

CHAPTER 118

GENERAL SCHOOL OPERATIONS

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Cross-reference: See definitions in s 115.001.

118.01 Educational goals and expectations.

(1) **PURPOSE** Public education is a fundamental responsibility of the state. The constitution vests in the state superintendent the supervision of public instruction and directs the legislature to provide for the establishment of district schools. The effective operation of the public schools is dependent upon a common understanding of what public schools should be and do. Establishing such goals and expectations is a necessary and proper complement to the state's financial contribution to education. Each school board should provide curriculum, course requirements and instruction consistent with the goals and expectations established under sub. (2). Parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in the school district share with the state and school board the responsibility for pupils meeting the goals and expectations under sub. (2).

(2) **EDUCATIONAL GOALS.** (a) *Academic skills and knowledge.* Since the development of academic skills and knowledge is the most important goal for schools, each school board shall provide an instructional program designed to give pupils:

1. Basic skills, including the ability to read, write, spell, perform basic arithmetical calculations, learn by reading and listening and communicate by writing and speaking.
2. Analytical skills, including the ability to think rationally, solve problems, use various learning methods, gather and analyze information, make critical and independent judgments and argue persuasively.
3. A basic body of knowledge that includes information and concepts in literature, fine arts, mathematics, natural sciences, including knowledge of the elements of agriculture and the conservation of natural resources, and social sciences, including knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of the family as a consumer, cooperative marketing and consumers' cooperatives.
4. The skills and attitudes that will further lifelong intellectual activity and learning.

5. Knowledge in computer science, including problem solving, computer applications and the social impact of computers.

(b) *Vocational skills.* Each school board shall provide an instructional program designed to give pupils:

1. An understanding of the range and nature of available occupations and the required skills and abilities.
2. Preparation to compete for entry level jobs not requiring postsecondary school education.
3. Preparation to enter job-specific vocational training programs.
4. Positive work attitudes and habits.

(c) *Citizenship.* Each school board shall provide an instructional program designed to give pupils:

1. An understanding of the basic workings of all levels of government, including the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.
2. A commitment to the basic values of our government, including by appropriate instruction and ceremony the proper reverence and respect for and the history and meaning of the American flag, the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. constitution and the constitution and laws of this state.
3. The skills to participate in political life.
4. An understanding of the function of organizations in society.
5. Knowledge of the role and importance of biological and physical resources.
6. Knowledge of state, national and world history.
7. An appreciation and understanding of different value systems and cultures.
8. At all grade levels, an understanding of human relations, particularly with regard to American Indians, Black Americans and Hispanics.

(d) *Personal development.* Each school board shall provide an instructional program designed to give pupils:

1. The skills needed to cope with social change.
2. Knowledge of the human body and the means to maintain lifelong health, including:
 - a. Knowledge of the theory and practice of physical education, including the development and maintenance of physical fitness;
 - b. Knowledge of the true and comparative vitamin content of food and food and health values of dairy products and their importance for the human diet; and
 - c. Knowledge of physiology and hygiene, sanitation, the effects of controlled substances under ch. 161 and alcohol upon the human system, symptoms of disease and the proper care of the body. No pupil may be required to take instruction in these subjects if his or her parent files with the teacher a written objection thereto. Instruction in physiology and hygiene shall include instruction on sexually transmitted diseases and shall be offered in every high school.
3. An appreciation of artistic and creative expression and the capacity for self-expression.
4. The ability to construct personal ethics and goals.
5. Knowledge of morality and the individual's responsibility as a social being, including the responsibility and morality of family living and the value of frugality and other basic qualities and principles referred to in article I, section 22, of the constitution insofar as such qualities and principles affect family and consumer education.
6. Knowledge of the prevention of accidents and promotion of safety on the public highways, including instruction on the relationship between highway safety and the use of alcohol and controlled substances under ch. 161.
7. The skills needed to make sound decisions, knowledge of the conditions which may cause and the signs of suicidal tendencies, knowledge of the relationship between youth suicide and the use of alcohol and controlled substances under ch. 161 and knowledge of the available community youth suicide prevention and intervention services. Instruction shall be designed to help prevent suicides by pupils by promoting the positive emotional development of pupils.
8. Knowledge of effective means by which pupils may recognize, avoid, prevent and halt physically or psychologically intrusive or abusive situations which may be harmful to pupils, including child abuse, sexual abuse and child enticement. Instruction shall be designed to help pupils develop positive psychological, emotional and problem-solving responses to such situations and avoid relying on negative, fearful or solely reactive methods of dealing with such situations. Instruction shall include information on available school and community prevention and intervention assistance or services and shall be provided to pupils in elementary schools.

History: 1983 a 412; 1985 a 29, 213; 1989 a 31

118.013 Management restructuring programs.

- (1) (a) 1. The school board and the school administrators shall each appoint representatives, and the teachers of each school and the parents of pupils enrolled in each school shall each elect representatives, to participate in the development of a management restructuring program designed to decentralize school board powers and duties and to foster shared decision making.
2. If the school includes high school grades, a pupil enrolled in those grades, selected as determined by the school board, shall participate in the development of the program under subd. 1. as a nonvoting member.
- (b) During the 1992-93 school year, the state superintendent shall hold a training session on management restructuring programs in the territory of each cooperative educational service agency. The representatives chosen under par. (a) shall participate in the training sessions.

(2) (a) During the 1993-94 school year, if the representatives chosen under sub. (1) (a) agree, they shall meet to develop a management restructuring program that addresses all of the school's educational practices except those that are mandatory subjects of collective bargaining under subch. IV of ch. 111. The representatives may agree to allow members of other groups to participate in the meetings. The meetings shall be by school, except that if a principal supervises more than one school, the meetings shall be by the group of schools that he or she supervises.

(b) If the representatives reach an agreement that is approved by two-thirds of the teachers employed at the school or, if a principal supervises more than one school, the group of schools that he or she supervises, the management restructuring program shall be implemented beginning in the 1994-95 school year unless a different time is specified in the agreement.

(3) (a) A school board on its own initiative or upon receipt of an application from the principal of a school located in the school district may apply to the state superintendent for a grant to assist in developing or implementing a management restructuring program. The state superintendent shall appoint a 12-member council under s. 15.04 (1) (c) to review the applications and make recommendations to the state superintendent. The council shall consist of the governor or his or her designee and at least one member representing school boards, one member representing school administrators, one member representing parents of pupils enrolled in the school district and one member representing teachers. The state superintendent may also appoint members representing other groups. Grants shall be awarded from the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (ds). The state superintendent shall give preference in awarding grants under this paragraph to applications submitted by school boards in collaboration with an organization of professional educators or persons concerned with educational administration. To the extent possible, the state superintendent shall ensure that grants are equally distributed on a statewide basis.

(b) If a management restructuring program is implemented following the receipt of a grant under par. (a), the program shall specify that the school board determines the school district and each school's budget but shall also provide that any management council established for a school under the program may make recommendations to the school board regarding how the school's budget is allocated.

(c) No grants may be awarded under this subsection after June 30, 1994.

History: 1991 a 269, 314; 1993 a 16.

118.015 Reading instruction. (1) PURPOSE AND INTENT

It is the purpose and intent of this section to provide for a developmental reading program for pupils at all grade levels.

(2) EMPLOYMENT OF READING SPECIALISTS. Each school district shall employ a reading specialist certified by the department to develop and coordinate a comprehensive reading curriculum in grades kindergarten to 12. At the discretion of the state superintendent, a school district may contract with other school districts or cooperative educational service agencies to employ a certified reading specialist on a cooperative basis.

(3) DUTIES OF READING SPECIALIST. The reading specialist shall:

(a) Develop and implement a reading curriculum in grades kindergarten to 12.

(b) Act as a resource person to classroom teachers to implement the reading curriculum.

(c) Work with administrators to support and implement the reading curriculum.

(d) Conduct an annual evaluation of the reading curriculum.

(e) Coordinate the reading curriculum with other reading programs and other support services within the school district.

(4) SCHOOL BOARD DUTIES. The school board shall:

(a) Develop a program of reading goals for the district for grades kindergarten to 12.

(b) Make an assessment of existing reading needs in grades kindergarten to 12 in the district based on the reading goals established under par. (a).

(c) Make an annual evaluation of the reading curriculum of the school district.

History: 1977 c. 29.

118.017 Foreign language instruction. (1) All instruction shall be in the English language, except:

(a) Those programs established under subch. VII of ch. 115 where instruction shall be in the English language and in the non-English language of the bilingual-bicultural education program.

(b) The school board may cause any foreign language to be taught to pupils who desire it.

(c) The school board may cause any course to be taught in a foreign language if the purpose is to facilitate the instruction of English speaking pupils in that language.

(2) A school board may grant foreign language credit to a pupil who has satisfactorily completed a high school course in American sign language.

History: 1983 a. 412 ss. 4, 5; Stats. 1983 s. 118.017; 1989 a. 280.

118.019 Human growth and development instruction.

(1) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this section is to encourage all school boards to make available to pupils instruction in topics related to human growth and development in order to promote accurate and comprehensive knowledge in this area and responsible decision making and to support and enhance the efforts of parents to provide moral guidance to their children.

(2) **SUBJECTS.** A school board may provide an instructional program in human growth and development in grades kindergarten to 12. If provided, the program shall offer information and instruction appropriate to each grade level and the age and level of maturity of the pupils. The program may include instruction in any of the following areas:

(a) Self-esteem, responsible decision making and personal responsibility.

(b) Interpersonal relationships.

(c) Discouragement of adolescent sexual activity.

(d) Family life and skills required of a parent.

(e) Human sexuality; reproduction; contraception, including natural family planning; human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; prenatal development; childbirth; adoption; available prenatal and postnatal support; and male responsibility.

(f) Sex stereotypes and protective behavior.

(3) **DISTRIBUTION OF CURRICULUM TO PARENTS.** Each school board that provides an instructional program in human growth and development shall annually provide the parents of each pupil enrolled in the school district with an outline of the human growth and development curriculum used in the pupil's grade level and information regarding how the parent may inspect the complete curriculum and instructional materials. The school board shall make the complete human growth and development curriculum and all instructional materials available upon request for inspection at any time, including prior to their use in the classroom.

(4) **EXEMPTION FOR INDIVIDUAL PUPILS.** No pupil may be required to take instruction in human growth and development or in the specific subjects under sub. (2) if the pupil's parent files with the teacher or school principal a written request that the pupil be exempted.

(5) **ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** Each school board shall appoint an advisory committee composed of parents, teachers, school administrators, pupils, health care professionals, members of the clergy and other residents of the school district. The advisory committee shall develop a human growth and development curriculum and

advise the school board on the design, review and implementation of the advisory committee's human growth and development curriculum. The advisory committee shall review the curriculum at least every 3 years and shall file a written report with the department indicating it has done so.

(6) **GRANTS.** (a) From the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (fm), the department may award grants to any of the following:

1. A school board, to assist the board in developing or improving a human growth and development curriculum.

2. A cooperative educational service agency, to enable the agency to provide technical assistance to a school board to develop or improve a human growth and development curriculum.

(b) Notwithstanding sub. (2) (intro.), no grant may be awarded under par. (a) unless the school board receiving a grant under par. (a) 1. or being assisted by a cooperative educational service agency receiving a grant under par. (a) 2. first agrees to include instruction in all of the areas specified under sub. (2) (a) to (f).

