WEST virginia legislature

2024 regular session

Introduced

Senate Bill 521

By Senator Grady

[Introduced January 23, 2024; referred
 to the Committee on Education; and then to the Committee on Finance]

A BILL to amend and reenact §18A-4-16 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring that whenever a county board enters into an extracurricular assignment agreement with bus operators and the bus operators are compensated during days the bus runs are not made, any special needs bus aides who have entered into an extracurricular assignment agreement to ride the buses and be available to assist student riders shall on those days be assigned to a school, assigned alternate duties at the school, and be paid at their normal rate of pay under the agreement for that day.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 4. SALARIES, WAGES AND OTHER BENEFITS.

§18A-4-16. Extracurricular assignments.

(1) The assignment of teachers and service personnel to extracurricular assignments shall be made only by mutual agreement of the employee and the superintendent, or designated representative, subject to board approval. Extracurricular duties shall mean, but not be limited to, any activities that occur at times other than regularly scheduled working hours, which include the instructing, coaching, chaperoning, escorting, providing support services or caring for the needs of students, and which occur on a regularly scheduled basis: *Provided*, That all school service personnel assignments shall be considered extracurricular assignments, except such assignments as are considered either regular positions, as provided by section eight of this article, or extra-duty assignments, as provided by section eight-b of this article.

(2) The employee and the superintendent, or a designated representative, subject to board approval, shall mutually agree upon the maximum number of hours of extracurricular assignment in each school year for each extracurricular assignment.

(3) The terms and conditions of the agreement between the employee and the board shall be in writing and signed by both parties.

(4) An employee's contract of employment shall be separate from the extracurricular assignment agreement provided for in this section and shall not be conditioned upon the employee’s acceptance or continuance of any extracurricular assignment proposed by the superintendent, a designated representative, or the board.

(5) The board shall fill extracurricular school service personnel assignments and vacancies in accordance with section eight-b of this article: *Provided*, That an alternative procedure for making extracurricular school service personnel assignments within a particular classification category of employment may be utilized if the alternative procedure is approved both by the county board and by an affirmative vote of two thirds of the employees within that classification category of employment.

(6) An employee who was employed in any service personnel extracurricular assignment during the previous school year shall have the option of retaining the assignment if it continues to exist in any succeeding school year. A county board of education may terminate any school service personnel extracurricular assignment for lack of need pursuant to section seven, article two of this chapter. If an extracurricular contract has been terminated and is reestablished in any succeeding school year, it shall be offered to the employee who held the assignment at the time of its termination. If the employee declines the assignment, the extracurricular assignment shall be posted and filled pursuant to section eight-b of this article.

(7) Effective with the retirement of an employee on or after July 1, 2021, any extracurricular contract of the employee shall terminate when an employee retires. Nothing prohibits a retired employee from applying for and, if they are the successful applicant, becoming employed in an extracurricular assignment or other position with the county board consistent with the rules for the employment of retirees established by the consolidated public retirement board.

(8) Whenever a county board enters into an extracurricular assignment agreement with bus operators and the bus operators are compensated during days the bus runs are not made, any special needs bus aides who have entered into an extracurricular assignment agreement to ride the buses and be available to assist student riders shall on those days be assigned to a school, assigned alternate duties at the school, such as reviewing or updating records, and be paid at their normal rate of pay under the agreement for that day.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require that whenever a county board enters into an extracurricular assignment agreement with bus operators and the bus operators are compensated during days the bus runs are not made, any special needs bus aides who have entered into an extracurricular assignment agreement to ride the buses and be available to assist student riders shall on those days be assigned to a school, assigned alternate duties at the school, and be paid at their normal rate of pay under the agreement for that day.

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