



WVBE/WVDE Action Items for Implementing 2024 Legislative Acts

April 2024



**West Virginia Board of Education
2023-2024**

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Introduction

This booklet contains a short summary of education related bills that were enacted during the 2024 Regular Legislative Session, many of which require some affirmative action by the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE), the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE), and/or the State Superintendent of Schools. To assist in the discussion regarding how to best carry out these new legislative provisions, implementation action items have been included herein. As the WVBE, WVDE, and State Superintendent further consider these items, they may develop additional steps to ensure the requirements established in these acts are met in a way that best serves West Virginia students. Please note, this booklet contains only short summaries; therefore, specific information relating to any of the legislative acts referenced in this publication, can be found in the [2024 Green Book](#).

SB 146: Creating adult education taskforce.

Bill Effective Date: June 7, 2024

This Act requires the State Superintendent of Schools to establish a taskforce in the WVDE to consider options for direct funding for adult education learning centers. This new law will sunset on December 31, 2025, unless continued by future legislative action.

Implementation Action Item

- The State Superintendent is responsible for establishing a taskforce required to meet on or before July 1, 2024.

SB 172: Revising requirements of local school improvement councils.

Bill Effective Date: May 26, 2024

This Act revises the membership and duties of local school improvement councils (LSIC).

Implementation Action Item

- The WVBE is required to ensure training is provided to principals, county boards, and others the WVDE determines appropriate upon employment, and at least every 3 years thereafter, on the roles and governance of LSICs.
- The WVBE is required to provide a document for parents and community leaders explaining their role in LSICs.

SB 466: Requiring State Board of Education develop Safety While Accessing Technology education program.

Bill Effective Date: June 6, 2024

This Act requires the State Board of Education to develop a Safety While Accessing Technology (SWAT) education program for elementary and secondary school students.

Implementation Action Item

- The WVBE is required to develop the SWAT education program that includes the specific topics outlined in the legislation for implementation for the 2025-2026 school year.

SB 487: Requiring periodic review of professional development for teachers and education staff.

Bill Effective Date: June 5, 2024

This Act requires a periodic review of professional development training for teachers and education staff to ensure the current training requirements and regimens are necessary and essential. Additionally, the review is required to include a distinction between educational opportunities that are required and those that are encouraged.

Implementation Action Item

- The WVBE is responsible for reviewing the professional development training every five years beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

SB 568: Creating multi-tiered system for school absenteeism.

Bill Effective Date: June 7, 2024

This Act modifies the process for managing student attendance in order to combat chronic student absenteeism.

Implementation Action Item

- The WVBE is required to develop a System of Support Plan (SOS Plan).
- The WVBE is required to ensure that attendance directors, principals and other school designees are implementing the SOS Plan.
- The WVBE is required to develop a policy to address attendance for pregnant or parenting students.

HB 4709: Relating to vocational and technical education programs.

Bill Effective Date: June 4, 2024

This Act creates a new article known as the Career and Technical Education Pilot Program for Middle School Students. This four-year pilot program is designed to provide 5th – 8th grade students with career readiness courses prior to entering high school.

Implementation Action Item

- The WVBE is charged with promulgating any necessary rules, establishing guidelines, and administering the program.
- The State Superintendent is responsible for providing an annual report on this program to the Legislative Oversight on Education Accountability (LOCEA) beginning July 1, 2025.

HB 4986: Relating to computer science and cybersecurity instruction for adult learners.

Bill Effective Date: June 4, 2024

This Act requires the State Superintendent to seek grant funds to provide computer science and cybersecurity instruction to adult learners.

Implementation Action Item

- The State Superintendent is responsible for seeking grant funding and distributing any secured funding to participants beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending on June 30, 2026.

HB 5162: Establish a program to promote creation and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs.

Bill Effective Date: June 7, 2024

The Act requires the establishment of a Youth Apprenticeship Program that includes authorizing participating students to receive secondary credit or credentialing for work performed under the program.

Implementation Action Item

- The WVDE is required to establish the Youth Apprenticeship Program and develop pilot projects for the 2024-2025 school year.
- The WVDE is required to direct that a comprehensive apprenticeship program be implemented in all school systems for the 2025-2026 school year.
- The WVBE, Higher Education Policy Commission, and the Department of Commerce are required to maintain a detailed list of current apprenticeships.

HB 5405: Providing additional professional development and support to West Virginia educators through teacher and leader induction and professional growth.

Bill Effective Date: June 7, 2024

The Act authorizes the WVDE to retain funding from the Public School Support Plan (PSSP) for professional development. Additionally, the WVDE is authorized to distribute a maximum of \$1M in grants to county boards of education to expand the school district's ability to contract with organizations that facilitate participation in regional learning cadres or teacher leadership networks designed to support math or science improvement or support teachers who are less than certified for their current teaching position.

Implementation Action Item

- The WVDE will establish an application and award process to facilitate distribution of the funding to the various county boards of education.



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