History: 1985 a. 56; 1987 a. 399; 1989 a. 203.

118.02 Special observance days. On the following days when school is held the day shall be appropriately observed: January 15, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; February 12; February 15, Susan B. Anthony's birthday; February 22; March 4, Casimir Pulaski Day; April 13, American Creed Day; April 22, Environmental Awareness Day; September 16, Mildred Fish Harnack Day; September 17, U.S. Constitution Day; September 28, Frances Willard Day; October 9, Leif Erikson Day; October 12; November 11; and Wednesday of the 3rd week in September, as part of Wonderful Wisconsin Week under s. 14.16 (8), Wisconsin Day. If any such day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the observance shall be on a school day immediately preceding or following. If school is held on June 14, that day shall be appropriately observed as Robert M. La Follette, Sr. Day. If the governor by proclamation sets apart one day to be designated as Arbor and Bird Day, under s. 14.16 (1), that day shall be appropriately observed; otherwise, the last Friday in April shall be observed as Arbor Day.

History: 1975 c. 204, 219, 398, 422; 1979 c. 214, 301, 355; 1985 a. 232; 1987 a. 11, 16, 403; 1989 a. 146; 1993 a. 333.

118.025 Arbor day observance. A school principal may request one free tree provided from state forest nurseries by the department of natural resources under s. 28.06 for each 4th grade pupil in the school for planting in conjunction with an annual observance and celebration of arbor day.

History: 1981 c. 59.

118.03 Textbooks. (1) The school board shall adopt all the textbooks necessary for use in the schools under its charge. The list of the adopted books shall be filed with the school district clerk.

(2) The school board may purchase textbooks and sell them to the pupils at cost or it may designate agents of the school district to sell the textbooks to the pupils. The agents, at stated times, shall make settlement with the school district for books sold. The agents may add a selling commission which shall not exceed 10% of the net price.

(3) No dealer in textbooks may sell any books at a price to exceed 15% above the net list prices, transportation added thereto.

(4) Any person violating this section may be fined not less than \$25 nor more than \$100.

History: 1983 a. 412.

118.04 Summer classes. Any school board may elect to operate summer classes or to permit pupils to attend summer classes operated by another school district on a tuition basis if the school district of operation will accept them. Sections 118.15 and 118.16 shall not apply to summer classes. Every school board electing to operate summer classes:

(1) Shall make rules governing attendance and cause them to be spread on the school board minutes.

(2) May accord to children living in the school district during the summer session the status of residents of the school district for the purpose of attendance at summer classes, even though the children were not regular residents of the school district during the preceding regular school session, but any such children who are not legal residents of the state shall not be counted in computing the state aid to which the school district is entitled.

(3) May permit children from another school district to attend summer classes upon payment of nonresident tuition.

(4) Shall not charge tuition for attendance at summer classes of pupils who are residents of the school district if the school board receives aid for such classes under s. 121.14. The school board may establish and collect reasonable fees for social, recreational or extracurricular summer classes and programs which are neither credited toward graduation nor aided under s. 121.14.

History: 1983 a 27.

118.05 School conservation camps. (1) To promote an understanding of geology, geography, conservation, nature study and other aspects of general knowledge which are learned best by actual contact with nature itself, any school district may establish, operate and maintain and levy taxes to support individually or in cooperation with other school districts or municipalities a school conservation camp. The camp need not be within the school district.

(2) The school board of any such district may operate, contribute to the operation of, participate in the joint operation of, pay or charge fees for the operation of the school conservation camp. The school board may admit nonresident pupils as well as resident pupils of the school district. The school board shall determine age and other entrance requirements and the program to be offered. The camp may be operated in summer or at any other time that the school board determines.

(3) The school board may acquire, rent or accept the free use of facilities and equipment to operate the camp and may accept private contributions of any kind.

(4) The school board may conduct the camp on property under the custody of other municipal, state or federal agencies when permission is granted or on private property with consent of the owner.

(5) Every state agency shall cooperate in making their staff and facilities available to further the objectives of this program.

118.06 Flag and pledge of allegiance. (1) Every school board and the governing body of every private school shall cause the U.S. flag to be displayed in the schoolroom or from a flagstaff on each school ground during the school hours of each school day.

(2) Every public and private school shall offer the pledge of allegiance in grades one to 8 at the beginning of school at least one day per week. No pupil may be compelled, against the pupil's objections or those of the pupil's parents or guardian, to recite the pledge.

History: 1993 a 492.

118.07 Safety requirements. (1) Every school board and the governing body of every private school shall provide a standard first aid kit for use in cases of emergency.

(2) (a) Once each month, without previous warning, the person having direct charge of any public or private school shall drill all pupils in the proper method of departure from the building as if in case of fire, except when the person having direct charge deems that the health of the pupils may be endangered by inclement weather conditions.

(b) Annually the person having direct charge of any public or private school shall file a report pertaining to such drills on forms furnished by the department of industry, labor and human relations. Such reports shall be made to the department of industry, labor and human relations and, in each community having a recog-

nized fire department, to the chief of the fire department. When no fire drill is held during any month, the person having direct charge of the school shall state the reasons therefor in the report.

History: 1971 c 164 s 85; 1975 c 39; 1981 c 373; 1987 a 27.

118.08 School zones; crossings. (1) On any street or highway which borders the grounds of any public or private school in which school is held for a term of not less than 6 months, the authority in charge of the maintenance of the street or highway shall erect black and yellow "school" warning signs. The authority may also designate school crossings across any street or highway, whether or not the street or highway borders on the grounds of a school.

(2) All signs required by this section and their installation shall comply with standards adopted by the department of transportation.

History: 1973 c 90; 1975 c 48; 1977 c 29 s 1654 (8) (g).

118.09 Safety zones. (1) Every school district maintaining a school outside the corporate limits of a city or village shall provide at the school site a zone which will provide safety for pupils from vehicular traffic during loading and unloading of pupils at the school. The zone may consist of a widening toward or into the schoolyard of the traveled portion of the adjacent highway so as to permit a vehicle to stop in the extended area completely clear of such traveled portion or may be constructed wholly within the schoolyard with connecting roads to the adjacent highway. The zone and approaches from the highway for use of vehicles shall be graveled or hard-surfaced.

(2) The school district shall cooperate with the agency of the town, county or state having jurisdiction of the highway to the end that matters pertaining to the highway will be properly protected. Contracts for the necessary materials and construction and maintenance, including snow removal, of zones may be entered into with the county or town or with private persons. If the contracting party does not have jurisdiction over the highway, the contract shall be approved by the agency of the state, county or town having jurisdiction over the highway before any work is commenced thereunder.

(3) All loading and unloading of pupils at the school, whether transported by a public or private vehicle, shall take place in the safety zone. The operator of a vehicle under contract to transport pupils to the school shall have necessary police powers so that pupils will be properly safeguarded in loading and unloading at the zone and while the operator's vehicle is approaching and leaving the zone. The operator shall first alight before loading or unloading pupils at the zone, and while at stops on the operator's highway route to load and unload pupils, the operator shall exhibit the vehicle's stop sign.

(4) Private schools shall comply with this section to the same extent as school districts.

History: 1993 a 492.

118.10 School safety patrols. Any school board may organize school safety patrols and, with the permission of the parents, appoint pupils as members thereof for the purpose of influencing and encouraging the other pupils to refrain from crossing public highways at points other than at regular crossings and for the purpose of directing pupils not to cross highways at times when the presence of traffic would render such crossing unsafe. Nothing in this section authorizes or permits the use of any safety patrol member for the purpose of directing vehicular traffic, nor may any safety patrol member be stationed in that portion of the highway intended for the use of vehicular traffic, but this section shall not affect any plan in operation on July 11, 1939, under which a junior police patrol directs traffic under the authorization, supervision and control of either the sheriff's department or of the chief of police or traffic department of the police department of any city, town or village. No liability shall attach to the school district or any individual, school board member, school district

administrator, teacher or other school authority by virtue of the organization, maintenance or operation of a school safety patrol organized, maintained and operated under this section.

118.105 Control of traffic on school premises.

(1) Any school board may request local authorities to control motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic on off-highway school premises located within the jurisdiction of such local authorities.

(2) If the governing body of any town, city or village by ordinance regulates the operation and parking of motor vehicles on off-highway public school premises, school drives or parking lots or pedestrian traffic on any such drives or parking lots, the school board may enter into written agreements with such governing body for reimbursement of the cost of enforcing such ordinance.

(3) Nothing in this section shall preclude the governing body of any town, city or village from repealing ordinances regulating the operation or parking of motor vehicles on off-highway public school premises, drives or parking lots or regulating pedestrian traffic on such drives or parking lots without prior consent of a school board which requested enactment of such ordinance.

History: 1975 c. 251.

118.11 School fences. The school district shall erect and maintain all the fence necessary to enclose the school site or grounds without any financial burden on the holders of adjoining properties.

118.12 Sale of goods and services at schools.

(1) (a) Except as provided under par. (b), any person may sell or promote the sale of goods or services on school district or cooperative educational service agency property.

(b) A school board may adopt written resolutions governing the sale and promotion of goods and services on school district property. The board of control of a cooperative educational service agency may adopt written resolutions governing the sale and promotion of goods and services on agency property. The resolutions may prohibit, restrict or provide guidelines for such sales and promotions.

(2) (a) No school district employe may receive for his or her personal benefit anything of value from any person other than his or her employing school district to sell, promote the sale of or act as an agent or solicitor for the sale of any goods or services to any public school pupil while on the property of his or her employing school district or at an activity of his or her employing school district.

(b) No cooperative educational service agency employe may receive for his or her personal benefit anything of value from any person other than his or her employing agency to sell, promote the sale of or act as an agent or solicitor for the sale of any goods or services to any public school pupil while on the property or at an activity of his or her employing agency or while on the property or at an activity of a school district in the agency.

(3) Any person violating sub. (2) is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$200 for each offense.

History: 1985 a. 214.

118.123 Reports and records; forfeitures. (1) Any officer or teacher who fails or neglects to make the reports or who fails to keep the records required by chs. 115 to 121 shall forfeit not less than \$5 nor more than \$25 for each such failure or neglect.

(2) If any person designated in chs. 115 to 121 to prosecute an action for a forfeiture or neglect of duty fails to prosecute the action within 10 days after being requested in writing by an elector of the school district to do so, any elector of the school district may prosecute the action.

History: 1979 c. 89, 301; 1985 a. 214 s. 1; Stats. 1985 s. 118.123.

118.125 Pupil records. (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) "Behavioral records" means those pupil records which include psychological tests, personality evaluations, records of conversations, any written statement relating specifically to an

individual pupil's behavior, tests relating specifically to achievement or measurement of ability, the pupil's physical health records other than his or her immunization records or any lead screening records required under s. 254.162, peace officers' records obtained under s. 48.396 (1m) and any other pupil records that are not progress records.

(b) "Directory data" means those pupil records which include the pupil's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, photographs, degrees and awards received and the name of the school most recently previously attended by the pupil.

(c) "Progress records" means those pupil records which include the pupil's grades, a statement of the courses the pupil has taken, the pupil's attendance record, the pupil's immunization records, any lead screening records required under s. 254.162 and records of the pupil's school extracurricular activities.

