

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2494

BY DELEGATES WESTFALL, STATLER, WHITE, B.,

ATKINSON, HIGGINBOTHAM AND WAGNER

[Introduced February 16, 2017; Referred
to the Committee on Education then Government
Organization.]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18-2E-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
 2 to providing that statewide school report cards are only to be made available to custodial
 3 parents and guardians of students upon request.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That §18-2E-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and
 2 reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2E. HIGH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

§18-2E-4. Better schools accountability; school, school district and statewide school report cards.

1 (a) For the purpose of providing information to the parents of public school children and
 2 the general public on the quality of education in the public schools which is uniform and
 3 comparable between schools within and among the various school districts, the state board shall
 4 prepare forms for school, school district and statewide school report cards and shall promulgate
 5 rules concerning the collection and reporting of data and the preparation, printing and distribution
 6 of report cards under this section. The forms shall provide for brief, concise reporting in
 7 nontechnical language of required information. Any technical or explanatory material a county
 8 board wishes to include shall be contained in a separate appendix. The school report cards and
 9 appendices shall be made available to the custodial parent or guardian of a child enrolled at that
 10 school or the general public upon request.

11 (b) The school report cards shall include information as prescribed by lawfully promulgated
 12 rule by the state board to give the parents of students at the school and the general public an
 13 indication of the quality of education at the school and other programs supportive of community
 14 needs, including, but not limited to, the following:

15 (1) Indicators of student performance at the school in comparison with the county, state,
 16 regional and national student performance, as applicable, including student performance by grade
 17 level in the various subjects measured pursuant to a uniform statewide assessment program

18 adopted by the state board; school attendance rates; the percent of students not promoted to next
19 grade; and the graduation rate;

20 (2) Indicators of school performance in comparison with the aggregate of all other schools
21 in the county and the state, as applicable, including average class size; percent of enrollments in
22 courses in high school mathematics, science, English and social science; amount of time per day
23 devoted to mathematics, science, English and social science at middle, junior high and high
24 school grade levels; percentage distribution of students by career cluster as indicated on the
25 individualized student transition plan; pupil-teacher ratio; number of exceptions to pupil-teacher
26 ratio requested by the county board and the number of exceptions granted; the number of split-
27 grade classrooms; pupil-administrator ratio; operating expenditure per pupil; county expenditure
28 by fund in graphic display; and the average degree classification and years of experience of the
29 administrators and teachers at the school;

30 (3) The names of the members of the local school improvement council, created pursuant
31 to section two, article five-a of this chapter; and

32 (4) The name or names of the business partner or partners of the school.

33 In addition, every county board annually shall determine the number of administrators,
34 classroom teachers and service personnel employed that exceeds the number allowed by the
35 public school support plan and determine the amount of salary supplements that would be
36 available per state authorized employee if all expenditures for the excess employees were
37 converted to annual salaries for state authorized administrators, classroom teachers and service
38 personnel within their county. The information shall be published annually in each school report
39 card of each such county.

40 (c) The school district report card shall include the data for each school for each separately
41 listed applicable indicator and the aggregate of the data for all schools, as applicable, in the county
42 for each indicator. The statewide school report card shall include the data for each county for
43 each separately listed indicator and the aggregate for all counties for each indicator.

44 (d) The report cards shall be prepared using actual local school, county, state, regional
45 and national data indicating the present performance of the school and also shall include the state
46 norms and the upcoming year's targets for the school and the county board.

47 The state board shall provide technical assistance to each county board in preparing the
48 school and school district report cards.

49 Each county board shall prepare report cards in accordance with the guidelines set forth
50 in this section. The school district report cards shall be presented at a regular school board
51 meeting subject to applicable notice requirements and shall be made available to a newspaper of
52 general circulation serving the district. The school report cards shall be mailed directly to the
53 parent or parents of each child enrolled in that school. In addition, each county board shall submit
54 the completed report cards to the state board which shall make copies available to any person
55 requesting them.

56 The report cards shall be completed and disseminated prior to January 1, 1989, and in
57 each year thereafter, and shall be based upon information for the current school year, or for the
58 most recent school year for which the information is available, in which case the year shall be
59 clearly footnoted.

60 (e) In addition to the requirements of subsection (c) of this section, the school district report
61 card shall list the following information:

62 (1) The names of the members of the county board, the dates upon which their terms
63 expire and whether they have attended an orientation program for new members approved by the
64 state board and conducted by the West Virginia School Board Association or other approved
65 organizations;

66 (2) The number of hours of training that meets state board standards that county board
67 members have received during the school term reported; and

68 (3) The names of the county school superintendent and every assistant and associate
69 superintendent and any training programs related to their area of school administration which they

70 have attended.

71 The information also shall be reported by district in the statewide school report card.

72 (f) The state board shall develop and implement a separate report card for nontraditional

73 public schools pursuant to the appropriate provisions of this section to the extent practicable.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide that statewide school report cards are only to be made available to custodial parents and guardians of students upon request instead of automatically being sent to the parents and guardians.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.