the laws, policies and regulations adopted for the public schools of West Virginia, and amendmentsthereto;

30 (3) Serve in a coordinating capacity to assure that the 31 knowledge, skills, attitude and other pertinent complements of 32 appropriate professional performance which evolve over time 33 in the public school environment are appropriately reflected in 34 the programs approved for the education of professional personnel, including, but not limited to, advising the teacher 35 36 education programs of major statutory and policy changes in 37 the public schools which affect the job performance require-38 ments of professional educators, including principals and 39 administrators:

40 (4) Provide for the routine updating of professional skills of
41 professional educators, including principals and administrators,
42 through in-service and other programs. Such routine updating
43 may be provided by the center through statewide or regional
44 institutes which may require a registration fee;

45 (5) Provide consultation and assistance to county staff 46 development councils established under the provisions of 47 section eight, article three of this chapter in planning, design-48 ing, coordinating, arranging for and delivering professional development programs to meet the needs of the professional 49 50 educators of their district. From legislative appropriations to the 51 center for professional development, exclusive of such amounts 52 required for the expenses of the principals academy, the center 53 shall, unless otherwise directed by the Legislature, provide 54 assistance in the delivery of programs and activities to meet the 55 expressed needs of the school districts for professional develop-56 ment to help teachers, principals and administrators demon-57 strate appropriate performance based on the laws, policies and 58 regulations adopted for the public schools of West Virginia; and

(6) Cooperate and coordinate with the institutions of higher
education to provide professional staff development programs
that satisfy some or all of the criteria necessary for currently
certified professional educators to meet the requirements for an
additional endorsement in an area of certification and for
certification to teach in the middle school grades.

If the center is not able to reach agreement with the representatives of the institutions providing teacher education programs on which courses will be approved for credit toward additional endorsements, the state board may certify certain professional staff development courses to meet criteria required by the state board. This certification shall be done on a course by course basis.

§18A-3A-2b. The principals academy.

1 There is hereby established within the center for profes-2 sional development the "Principals Academy". Training 3 through the principals academy shall include at least the 4 following:

5 (a) Training designed to build within principals the mini-6 mum qualities, proficiencies and skills that will be required of 7 all principals pursuant to the rules of the state board;

8 (b) Specialized training and professional development9 programs for all principals ; and

(c) Specialized training and professional developmentprograms for the following principals:

12 (1) Newly appointed principals;

(2) Principals whose schools have been designated as
seriously impaired, which programs shall commence as soon as
practicable following the designation;

16 (3) Principals subject to improvement plans; and

17 (4) Principals of schools with significantly different grade18 level configurations.

CHAPTER 29A. STATE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT.

ARTICLE 3B. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULE MAKING.

§29A-3B-9. Submission of legislative rules to the legislative oversight commission on education accountability.

1 (a) When the board proposes a legislative rule, the board 2 shall submit to the legislative oversight commission on educa-3 tion accountability at its offices or at a regular meeting of the commission twenty copies of (1) the full text of the legislative 4 5 rule as proposed by the board and filed with the office of the 6 secretary of state, with new language underlined and with language to be deleted from any existing rule stricken through 7 but clearly legible; (2) a brief summary of the content of the 8 legislative rule and a description and a copy of any existing rule 9 which the agency proposes to amend or repeal; (3) a statement 10 of the circumstances which require the rule; (4) a fiscal note 11 12 containing all information included in a fiscal note for either house of the Legislature and a statement of the economic 13 14 impact of the rule on the state or its residents; and (5) any other 15 information which the commission may request or which may 16 be required by law.

(b) The commission shall review each proposed legislative
rule and, in its discretion, may hold public hearings thereon.
Such review shall include, but not be limited to, a determination
of:

(1) Whether the board has exceeded the scope of itsstatutory authority in approving the proposed legislative rule;

(2) Whether the proposed legislative rule is in conformity
with the legislative intent of the statute which the rule is
intended to implement, extend, apply, interpret or make
specific;

(3) Whether the proposed legislative rule conflicts with any
other provision of this code or with any other rule adopted by
the same or a different agency;

30 (4) Whether the proposed legislative rule is necessary to
31 fully accomplish the objectives of the statute under which the
32 proposed rule was promulgated;

33 (5) Whether the proposed legislative rule is reasonable,
34 especially as it affects the convenience of the general public or
35 of persons particularly affected by it;

36 (6) Whether the proposed legislative rule could be made
37 less complex or more readily understandable by the general
38 public; and

39 (7) Whether the proposed legislative rule was promulgated
40 in compliance with the requirements of this article and with any
41 requirements imposed by any other provision of this code.

42 (c) After reviewing the legislative rule, the commission 43 may recommend to the board any changes needed to comply 44 with the legislative intent of the statute upon which the rule is 45 based or otherwise to modify the activity subject to the rule, or 46 may make any other recommendations to the board as it 47 considers appropriate.

(d) When the board finally adopts a legislative rule, the
board shall submit to the legislative oversight commission on
education accountability at its offices or at a regular meeting of
the commission six copies of the rule as adopted by the board.
After reviewing the legislative rule, the commission may

53 recommend to the Legislature any statutory changes needed to

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54 clarify the legislative intent of the statute upon which the rule

55 is based or may make any other recommendations to the

56 Legislature as it considers appropriate.

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That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee 2 Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

In effect July 1, 2002.

Clerk of the Senate

Sugar A. S. Clerk of the House of Delegates mblen President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Delegates

UPA_this the 1 The within \ day of _ 2002. Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR 2 107 11 Date_ Ń 1 Time.