(cm) "Pupil physical health records" means those pupil records that include basic health information about a pupil, including the pupil's immunization records, an emergency medical card, a log of first aid and medicine administered to the pupil, an athletic permit card, a record concerning the pupil's ability to participate in an education program, any lead screening records required under s. 254.162, the results of any routine screening test, such as for hearing, vision or scoliosis, and any follow-up to such test, and any other basic health information, as determined by the state superintendent.

(d) "Pupil records" means all records relating to individual pupils maintained by a school but does not include notes or records maintained for personal use by a teacher or other person who is required by the state superintendent under s. 115.28 (7) to hold a certificate, license or permit if such records and notes are not available to others, nor does it include records necessary for, and available only to persons involved in, the psychological treatment of a pupil.

(2) CONFIDENTIALITY. All pupil records maintained by a public school shall be confidential, except as provided in pars. (a) to (m) and sub. (2m). The school board shall adopt regulations to maintain the confidentiality of such records.

(a) A pupil, or the parent or guardian of a minor pupil, shall, upon request, be shown and provided with a copy of the pupil's progress records.

(b) An adult pupil or the parent or guardian of a minor pupil shall, upon request, be shown, in the presence of a person qualified to explain and interpret the records, the pupil's behavioral records. Such pupil or parent or guardian shall, upon request, be provided with a copy of the behavioral records.

(c) The judge of any court of this state or of the United States shall, upon request, be provided by the school district clerk with a copy of all progress records of a pupil who is the subject of any proceeding in such court.

(cm) If school attendance is a condition of a child's dispositional order under s. 48.355 (2) (b) 7., the school board shall notify the county department that is responsible for supervising the child within 5 days after any violation of the condition by the child.

(d) Pupil records may be made available to persons employed by the school district which the pupil attends who are required by the department under s. 115.28 (7) to hold a license and other school district officials who have been determined by the school board to have legitimate educational interests. Peace officers' records obtained under s. 48.396 (1m) may be made available under this paragraph only for the purposes of s. 118.127 (2) and only to those designated personnel involved in alcohol and other drug abuse programs.

(e) Upon the written permission of an adult pupil, or the parent or guardian of a minor pupil, the school shall make available to the person named in the permission the pupil's progress records or such portions of the pupil's behavioral records as determined by

the person authorizing the release. Peace officers' records obtained under s. 48.396 (1m) may not be made available under this paragraph unless specifically identified by the adult pupil or by the parent or guardian of a minor pupil in the written permission.

(f) Pupil records shall be provided to a court in response to subpoena by parties to an action for in camera inspection, to be used only for purposes of impeachment of any witness who has testified in the action. The court may turn said records or parts thereof over to parties in the action or their attorneys if said records would be relevant and material to a witness's credibility or competency.

(g) 1. The school board may provide any public officer with any information required to be maintained under chs. 115 to 121.

2. Upon request by the department, the school board shall provide the department with any information contained in a pupil record that relates to an audit or evaluation of a federal or state-supported program or that is required to determine compliance with requirements under chs. 115 to 121. The department shall keep confidential all pupil records provided to the department by a school board.

(h) Information from a pupil's immunization records shall be made available to the department of health and social services to carry out the purposes of s. 252.04.

(hm) Information from any pupil lead screening records shall be made available to state and local health officials to carry out the purposes of ss. 254.11 to 254.178.

(i) The technical college district board in which the public school is located, or the department of health and social services or a county department under s. 46.215, 46.22 or 46.23 for verification of eligibility for public assistance under ch. 49, shall, upon request, be provided by the school district clerk with the names of pupils who have withdrawn from the public school prior to graduation under s. 118.15 (1) (c).

(j) 1. Except as provided under subs. 2. and 3., directory data may be disclosed to any person, if the school has notified the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem of the categories of information which it has designated as directory data with respect to each pupil and has allowed 14 days for the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem of that pupil to inform the school that all or any part of the directory data may not be released without the prior consent of the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem.

2. If a school has notified the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem that a pupil's name and address has been designated as directory data, has allowed 14 days for the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem of the pupil to inform the school that the pupil's name and address may not be released without the prior consent of the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem and the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem has not so informed the school, the school district clerk, upon request, shall provide a technical college district board with the name and address of each such pupil who is expected to graduate from high school in the current school year.

3. If a school has notified the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem of the information that it has designated as directory data with respect to any pupil, the school has allowed 14 days for the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem of the pupil to inform the school that such information may not be released without the prior consent of the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem and the parent, legal guardian or guardian ad litem has not so informed the school, the school district clerk, upon request, shall provide any representative of a law enforcement agency, as defined in s. 165.83 (1) (b), district attorney or corporation counsel, county department under s. 46.215, 46.22 or 46.23 or a court of record or municipal court with such information relating to any such pupil enrolled in the school district for the purpose of enforcing that pupil's school attendance or to respond to a health or safety emergency.

(k) A school board may disclose personally identifiable information from the pupil records of an adult pupil to the parents or guardian of the adult pupil, without the written consent of the adult pupil, if the adult pupil is a dependent of his or her parents or guardian under 26 USC 152, unless the adult pupil has informed the school, in writing, that the information may not be disclosed.

(L) A school board shall disclose the pupil records of a pupil in compliance with a court order under s. 48.34 (12) (b) after making a reasonable effort to notify the pupil's parent or legal guardian.

(m) A parent who has been denied periods of physical placement with a child under s. 767.24 (4) does not have the rights of a parent or guardian under pars. (a) to (j) with respect to that child's pupil records.

(2m) CONFIDENTIALITY OF PUPIL PHYSICAL HEALTH RECORDS.

(a) Except as provided in par. (b), any pupil record that relates to a pupil's physical health and that is not a pupil physical health record shall be treated as a patient health care record under ss. 146.81 to 146.84.

(b) Any pupil record that concerns the results of a test for the presence of HIV, antigen or nonantigenic products of HIV or an antibody to HIV shall be treated as provided under s. 252.15. In this subsection, "HIV" has the meaning given in s. 252.01 (1) [252.01 (1m)].

NOTE: The bracketed language indicates the correct cross-reference.

(3) MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS. Each school board shall adopt rules in writing specifying the content of pupil records and the time during which pupil records shall be maintained. No behavioral records may be maintained for more than one year after the pupil ceases to be enrolled in the school, unless the pupil specifies in writing that his or her behavioral records may be maintained for a longer period. A pupil's progress records shall be maintained for at least 5 years after the pupil ceases to be enrolled in the school. A school board may maintain the records on microfilm or optical disk if authorized under s. 19.21 (4) (c), or in such other form as the school board deems appropriate. A school board shall maintain peace officers' records obtained under s. 48.396 (1m) separately from a pupil's other pupil records. Rules adopted under this subsection shall be published by the school board as a class 1 notice under ch. 985.

(4) TRANSFER OF RECORDS. Within 5 working days, a school district shall transfer to another school or school district all pupil records relating to a specific pupil if the transferring school district has received written notice from the pupil if he or she is an adult or his or her parent or guardian if the pupil is a minor that the pupil intends to enroll in the other school or school district or written notice from the other school or school district that the pupil has enrolled or from a court that legal custody of the pupil has been transferred to the department of health and social services for placement in a juvenile correctional facility. In this subsection, "school" and "school district" include any state juvenile correctional facility which provides an educational program for its residents instead of or in addition to that which is provided by public and private schools.

NOTE: Sub. (4) is amended eff. 7-1-95 by 1993 Wis. Act 385 to read:

(4) TRANSFER OF RECORDS. Within 5 working days, a school district shall transfer to another school or school district all pupil records relating to a specific pupil if the transferring school district has received written notice from the pupil if he or she is an adult or his or her parent or guardian if the pupil is a minor that the pupil intends to enroll in the other school or school district or written notice from the other school or school district that the pupil has enrolled or from a court that the pupil has been placed in a juvenile correctional facility. In this subsection, "school" and "school district" include any state juvenile correctional facility which provides an educational program for its residents instead of or in addition to that which is provided by public and private schools.

NOTE: Sub. (4), as affected by 1993 Wis. Act 385, is amended eff. 12-1-95 by 1993 Wis. Acts 377 and 491 to read:

(4) TRANSFER OF RECORDS. Within 5 working days, a school district shall transfer to another school or school district all pupil records relating to a specific pupil if the transferring school district has received written notice from the pupil if he or she is an adult or his or her parent or guardian if the pupil is a minor that

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the pupil intends to enroll in the other school or school district or written notice from the other school or school district that the pupil has enrolled or from a court that legal custody of the pupil has been transferred to the department of corrections or that the pupil has been placed in a juvenile correctional facility. In this subsection, "school" and "school district" include any state juvenile correctional facility which provides an educational program for its residents instead of or in addition to that which is provided by public and private schools.

(5) USE FOR SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION. Nothing in this section prohibits the use of a pupil's records in connection with the suspension or expulsion of the pupil or the use of such records by a multidisciplinary team under ch. 115.

(6) APPLICATION TO EXISTING RECORDS. Any records existing on June 9, 1974 need not be revised for the purpose of deleting information from pupil records to comply with this section.

History: 1973 c. 254; 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 205; 1981 c. 20, 273; 1983 a. 189; 1985 a. 218; 1987 a. 27, 70, 206, 285, 337, 355; 1987 a. 399 s. 491; 1987 a. 403 ss. 123, 124, 256; 1989 a. 31, 168; 1989 a. 201 s. 36; 1989 a. 336; 1991 a. 39, 189; 1993 a. 27, 172, 334, 377, 385, 399, 450, 491.

See note to 19 21, citing 63 Atty. Gen. 272.

Pupil information which local education agencies are required to release to the department of public instruction under the reporting provisions of ch. 89, laws of 1973, may be provided, with or without permission, without violation of the state or federal confidentiality statutes 65 Atty. Gen. 1.

"Pupil records" are "public records" under 19 32 (2) but are subject to special statutes which limit access and direct maximum and minimum periods of maintenance before destruction. 72 Atty. Gen. 169.

Access to student records in Wisconsin. 1976 WLR 975.

118.126 Privileged communications. (1) A school psychologist, counselor, social worker and nurse, and any teacher or administrator designated by the school board who engages in alcohol or drug abuse program activities, shall keep confidential information received from a pupil that the pupil or another pupil is using or is experiencing problems resulting from the use of alcohol or other drugs unless:

(a) The pupil using or experiencing problems resulting from the use of alcohol or other drugs consents in writing to disclosure of the information;

(b) The school psychologist, counselor, social worker, nurse, teacher or administrator has reason to believe that there is serious and imminent danger to the health, safety or life of any person and that disclosure of the information to another person will alleviate the serious and imminent danger. No more information than is required to alleviate the serious and imminent danger may be disclosed; or

(c) The information is required to be reported under s. 48.981.

(2) A school psychologist, counselor, social worker or nurse, or any teacher or administrator designated by the school board who engages in alcohol or drug abuse program activities, who in good faith discloses or fails to disclose information under sub. (1) is immune from civil liability for such acts or omissions. This subsection does not apply to information required to be reported under s. 48.981.

History: 1979 c. 331; 1985 a. 163; 1987 a. 188, 339.

118.127 Peace officers' records. (1) Upon receipt of information from peace officers' records obtained under s. 48.396 (1m), the school district administrator shall notify any pupil named in the records, and the parent or guardian of any minor pupil named in the records, of the information.

(2) A school district may use information from peace officers' records obtained under s. 48.396 (1m) only for the purpose of providing alcohol and other drug abuse programs for pupils enrolled in the school district.

History: 1991 a. 39.

118.128 Information related to pupil harm to others. If a school district determines, based on evidence that a pupil engaged in behavior that seriously physically harmed another individual within the previous 12 months or that a pupil has engaged in a pattern of behavior causing serious physical harm to another individual, that there is reasonable cause to believe that the pupil may engage in behavior at school or while under the supervision of a school authority that is physically harmful to another individual, the school district may provide information

concerning the pupil's physically harmful behavior to the pupil's teachers and to any other school district official who has a legitimate educational or safety interest in the information. The information provided under this section shall be limited to information reasonably necessary to meet the educational needs of the pupil and the safety needs of other pupils and school personnel. A teacher or other school district official may not disclose information provided to him or her under this section to any other person.

History: 1993 a. 334.

118.13 Pupil discrimination prohibited. (1) No person may be denied admission to any public school or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

(2) (a) Each school board shall develop written policies and procedures to implement this section and submit them to the state superintendent as a part of its 1986 annual report under s. 120.18. The policies and procedures shall provide for receiving and investigating complaints by residents of the school district regarding possible violations of this section, for making determinations as to whether this section has been violated and for ensuring compliance with this section.

(b) Any person who receives a negative determination under par. (a) may appeal the determination to the state superintendent.

(3) (a) The state superintendent shall:

1. Decide appeals made to him or her under sub. (2) (b). Decisions of the state superintendent under this subdivision are subject to judicial review under ch. 227.

2. Promulgate rules necessary to implement and administer this section.

3. Include in the department's biennial report under s. 15.04 (1) (d) information on the status of school district compliance with this section and school district progress toward providing reasonable equality of educational opportunity for all pupils in this state.

(b) The state superintendent may:

1. Periodically review school district programs, activities and services to determine whether the school boards are complying with this section.

2. Assist school boards to comply with this section by providing information and technical assistance upon request.

(4) Any public school official, employe or teacher who intentionally engages in conduct which discriminates against a person or causes a person to be denied rights, benefits or privileges, in violation of sub. (1), may be required to forfeit not more than \$1,000.

History: 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 332; 1991 a. 131.

An American Indian logo, mascot or nickname used by a public school could be a violation of 118.13, but such use is not a per se violation. 80 Atty. Gen. 321.

Where Columbus, Ohio school board pursued purposefully segregative practices with current, systemwide impact, systemwide remedy was appropriate. Columbus Board of Education v. Penick, 443 US 449 (1979).

Where Dayton, Ohio school system was dual system when Brown I was decided in 1954, measure of school board's post-Brown I conduct under unsatisfied duty to liquidate dual system is effectiveness, not purpose, of actions to desegregate system. Dayton Board of Education v. Brinkman, 443 US 526 (1979).

118.14 Age of pupils. (1) Except as provided in s. 115.28 (8):

(a) No child may be admitted to a 4-year-old kindergarten unless he or she is 4 years old on or before September 1 in the year that he or she proposes to enter school.

(b) No child may be admitted to a 5-year-old kindergarten unless he or she is 5 years old on or before September 1 in the year he or she proposes to enter school.

(c) No child may be admitted to the 1st grade unless he or she is 6 years old, on or before September 1 in the year he or she proposes to enter school.

(2) A resident over 20 years of age may be admitted to school when in the judgment of the school board the resident will not interfere with the pupils of school age.

History: 1977 c 418, 429; 1983 a 36; 1985 a 29.

118.145 Admission to high school. (1) The school board of a district operating high school grades shall determine, with the advice and consent of the state superintendent, the minimum standards for admission to high school.

(2) A certificate or diploma or other written evidence issued by a school board showing that the pupil has completed the course of study in the elementary grades of the school district in which the pupil resides shall entitle the pupil to admission to high school. Such certificate or diploma or a certified copy thereof or a certified copy of a list of graduates shall be filed with the school district clerk of the school district operating the high school.

(3) If the superintendent of a private school files with the department the course of study for elementary grades prescribed by such school and if such course of study is substantially equivalent to the course of study prepared for elementary grades by the department, a certificate or diploma or other written evidence issued by the superintendent of the private school showing that the pupil has completed such course of study shall entitle the pupil to admission to a public high school. The certificate or diploma or a certified copy thereof or a certified copy of a list of graduates shall be filed with the school district clerk of the school district operating the high school.

History: 1975 c 39, 199.

118.15 Compulsory school attendance. (1) (a) Except as provided under pars. (b) to (d) and sub. (4), unless the child is excused under sub. (3) or has graduated from high school, any person having under control a child who is between the ages of 6 and 18 years shall cause the child to attend school regularly during the full period and hours, religious holidays excepted, that the public or private school in which the child should be enrolled is in session until the end of the school term, quarter or semester of the school year in which the child becomes 18 years of age.

(b) Upon the child's request of the school board and with the written approval of the child's parent or guardian, any child who is 16 years of age or over and a child at risk, as defined in s. 118.153 (1) (a), may attend, in lieu of high school or on a part-time basis, a technical college if the child and his or her parent or guardian agree, in writing, that the child will participate in a program leading to the child's high school graduation. The district board of the technical college district in which the child resides shall admit the child. Every technical college district board shall offer day class programs satisfactory to meet the requirements of this paragraph and s. 118.33 (3m) as a condition to the receipt of any state aid.

(c) 1. Upon the child's request and with the written approval of the child's parent or guardian, any child who is 16 years of age may be excused by the school board from regular school attendance if the child and his or her parent or guardian agree, in writing, that the child will participate in a program or curriculum modification under par. (d) leading to the child's high school graduation.

2. Upon the child's request and with the written approval of the child's parent or guardian, any child who is 17 years of age or over may be excused by the school board from regular school attendance if the child and his or her parent or guardian agree, in writing, that the child will participate in a program or curriculum modification under par. (d) leading to the child's high school graduation or leading to a high school equivalency diploma under s. 115.29 (4).

3. Prior to a child's admission to a program leading to the child's high school graduation or a high school equivalency program under par. (b) or subd. 1. or 2., the child, his or her parent or guardian, the school board and a representative of the high school equivalency program or program leading to the child's high school graduation shall enter into a written agreement. The writ-

ten agreement shall state the services to be provided, the time period needed to complete the high school equivalency program or program leading to the child's high school graduation and how the performance of the pupil will be monitored. The agreement shall be monitored by the school board on a regular basis, but in no case shall the agreement be monitored less frequently than once per semester. If the school board determines that a child is not complying with the agreement, the school board shall notify the child, his or her parent or guardian and the high school equivalency program or program leading to the child's high school graduation that the agreement may be modified or suspended in 30 days.

(cm) 1. Upon the child's request and with the approval of the child's parent or guardian, any child who is 17 years of age or over shall be excused by the school board from regular school attendance if the child began a program leading to a high school equivalency diploma in a secured correctional facility, as defined in s. 48.02 (15m), and the child and his or her parent or guardian agree under subd. 2. that the child will continue to participate in such a program.

2. Prior to the admission of a child under subd. 1. to a program leading to a high school equivalency diploma, the child, his or her parent or guardian, the school board and a representative of the agency providing the program shall enter into a written agreement. The agreement shall specify that the child is excused from regular school attendance while he or she is enrolled in the program and making progress toward completion of the program, or successfully completes the program. If the agency providing the program determines that the child is not making progress toward completion of the program, the agency shall notify the child and his or her parent or guardian that the agreement may be suspended within 30 days. If the agency suspends the agreement, the agency shall notify the child, his or her parent or guardian and the school board.

3. If the program that the child wishes to attend is provided by a vocational, technical and adult education [technical college] district, the vocational, technical and adult education [technical college] district board shall admit the child.

NOTE: The vocational, technical and adult education system was renamed the technical college system by 1993 Wis. Act 399.

4. A child attending a program under this paragraph shall not be included in membership, as defined in s. 121.004 (5).

5. The state superintendent shall grant a high school equivalency diploma to a child under this paragraph who completes the general educational development test with a passing score, as determined by the state superintendent, and completes the additional requirements determined by the state superintendent under s. 115.29 (4).

(d) Any child's parent or guardian, or the child if the parent or guardian is notified, may request the school board, in writing, to provide the child with program or curriculum modifications, including but not limited to:

1. Modifications within the child's current academic program.

2. A school work training or work study program.

3. Enrollment in any alternative public school or program located in the school district in which the child resides.

4. Enrollment in any nonsectarian private school or program, located in the school district in which the child resides, which complies with the requirements of 42 USC 2000d. Enrollment of a child under this subdivision shall be pursuant to a contractual agreement which provides for the payment of the child's tuition by the school district.

5. Homebound study, including nonsectarian correspondence courses or other courses of study approved by the school board or nonsectarian tutoring provided by the school in which the child is enrolled.

6. Enrollment in any public educational program located outside the school district in which the child resides. Enrollment

of a child under this subdivision may be pursuant to a contractual agreement between school districts.

(dm) The school board shall render its decision, in writing, within 90 days of a request under par. (d), except that if the request relates to a child who has been examined by a multidisciplinary team under s. 115.80 and has not been recommended for special education, the school board shall render its decision within 30 days of the request. If the school board denies the request, the school board shall give its reasons for the denial.

(e) Any decision made by a school board or a designee of the school board in response to a request for program or curriculum modifications under par. (d) shall be reviewed by the school board upon request of the child's parent or guardian. The school board shall render its determination upon review in writing, if the child's parent or guardian so requests.

(f) At the beginning of each school term, the school board shall notify the pupils enrolled in the school district and their parents or guardians of the substance of pars. (d), (dm) and (e).

(2) (a) If the determination is made under sub. (1) (b) for a child to attend a technical college, the district board governing the technical college shall establish appropriate vocational and technical courses in accordance with s. 118.33 (3m) and the school board shall pay the technical college district board an amount calculated as follows:

1. Divide the number of credit hours of instruction scheduled by the technical college district for the pupil by 30.

2. Multiply the quotient under subd. 1. by the statewide average instructional cost for general education programs in the technical college system in the previous school year, as determined by the technical college system board.

3. Multiply the quotient under subd. 1. by any additional costs associated with direct student support services, as determined jointly by the state superintendent and the state director of the technical college system.

4. Add the product under subd. 2. to the product under subd. 3.

(c) Pupils attending a technical college under this subsection may receive general education subjects at the technical college and shall be counted as pupils enrolled in the high school for all purposes including computing state aid for the school district. Payments by the school district under par. (a) shall be deemed costs of operation and maintenance.

(d) Transportation, or board and lodging under s. 121.57 (1) (a), for pupils attending a technical college under this subsection shall be provided by the school district, and state aids shall be paid therefor, on the same basis as is transportation for pupils attending high school.

(3) This section does not apply to:

(a) Any child who is excused by the school board because the child is temporarily not in proper physical or mental condition to attend school or an educational program under s. 115.85 (2), but who can be expected to return to school or the program upon termination or abatement of the illness or condition. The school attendance officer may request the parent or guardian of the child to obtain a written statement from a licensed physician, dentist, chiropractor, optometrist or psychologist or Christian Science practitioner living and residing in this state, who is listed in the Christian Science Journal, as sufficient proof of the physical or mental condition of the child. An excuse under this paragraph shall be in writing and shall state the time period for which it is valid, not to exceed 30 days.

(b) Any child excused by the school board in accordance with the school board's written attendance policy under s. 118.16 (4) and with the written approval of the child's parent or guardian. The child's truancy, discipline or school achievement problems or exceptional educational needs as described in s. 115.76 (3) may not be used as the reason for an excuse under this paragraph. The excuse shall be in writing and shall state the time period for which

it is effective, not to extend beyond the end of the current school year.

(4) Instruction in a home-based private educational program that meets all of the criteria under s. 118.165 (1) may be substituted for attendance at a public or private school.

(4m) No school board, school board member, multidisciplinary team under s. 115.80 or person employed by a school board or cooperative educational service agency may in any manner compel a pregnant girl to withdraw from her regular education program.

(5) (a) Except as provided under par. (b) or if a person has been found guilty of a misdemeanor under s. 948.45, whoever violates this section may be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than 30 days or both, after evidence has been provided by the school attendance officer that the activities under s. 118.16 (5) have been completed. In a prosecution under this paragraph, if the defendant proves that he or she is unable to comply with the law because of the disobedience of the child, the action shall be dismissed and the child shall be referred to the court assigned to exercise jurisdiction under ch. 48.

(b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to a person who has under his or her control a child who has been sanctioned under s. 49.50 (7) (h).

History: 1971 c. 40, 125, 154; 1973 c. 89, 243, 319, 332; 1975 c. 39, 199; 1979 c. 221, 298, 300, 355; 1981 c. 20; 1983 a. 512; 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 36, 285, 399; 1989 a. 31, 336; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 223, 399.

Compelling Amish parents to send their children to high school infringes upon their religious liberties. *State v. Yoder*, 49 W (2d) 430, 182 NW (2d) 539; aff'd, 406 U.S. 205.

A city is not liable for failure to enforce the school attendance laws for damages resulting from an assault by truants. *Riemer v. Crayton*, 57 W (2d) 755.

See note to Art. I, sec. 18, citing *State v. Kasuboski*, 87 W (2d) 407, 275 NW (2d) 101 (Ct. App. 1978).

See note to 785.02, citing *In Interest of D.L.D.* 110 W (2d) 168, 327 NW (2d) 682 (1983).

Section permits VTAE instructors to teach limited number of courses to public school students under certain circumstances without department of public instruction certification. *Educ. Ass'n v. Public Instruction Dept.*, 154 W (2d) 655, 453 NW (2d) 915 (Ct. App. 1990).

This section is not unconstitutionally vague. *State v. White*, 180 W (2d) 203, 509 NW (2d) 434 (Ct. App. 1993).

The Amish and compulsory school attendance 1971 WLR 832.

118.153 Children at risk. (1) In this section:

(a) "Children at risk" means pupils in grades 5 to 12 who are one or more years behind their age group in the number of high school credits attained, or 2 or more years behind their age group in basic skill levels, and are also one or more of the following:

1. Dropouts.
- 2m. Habitual truants, as defined in s. 118.16 (1) (a).
3. Parents.
4. Adjudicated delinquents.

(b) "Dropout" means a child who ceased to attend school, does not attend a public or private school, technical college or home-based private educational program on a full-time basis, has not graduated from high school and does not have an acceptable excuse under s. 118.15 (1) (b) to (d) or (3).

(2) (a) Every school board shall identify the children at risk who are enrolled in the school district and annually by August 15 develop a plan describing how the school board will meet their needs.

(b) 1. If in the previous school year a school district had 50 or more dropouts and a dropout rate exceeding 5% of its total high school enrollment, the school board shall apply to the state superintendent for aid under this section.

2. If in the previous school year a school district had 40 or more dropouts, the school board may apply to the state superintendent for aid under this section.

(3) (a) Beginning in the 1993-94 school year:

1. Every school board that applies for aid under sub. (2) (b) shall make available to the children at risk enrolled in the school district a program for children at risk.

2. Upon request of a pupil who is a child at risk or the pupil's parent or guardian, a school board described under subd. 1. shall enroll the pupil in the program for children at risk. If the school board makes available more than one program for children at risk, the school board shall enroll the pupil in the program selected by the pupil's parent or guardian if the pupil meets the prerequisites for that program. If there is no space in that program for the pupil, the school board of the school district operating under ch. 119 shall place the pupil's name on a waiting list for that program and offer the pupil an alternative program for children at risk until space in the requested program becomes available.

(b) A program for children at risk shall be designed to allow the pupils enrolled to meet high school graduation requirements under s. 118.33. The school board of the school district operating under ch. 119 shall ensure that there are at least 40 pupils and no more than 200 pupils in each program and that a separate administrator or teacher is in charge of each program.

(c) 1. Each school board shall identify appropriate private, nonprofit, nonsectarian agencies located in the school district or within 5 miles of the boundaries of the school district to meet the requirements under pars. (a) and (b) for the children at risk enrolled in the school district.

2. The school board may contract with the agencies identified under subd. 1. for not more than 30% of the children at risk enrolled in the school district if the school board determines that the agencies can adequately serve such children.

3. The school board shall pay each contracting agency, for each full-time equivalent pupil served by the agency, an amount equal to at least 80% of the average per pupil cost for the school district.

(4) (a) Beginning in August 1994, and annually thereafter, a school board that applied for aid under this section in the previous school year shall submit a report to the state superintendent. The report shall include only information about the pupils enrolled in a program for children at risk in the previous school year that is necessary for the state superintendent to determine the number of pupils who achieved each of the objectives under par. (c).

(b) Upon receipt of a school board's annual report under par. (a) the state superintendent shall pay to the school district from the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (bc), for each pupil enrolled in a program for children at risk who achieved at least 3 of the objectives under par. (c) in the previous school year, additional state aid in an amount equal to 10% of the school district's average per pupil aids provided under s. 20.835 (7) (a), 1991 stats., and s. 20.255 (2) (ac) in the previous school year.

(c) 1. The pupil's attendance rate was at least 70%.

2. The pupil remained in school.

3. The pupil, if a high school senior, received a high school diploma.

4. The pupil earned at least 4.5 academic credits or a prorated number of credits if the pupil was enrolled in the program for less than the entire school year.

5. The pupil demonstrated, on standardized tests or other appropriate measures, at least one month's gain in reading and mathematics for each month of enrollment.

(e) If the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (bc) in any fiscal year is insufficient to pay the full amount of aid under par. (b), state aid payments shall be prorated among the school districts entitled to such aid.

(5) The school board of the school district operating under ch. 119 shall use the additional funds received under this section to expand successful programs for children at risk or to establish new programs if expansion of a successful program would violate sub. (3) (b).

(6) Biennially, the legislative audit bureau shall audit school district eligibility, performance criteria and state aid payments under this section.

(7) The state superintendent shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this section. The rules shall not be overly restrictive in defining approved programs and shall not serve to exclude programs that have demonstrated success in meeting the needs of children at risk.

History: 1985 a. 29, 332; 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 31, 336; 1991 a. 39, 196; 1993 a. 16, 341, 399, 491.

118.155 Released time for religious instruction.

(1) Any school board shall, without approval of the state superintendent, permit pupils with written permission of a parent or guardian to be absent from school at least 60 minutes but not more than 180 minutes per week to obtain religious instruction outside the school during the required school period. The supervisor of such religious instruction shall report monthly, to the principal of the school regularly attended, the names of the pupils who attended such weekly religious instruction. The school board may deny the privilege of released time to pupils who absent themselves from such religious instruction after requesting the privilege. The time period, or periods, allotted for the pupil to be absent from school for the purpose of religious instruction shall be determined by the school board.

(2) Any transportation to religious instruction or from religious instruction to the public school shall be the responsibility of the parents or of the organization sponsoring the religious instruction.

(3) The school district shall be released from all liability for a pupil who is absent from school in accordance with sub. (1).

History: 1973 c. 161.

Constitutionality upheld. State ex rel. Holt v. Thompson, 66 W (2d) 659, 225 NW (2d) 678.

118.16 School attendance enforcement. (1) In this section:

(a) "Habitual truant" means a pupil who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse under sub. (4) and s. 118.15 for either of the following:

1. Part or all of 5 or more days out of 10 consecutive days on which school is held during a school semester.

2. Part or all of 10 or more days on which school is held during a school semester.

(b) "School attendance officer" means an employe designated by the school board to deal with matters relating to school attendance and truancy. "School attendance officer" does not include an individual designated under sub. (2m) (a) to take into custody a child who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse under s. 118.15 unless that individual has also been designated by the school board to deal with matters relating to school attendance and truancy.

(c) "Truancy" means any absence of part or all of one or more days from school during which the school attendance officer, principal or teacher has not been notified of the legal cause of such absence by the parent or guardian of the absent pupil, and also means intermittent attendance carried on for the purpose of defeating the intent of s. 118.15.

(2) The school attendance officer:

(a) Shall determine daily which pupils enrolled in the school district are absent from school and whether that absence is excused under s. 118.15.

(b) Annually, on or before August 1, shall determine how many pupils enrolled in the school district were absent in the previous year and whether the absences were excused under s. 118.15 and shall notify the state superintendent of the determination.

(c) Except as provided under pars. (cg) and (cr), shall notify the parent or guardian of a child who has been truant of the child's truancy and direct the parent or guardian to return the child to school no later than the next day on which school is in session or to provide an excuse under s. 118.15. The notice under this paragraph shall be given before the end of the 2nd school day after

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receiving a report of an unexcused absence. The notice may be made by personal contact, mail or telephone call of which a written record is kept, except that notice by personal contact or telephone call shall be attempted before notice by mail may be given.

(cg) Shall notify the parent or guardian of a child who is a habitual truant, by registered or certified mail, when the child initially becomes a habitual truant. The notice shall include all of the following:

1. A statement of the parent's or guardian's responsibility, under s. 118.15 (1) (a), to cause the child to attend school regularly.
2. A statement that the parent, guardian or child may request program or curriculum modifications for the child under s. 118.15 (1) (d) and that the child may be eligible for enrollment in a program for children at risk under s. 118.153 (3).
3. A request that the parent or guardian meet with appropriate school personnel to discuss the child's truancy. The notice shall include the name of the school personnel with whom the parent or guardian should meet, a date, time and place for the meeting and the name, address and telephone number of a person to contact to arrange a different date, time or place.
4. A statement of the penalties, under s. 118.15 (5), that may be imposed on the parent or guardian if he or she fails to cause the child to attend school regularly as required under s. 118.15 (1) (a).

(cr) After the notice required under par. (cg) has been given, shall notify the parent or guardian of a habitual truant of the habitual truant's unexcused absences as provided in the plan under s. 118.162 (4) (a). After the notice required under par. (cg) has been given, par. (c) does not apply.

(d) May visit any place of employment in the school district to ascertain whether any minors are employed there contrary to law. The officer shall require that school certificates and lists of minors who are employed there be produced for inspection, and shall report all cases of illegal employment to the proper school authorities and to the department of industry, labor and human relations.

(e) Shall have access to information regarding the attendance of any child between the ages of 6 and 18 who is a resident of the school district or who claims or is claimed to be in attendance at a private school located in the school district.

(2m) (a) A school district administrator may designate any of the following individuals to take a child who resides in the school district and who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse under s. 118.15 into custody under s. 48.19 (1m):

1. An employe of the school district who is directly involved in the provision of educational programs to the truant child.
2. An employe of the school district who is directly involved in the provision of a modified program or curriculum under s. 118.15 (1) (d), a program for children at risk under s. 118.153 or an alternative educational program under s. 119.82 or any other alternative educational program to children who attend the school attended by the truant child, if the school district administrator believes that the program or curriculum may be appropriate for the truant child.
3. A school social worker employed by the school district who provides services to children attending the school attended by the truant child, if the school district administrator believes that the services provided by the social worker may be appropriate for the truant child.
4. An employe of a social services agency who is directly involved in the provision of social services to the truant child or the child's family.
5. A school attendance officer, but only if the school attendance officer meets the criteria specified in subds. 1., 2. or 3.

(b) A designation under par. (a) shall be in writing and shall specifically identify the child whom the individual is authorized to take into custody.

(c) A school district administrator may not designate an individual under par. (a) unless the individual agrees to the designation in writing.

(d) A school district administrator who makes a designation under par. (a) shall provide each individual so designated with an identification card of a form determined by the school board. The designee shall carry the identification card on his or her person at all times while the designee is on official duty under s. 48.19 (1m) and shall exhibit the identification card to any person to whom the designee represents himself or herself as a person authorized to take a child into custody under s. 48.19 (1m).

(e) A school district administrator who makes a designation under par. (a) or the individual designated under par. (a) shall immediately attempt to notify, by personal contact or telephone call, the child's parent, guardian and legal custodian that the designation has been made and that the child may be taken into custody under s. 48.19 (1m). The school district administrator, or the designee, is not required to notify a parent, guardian or legal custodian under this paragraph if the parent, guardian or legal custodian is the person who requested that the child be taken into custody under s. 48.19 (1m).

(3) All private schools shall keep a record containing the information required under ss. 115.30 (2) and 120.18. The record shall be open to the inspection of school attendance officers at all reasonable times. When called upon by any school attendance officer, the school shall furnish, on blanks supplied by the school attendance officer, such information in regard to any child between the ages of 6 and 18 who is a resident of the school district or who claims or is claimed to be in attendance at the school.

(4) (a) The school board shall establish a written attendance policy specifying the reasons for which pupils may be permitted to be absent from a public school under s. 118.15 and shall require the teachers employed in the school district to submit to the school attendance officer daily attendance reports on all pupils under their charge.

(b) No public school may deny a pupil credit in a course or subject solely because of the pupil's unexcused absences or suspensions from school. The attendance policy under par. (a) shall specify the conditions under which a pupil may be permitted to take examinations missed during absences, other than suspensions, and the conditions under which a pupil shall be permitted to take any quarterly, semester or grading period examinations and complete any course work missed during a period of suspension.

(c) The school board may establish policies which provide that as a consequence of a pupil's truancy the pupil may be assigned to detention or to a supervised, directed study program. The program need not be held during the regular school day. The policies under this paragraph shall specify the conditions under which credit may be given for work completed during the period of detention or assignment to a supervised, directed study program. A pupil shall be permitted to take any examinations missed during a period of assignment to a supervised, directed study program.

(cm) 1. The school board may establish policies which provide that a pupil of an age eligible for high school enrollment in the school district, as determined by the school board, may be assigned to a period of assessment as a consequence of the pupil's truancy or upon the pupil's return to school from placement in a correctional facility, mental health treatment facility, alcohol and other drug abuse treatment facility or other out-of-school placement. The policies shall specify the conditions under which a pupil may participate in the assessment without being in violation of s. 118.15 and the maximum length of time that a pupil may be assigned to an assessment period.

2. A school board may not assign a pupil to an assessment period without the written approval of the pupil's parent or guardian. A school board may not assign a pupil to an assessment period for longer than the time necessary to complete the assessment and place the pupil in an appropriate education program or 8 weeks,

whichever is less. A school board may not assign a pupil to an assessment period more than once and may not assign a pupil to an assessment period if the school district has an alternative education program, as defined in s. 115.28 (7) (e) 1., available for the pupil that is appropriate for the pupil's needs. An assessment need not be conducted during the regular school day.

3. The goals of an assessment period are to develop an educational plan for the pupil, implement an appropriate transitional plan and facilitate the pupil's placement in an education program in which the pupil will be able to succeed. The school board shall provide pupils who are assigned to an assessment period with information on other education programs that the school district or other community providers have available for the pupil. The assessment may include any of the following new or previously completed activities:

- a. An assessment for problems with alcohol or other drugs.
- b. An assessment of individual educational needs.
- c. An assessment of whether the pupil is encountering problems in the community or at home that require intervention by a social worker.
- d. A vocational assessment, which may include career counseling.
- e. A medical assessment.

(d) The school board shall provide each pupil enrolled in the public schools in the district with a copy of the policies established under this subsection and shall file a copy of the policies in each school in the district. In addition, the school board shall make copies available upon request.

(e) A school board may establish one or more youth service centers for the counseling of children who are taken into custody under s. 48.19 (1) (d) 9. or 10. for being absent from school without an acceptable excuse under s. 118.15.

(5) Prior to any proceeding being brought against a child under s. 48.13 (6) or against the child's parent or guardian under s. 118.15, the school attendance officer shall provide evidence that appropriate school personnel in the school or school district in which the child is enrolled have, within the school year during which the truancy occurred:

(a) Met with the child's parent or guardian to discuss the child's truancy or have attempted to meet with the child's parent or guardian and been refused.

(b) Provided an opportunity for educational counseling to the child to determine whether a change in the child's curriculum would resolve the child's truancy and have considered curriculum modifications under s. 118.15 (1) (d).

(c) Evaluated the child to determine whether learning problems may be a cause of the child's truancy and, if so, have taken steps to overcome the learning problems.

(d) Conducted an evaluation to determine whether social problems may be a cause of the child's truancy and, if so, have taken appropriate action or made appropriate referrals.

(6) Following receipt of evidence that activities under sub. (5) have been completed, the school attendance officer may file information on any child who continues to be truant with the court assigned to exercise jurisdiction under ch. 48 in accordance with s. 48.24. Filing information on a child under this subsection does not preclude concurrent prosecution of the child's parent or guardian under s. 118.15 (5).

(7) Any school district administrator, principal, teacher or school attendance officer who violates this section shall forfeit not less than \$5 nor more than \$25.

History: 1971 c. 164 s. 85; 1975 c. 39; 1979 c. 221, 298; 1985 a. 211; 1987 a. 285; 1993 a. 16, 56, 334, 339, 491.

NOTE: 1993 Wis. Act 339, which created sub. (4) (cm), contains explanatory notes.

Court must consider evidence under (5) prior to entering finding of contempt based on truancy from school. Contempt in Interest of T. J. N., 141 W (2d) 838, 416 NW (2d) 632 (Ct. App. 1987).

118.162 Truancy committee and plan. (1) On July 1, 1988, in each county, the superintendent of the school district which contains the county seat designated under s. 59.11, or his or her designee, shall convene a committee under this section. At its first meeting, the committee shall elect a chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary. Not later than February 1, 1989, the committee shall make recommendations to the school boards of all of the school districts in the county on the items to be included in the districts' truancy plans under sub. (4). The committee shall consist of the following members:

(a) A representative from each school district in the county, designated by the school board of the school district that he or she represents, who may be a school board member, school administrator, teacher, pupil services professional or parent of a child enrolled in the school district. If the territory of a school district lies in more than one county, the school district shall have a representative on the committee for the county in which the largest portion of the school district's equalized valuation is located.

(b) A representative of the office of the district attorney, designated by the district attorney.

(c) A representative of the sheriff's department, designated by the sheriff.

(d) A representative of the local law enforcement agency, other than the sheriff's department, with jurisdiction over the county seat, designated by the chief administrative officer of the law enforcement agency.

(e) A representative of the circuit court for the county, designated by the chief judge of the judicial administrative district.

(f) A representative of the county department of social services under s. 46.22, designated by the county social services director, or, if the duties of the department under s. 46.22 have been transferred to a department under s. 46.23, a representative of the county department of human services under s. 46.23, designated by the county human services director.

(g) A representative of the juvenile court intake unit, designated by the county social services director, or, if the duties of the department under s. 46.22 have been transferred to a department under s. 46.23, designated by the county human services director, or designated by the chief judge of the judicial administrative district.

(h) If a county department of human services has not been established under s. 46.23, a representative of a county department established under s. 51.42 or 51.437, designated by the director of the department established under s. 51.42 or 51.437.

(i) Any other member as determined by the committee.

(2) In developing its recommendations:

(a) The committee shall consult with public and private social services agencies and educational and other agencies that serve residents of the school district and with the business community, as appropriate.

(b) The district attorney representative on the committee shall participate in developing the portions of the plan under sub. (4) (e).

(3) The committee shall write a report to accompany the recommendations under sub. (1). The report shall include all of the following:

(a) A description of the factors that contribute to truancy in the county.

(b) Identification and description of any state statutes, municipal ordinances or school or social services policies that contribute to or inhibit the response to truancy in the county.

(c) Recommendations for legislation and school or social services policies that the committee believes should be enacted or developed to assist in dealing with truancy.

(4) Not later than September 1, 1989, each school board shall adopt a truancy plan which shall include all of the following:

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(a) Procedures to be followed for notifying the parents or guardians of the unexcused absences of habitual truants under s. 118.16 (2) (cr) and for meeting and conferring with such parents or guardians.

(b) Plans and procedures for identifying truant children of all ages and returning them to school, including the identity of school personnel to whom a truant child shall be returned.

(c) Methods to increase and maintain public awareness of and involvement in responding to truancy within the school district.

(d) The immediate response to be made by school personnel when a truant child is returned to school.

(e) The types of truancy cases to be referred to the district attorney for the filing of information under s. 48.24 or prosecution under s. 118.15 (5) and the time periods within which the district attorney will respond to and take action on the referrals.

(f) Plans and procedures to coordinate the responses to the problems of habitual truants, as defined under s. 118.16 (1) (a), with public and private social services agencies.

(g) Methods to involve the truant child's parent or guardian in dealing with and solving the child's truancy problem.

(5) In adopting a truancy plan under sub. (4), each school board shall:

(a) Develop a written description of the factors that contribute to truancy in the school district.

(b) Identify and prepare a written description of any state statutes, municipal ordinances or school or social services policies that contribute to or inhibit the response to truancy in the school district.

(c) Make recommendations to the appropriate state and local agencies and governing bodies for legislation and school or social services policies that the school board believes should be enacted or developed to assist in dealing with truancy.

History: 1987 a 285

118.163 Municipal truancy and school dropout ordinances. (1) In this section:

(a) "Dropout" has the meaning given in s. 118.153 (1) (b).

(b) "Habitual truant" means a pupil who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse under s. 118.15 for either of the following:

1. Part or all of 5 or more days out of 10 consecutive days on which school is held during a school semester.

2. Part or all of 10 or more days on which school is held during a school semester.

(2) A county, city, village or town may enact an ordinance prohibiting a child from being a habitual truant. The ordinance shall provide which of the following dispositions are available to the court:

(a) Suspension of the child's operating privilege, as defined in s. 340.01 (40), for not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days. The court shall immediately take possession of any suspended license and forward it to the department of transportation together with a notice stating the reason for and the duration of the suspension.

(b) An order for the child to participate in counseling, community service or a supervised work program as provided under s. 48.34 (9).

(c) An order for the child to remain at home except during hours in which the child is attending religious worship or a school program, including travel time required to get to and from the school program or place of worship. The order may permit a child to leave his or her home if the child is accompanied by a parent or guardian.

(d) An order for the child to attend an educational program under s. 48.34 (12).

(2m) A county, city, village or town may enact an ordinance permitting a court to suspend the operating privilege, as defined in s. 340.01 (40), of a child who is at least 16 years of age but less

than 18 years of age and is a dropout. The ordinance shall provide that the court may suspend the child's operating privilege, as defined in s. 340.01 (40), until the child reaches the age of 18. The court shall immediately take possession of any suspended license and forward it to the department of transportation together with a notice stating the reason for and the duration of the suspension.

(3) (a) An ordinance enacted by a county under sub. (2) is applicable in that part of any city or village located in the county and in any town located in the county, unless the city, village or town has enacted an ordinance under sub. (2).

(b) An ordinance enacted by a county under sub. (2m) is applicable in that part of any city or village located in the county and in any town located in the county, unless the city, village or town has enacted an ordinance under sub. (2m).

History: 1987 a 285; 1991 a 39; 1993 a 363

118.165 Private schools. (1) An institution is a private school if its educational program meets all of the following criteria:

(a) The primary purpose of the program is to provide private or religious-based education.

(b) The program is privately controlled.

(c) The program provides at least 875 hours of instruction each school year.

(d) The program provides a sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, science and health. This subsection does not require the program to include in its curriculum any concept, topic or practice in conflict with the program's religious doctrines or to exclude from its curriculum any concept, topic or practice consistent with the program's religious doctrines.

(e) The program is not operated or instituted for the purpose of avoiding or circumventing the compulsory school attendance requirement under s. 118.15 (1) (a).

(f) The pupils in the institution's educational program, in the ordinary course of events, return annually to the homes of their parents or guardians for not less than 2 months of summer vacation, or the institution is licensed as a child welfare agency under s. 48.60 (1).

(2) An institution may request the state superintendent to approve the institution's educational program as a private school. The state superintendent shall base his or her approval solely on the criteria under sub. (1).

History: 1983 a 512; 1989 a 336

118.167 Private school determination by state superintendent.

If an association that regulates or accredits private educational institutions in this state submits an affidavit to the state superintendent attesting that the institution meets or exceeds all of the criteria under s. 118.165 and the state superintendent finds that the institution does meet or exceed all of the criteria under s. 118.165, the state superintendent shall determine that the institution is a private school. If at any time the state superintendent finds that an institution determined to be a private school under this section no longer meets the criteria under s. 118.165, he or she may withdraw the determination.

History: 1983 a 512

118.17 Indigent children. The principal or teacher in charge of any public school shall report to the authority administering general relief for the county wherein the school is situated the name and address of any child in the school whose parent, guardian or other person having control, charge or custody of the child is without sufficient means to furnish the child with food or clothing necessary to enable the child to attend school.

History: 1985 a 29

Cross-reference: Section 120.12(11) provides for free books and school supplies for indigent children.

118.18 Teacher reports. Every teacher shall record the names, ages and studies of all pupils under his or her charge and

their daily attendance and such other facts or matters relating to the school as the state superintendent or school board requires.

History: 1979 c. 301

118.19 Teacher certificates and licenses. (1) Any person seeking to teach in a public school, including a charter school, or in a school or institution operated by a county or the state shall first procure a license or permit from the department.

(2) Until the end of the 1971-1972 school year, no certificate or license to teach in any public school may be issued unless the applicant has completed, beyond the work of the high school, 2 years of school work which were devoted to pedagogical instruction and training. Any teacher who has taught in any public school in the 1937-1938 school year or prior thereto may continue to teach in the public schools without complying with this subsection.

(3) (a) No license to teach in any public school may be issued unless the applicant possesses a bachelor's degree including such professional training as the department by rule requires, except as permitted under par. (b) and ss. 115.28 (17) (a) and 118.192. Notwithstanding s. 36.11 (16), beginning August 31, 1990, no teacher preparatory program in this state may be approved by the state superintendent under s. 115.28 (7) (a), unless each student in the program is required to complete student teaching consisting of full days for a full semester following the daily schedule and semester calendar of the cooperating school. Beginning August 31, 1990, no license to teach in any public school may be granted to an applicant who completed a professional training program outside this state unless the applicant completed student teaching consisting of full days for a full semester following the daily schedule and semester calendar of the cooperating school or the equivalent, as determined by the state superintendent. The state superintendent may grant exceptions to the student teaching requirements under this paragraph when the midyear calendars of the institution offering the teacher preparatory program and the cooperating school differ from each other and would prevent students from attending classes at the institution in accordance with the institution's calendar. The state superintendent shall promulgate rules to implement this subsection.

(b) The state superintendent shall permanently certify any applicant to teach Wisconsin native American languages and culture who has successfully completed the university of Wisconsin-Milwaukee school of education approved Wisconsin native American languages and culture project certification program at any time between January 1, 1974, and December 31, 1977. School districts shall not assign individuals certified under this paragraph to teach courses other than Wisconsin native American languages and culture, unless they qualify under par. (a).

(4) (a) Notwithstanding subch. II of ch. 111, the state superintendent may not grant a license to any person who has been convicted of any Class A, B, C or D felony under ch. 940 or 948, except ss. 940.08 and 940.205, or of an equivalent crime in another state or country, for a violation that occurs on or after September 12, 1991, for 6 years following the date of the conviction, and may grant the license only if the person establishes by clear and convincing evidence that he or she is entitled to the license.

(b) Notwithstanding par. (a), the state superintendent shall grant a license to a person convicted of a crime described under par. (a), prior to the expiration of the 6-year period following the conviction, if the conviction is reversed, set aside or vacated.

(4m) Beginning July 1, 1995, the state superintendent may not issue or renew a license to teach the visually impaired unless the applicant demonstrates, based on criteria established by the state superintendent by rule, that he or she is proficient in reading and writing braille and in teaching braille. In promulgating rules under this subsection, the state superintendent shall take into consideration the standard used by the librarian of congress for certifying braille transcribers.

(5) A person is not required to be licensed as an alternative education program teacher under s. 115.28 (7) (e) 2. to teach in an alternative education program, as defined in s. 115.28 (7) (e) 1.

(6) In granting certificates or licenses for the teaching of courses in economics, social studies or agriculture, adequate instruction in cooperative marketing and consumers' cooperatives shall be required. In granting certificates or licenses for the teaching of courses in science or social studies, adequate instruction in the conservation of natural resources shall be required.

(7) No certificate or license to teach industrial arts subjects may be issued unless the applicant has had 3 years of practical experience beyond apprenticeship or 4 years of institutional training in such subjects. For purposes of salary schedules and promotion, any person teaching an industrial arts subject on January 1, 1936, who had 5 years of practical or teaching experience in such subject shall be deemed to have the equivalent of a bachelor's degree.

(8) Beginning July 1, 1992, the state superintendent may not grant to any person a license to teach unless the person has received instruction in the study of minority group relations, including instruction in the history, culture and tribal sovereignty of the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands located in this state.

(9) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), beginning on July 1, 1996, the state superintendent may not issue an initial teaching license, school district administrator's license or school administrator's license unless the applicant has demonstrated competency in all of the following:

1. Resolving conflicts between pupils and between pupils and school staff.

2. Assisting pupils in learning methods of resolving conflicts between pupils and between pupils and school staff, including training in the use of peer mediation to resolve conflicts between pupils.

3. Dealing with crises, including violent, disruptive, potentially violent or potentially disruptive situations, that may arise in school or at activities supervised by a school as a result of conflicts between pupils or between pupils and other persons.

(b) The state superintendent may waive the requirements under par. (a) if the applicant demonstrates competency in the subjects under par. (a) 1. to 3. within 12 months after the date on which the license is issued.

(10) (a) In this subsection, "educational agency" has the meaning given in s. 115.31 (1) (b).

(b) With the assistance of the department of justice, the state superintendent shall do all of the following:

1. Conduct a background investigation of each applicant for issuance or renewal of a license or permit.

2. Over a 5-year period, conduct a background investigation of each person who holds a license, issued by the state superintendent, that has no expiration date and who is employed by an educational agency.

(c) If the person under par. (b) is a nonresident, or if the state superintendent determines that the person's employment, licensing or state court records provide a reasonable basis for further investigation, the state superintendent shall require the person to be photographed and fingerprinted on 2 fingerprint cards, each bearing a complete set of the person's fingerprints. The department of justice may provide for the submission of the fingerprint cards to the federal bureau of investigation for the purposes of verifying the identity of the person fingerprinted and obtaining records of his or her criminal arrest and conviction.

(d) Upon request, an educational agency shall provide the state superintendent with all of the following information about each person employed by the educational agency who holds a license, issued by the state superintendent, that has no expiration date:

1. The person's name.
 2. The person's social security number or the license identification number given by the department when the person's original license was issued.
 3. Other identifying information, including the person's birthdate, sex, race and any identifying physical characteristics.
- (e) The state superintendent may issue or renew a license or permit conditioned upon the receipt of a satisfactory background investigation.

(f) The state superintendent shall keep confidential all information received under this subsection from the department of justice or the federal bureau of investigation. Such information is not subject to inspection or copying under s. 19.35.

History: 1971 c. 154; 1975 c. 39, 95; 1979 c. 346; 1981 c. 314 s. 146; 1985 a. 29, 207; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 42, 108, 164, 315; 1993 a. 16, 334, 339, 454, 491

118.192 Professional teaching permits; mathematics and science. (1) The state superintendent shall establish an alternative teacher training program for mathematics and science teachers. The program shall be conducted during the summer and shall consist of approximately 100 hours of formal instruction.

(2) An individual who holds a bachelor's degree in engineering, mathematics, biology, chemistry or physics, has at least 5 years of experience as an engineer, mathematician or science professional and passes the appropriate subject area portion of the national teacher's examination administered by the educational testing service, inc., in mathematics or science may apply to the state superintendent for enrollment in the alternative teacher training program. The state superintendent shall charge a fee sufficient to cover the costs of the program.

(3) The state superintendent shall grant a professional teaching permit to any person who satisfactorily completes the program under sub. (2). The permit authorizes the person to teach mathematics or science, as specified by the state superintendent, in grades kindergarten to 12 for 2 years, if the person is supervised by a person who holds a regular teaching license. The permit is renewable.

(4) A school board that employs a person who holds a professional teaching permit shall do all of the following:

(a) Allow a licensed teacher to supervise no more than one person holding a permit.

(b) Ensure that no licensed teacher is removed from his or her position as a result of the employment of persons holding permits.

(5) The state superintendent shall evaluate the program under this section. By January 15, 1995, the state superintendent shall submit a report to the governor and to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2). The report shall include the state superintendent's evaluation of and recommendations for the program.

History: 1991 a. 108

118.195 Discrimination against handicapped teachers prohibited. (1) No person otherwise qualified may be denied a certificate or license from the state superintendent under s. 118.19 (1) because the person is totally or partially blind, deaf or physically handicapped nor may any school district refuse to employ a teacher on such grounds, if such handicapped teacher is able to carry out the duties of the position which the person seeks.

(2) Any school board may request the state superintendent for advice and assistance in interpreting this section.

History: 1993 a. 492

118.20 Teacher discrimination prohibited. (1) No discrimination because of sex, except where sex is a bona fide occupational qualification as defined in s. 111.36 (2), race, nationality or political or religious affiliation may be practiced in the employment of teachers or administrative personnel in public schools or in their assignment or reassignment. No questions of any nature or form relative to sex, except where sex is a bona fide occupational qualification as defined in s. 111.36 (2), race, nation-

ality or political or religious affiliation may be asked applicants for teaching or administrative positions in the public schools either by public school officials or employes or by teachers agencies or placement bureaus.

(2) The state superintendent or a person designated by the superintendent may receive and investigate complaints charging discrimination in employment, assignment or reassignment of teachers or administrative personnel in the public schools and the superintendent or designee may hold hearings, subpoena witnesses and take testimony to effectuate the purposes of this section.

(3) If the state superintendent finds probable cause to believe that any discrimination prohibited by this section has been or is being practiced, the state superintendent shall immediately endeavor to eliminate the practice by conference, conciliation or persuasion. In case of failure to eliminate the discrimination, the state superintendent shall issue and serve a written notice of hearing, specifying the nature of the discrimination which appears to have been committed, and requiring the public school official, employe, teacher agency or placement bureau named, hereinafter called the "respondent" to answer the complaint at a hearing before the state superintendent. The notice shall specify a time of hearing not less than 10 days after service of the complaint, and a place of hearing within the county in which the discrimination is alleged to have occurred.

(4) After hearing, if the state superintendent finds that the respondent has engaged in discrimination prohibited by this section the state superintendent shall make written findings and recommend such action by the respondent as shall satisfy the purposes of this section and shall serve a certified copy of the findings and recommendations on the respondent together with an order requiring the respondent to comply with the recommendations. Any person aggrieved by noncompliance with the order shall be entitled to have the order enforced specifically by suit in equity. If the state superintendent finds that the respondent has not engaged in the alleged discrimination, the state superintendent shall serve a certified copy of the state superintendent's findings on the complainant together with an order dismissing the complaint.

(5) If any public school official, employe, teachers agency or placement bureau violates sub. (1) or fails or refuses to obey any lawful order made by the superintendent pursuant to this section, such person shall forfeit and pay into the state treasury not less than \$25 nor more than \$50, or be imprisoned not less than 5 nor more than 30 days. Such violation or failure or refusal to obey an order shall be grounds for the removal of any school district administrator, member of a school board or other public school official. Findings and orders of the superintendent under this section shall be subject to judicial review under ch. 227.

(6) Upon request of the superintendent, the attorney general or district attorney of the county in which any investigation, hearing or trial under this section is pending, shall aid and prosecute under supervision of the superintendent, all necessary actions or proceedings for the enforcement of this section and for the punishment of all violations thereof.

(7) In administering this section the superintendent shall have authority to make, amend and rescind rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

History: 1975 c. 94; 1977 c. 286 s. 4; 1981 c. 334 s. 25 (2); 1993 a. 492

See note to 111.31, citing Kurtz v. City of Waukesha, 91 W (2d) 103, 280 NW (2d) 757 (1979).

118.21 Teacher contracts. (1) The school board shall contract in writing with qualified teachers. The contract, with a copy of the teacher's authority to teach attached, shall be filed with the school district clerk. Such contract, in addition to fixing the teacher's wage, may provide for compensating the teacher for necessary travel expense. A teaching contract with any person not legally authorized to teach the named subject or at the named

school shall be void. All teaching contracts shall terminate if, and when, the authority to teach terminates.

(2) Any person who contracts to teach in any public school shall file in the office of the school district administrator, within 10 days after entering into such contract, a statement showing the date of expiration and the grade and character of certificate or license held. In any school district not having a school district administrator, the statement shall be filed with the school district clerk. Teachers employed by a cooperative educational service agency shall file the statement in the office of the agency coordinator. No order or warrant may be issued by the school district clerk in payment of the salary of any teacher, unless the teacher has complied with this subsection.

(3) School boards may provide in the contracts of teachers of agricultural and homemaking courses for payment out of school district funds for services performed outside the school district and connected with the performance of their regular teaching duties, and for travel expenses connected with such services.

(4) School boards may give to any teacher, without deduction from the teacher's wages, the whole or part of any time spent by the teacher in attending a teachers' educational convention, upon the teacher's filing with the school district clerk a certificate of attendance at the convention, signed by the person or secretary of the association conducting the convention.

History: 1979 c. 301; 1993 a. 492

Cross-reference: See s. 118.22 (2) for requirement that majority vote of full board membership is required for employment of a teacher.

See note to 111.70, citing *Bd of Education v. WERC*, 52 W (2d) 625, 191 NW (2d) 242.

Teacher's lack of legal authority to teach assigned courses, although known to school board at time of hiring and subsequent assignments, was sufficient ground for dismissal despite fact that school superintendent repeatedly assured teacher that the certification problem was an administrative omission which would be cured by the board. *Grams v. Melrose-Mindoro Jt. School Dist. No. 1*, 78 W (2d) 569, 254 NW (2d) 730.

Individual teacher's contract under 118.21 and 118.22 is subservient to collective bargaining contract under 111.70. 60 Atty. Gen. 342.

School boards have authority to contract with teachers to provide for an increment or sum in addition to the regular salary in return for the teacher choosing an early retirement option. 63 Atty. Gen. 16.

Even though a teacher was properly dismissed for an admitted violation of school rules, she is entitled to a due process hearing on other charges affecting her reputation as a teacher. *Carpenter v. Greenfield School Dist. No. 6*, 358 F. Supp. 220.

118.215 Energy emergency and school operations.

If an energy emergency results in the reduction of fuel supplies that may require curtailment of the operations of public elementary and high schools, the determination as to how to meet such crises shall be made locally by each school system or district. Changes in terms and conditions of employment proposed to meet such crises, other than salaries and wages, shall be negotiated between the school board and the bargaining representative of the employees, if any. Employees of any school system or district in which school operations are curtailed or in which schools are closed due to an energy emergency shall receive full payment of salary or wages under their employment contracts or arrangements as if there had been no such curtailment or closing.

History: 1973 c. 157; 1977 c. 29, 203, 418.

118.22 Renewal of teacher contracts. (1) In this section:

(a) "Board" means a school board, technical college district board, board of control of a cooperative educational service agency or county handicapped children's education board, but does not include any board of school directors in a city of the 1st class.

(b) "Teacher" means any person who holds a teacher's certificate or license issued by the state superintendent or a classification status under the technical college system board and whose legal employment requires such certificate, license or classification status, but does not include part-time teachers or teachers employed by any board of school directors in a city of the 1st class.

(2) On or before March 15 of the school year during which a teacher holds a contract, the board by which the teacher is

employed or an employe at the direction of the board shall give the teacher written notice of renewal or refusal to renew the teacher's contract for the ensuing school year. If no such notice is given on or before March 15, the contract then in force shall continue for the ensuing school year. A teacher who receives a notice of renewal of contract for the ensuing school year, or a teacher who does not receive a notice of renewal or refusal to renew the teacher's contract for the ensuing school year on or before March 15, shall accept or reject in writing such contract not later than the following April 15. No teacher may be employed or dismissed except by a majority vote of the full membership of the board. Nothing in this section prevents the modification or termination of a contract by mutual agreement of the teacher and the board. No such board may enter into a contract of employment with a teacher for any period of time as to which the teacher is then under a contract of employment with another board.

(3) At least 15 days prior to giving written notice of refusal to renew a teacher's contract for the ensuing school year, the employing board shall inform the teacher by preliminary notice in writing that the board is considering nonrenewal of the teacher's contract and that, if the teacher files a request therefor with the board within 5 days after receiving the preliminary notice, the teacher has the right to a private conference with the board prior to being given written notice of refusal to renew the teacher's contract.

(4) A collective bargaining agreement may modify, waive or replace any of the provisions of this section as they apply to teachers in the collective bargaining unit, but neither the employer nor the bargaining agent for the employes is required to bargain such modification, waiver or replacement.

History: 1971 c. 154; 1981 c. 223; 1983 a. 189; 1993 a. 399, 492.

See note to 118.26, citing *Veith v. Joint School Dist. No. 6*, 54 W (2d) 501, 196 NW (2d) 714.

Notice of intent not to renew that part of a contract which provided extra pay for extra work as a coach is not necessary. *Richards v. Board of Education*, 58 W (2d) 444, 206 NW (2d) 597.

Dual purpose of hearing under (3) is to persuade board to renew contract or, failing that, to voluntarily resign. *Rawhouser v. CESA No. 4*, 75 W (2d) 52, 248 NW (2d) 442.

In absence of evidence of bias or high probability of bias of school board, trial court had no jurisdiction to hold de novo hearing as to competence of teacher facing nonrenewal under (3). *Naus v. Jt. Sch. Dist. No. 1 Sheboygan Falls*, 76 W (2d) 104, 250 NW (2d) 725.

See note to 788.10, citing *Jt. School Dist. No. 10 v. Jefferson Ed. Assn.* 78 W (2d) 94, 253 NW (2d) 536.

Under (2), board has exclusive right to hire and fire a teacher. Due process does not require that board be an impartial decisionmaker. *Hortonville Ed. Assn. v. Joint Sch. Dist. No. 1*, 87 W (2d) 347, 274 NW (2d) 697 (1979).

Employment contract which recites that teacher's employment will not be renewed cannot be construed as a waiver of rights granted by this section. Presumption of board's good faith discussed. *Faust v. Ladysmith-Hawkins School Systems*, 88 W (2d) 525, 277 NW (2d) 303, 281 NW (2d) 611 (1979).

Layoff of teacher is not equivalent of "refusal to renew" when collective bargaining agreement under 111.70 contains layoff provisions incorporated in teacher's contract. *Mack v. Joint School District No. 3*, 92 W (2d) 476, 285 NW (2d) 604 (1979).

See note to 111.70, citing *Arbitration Between West Salem & Fortney*, 108 W (2d) 167, 321 NW (2d) 255 (1982).

See note to 108.04, citing *Nelson v. LIRC*, 123 W (2d) 221, 365 NW (2d) 629 (Ct. App. 1985).

"Private conference" under 118.22 (3), on nonrenewal of teacher's contract is a "meeting" within 19.82 (2). 66 Atty. Gen. 211.

Civil rights; academic freedom; refusal to hire a nontenure teacher for a constitutionally impermissible reason. 1970 WLR 162.

Fairness of a hearing before a school board on nonrenewal of a teacher's contract. 1971 WLR 354.

118.23 Populous counties; teacher tenure. (1) In this section "teacher" means any person who holds a teacher's certificate or license and whose legal employment requires such certificate or license, who is employed full time and meets the minimum requirements prescribed by the governing body employing such person and who is employed by a school board, board of trustees or governing body of any school operating under chs. 115 to 121 and lying entirely and exclusively in a county having a population of 500,000 or more. "Teacher" does not include any superintendent or assistant superintendent; any teacher having civil service status under ss. 63.01 to 63.17; any teacher in a public school in a 1st class city; or any person who is employed by a school

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board during time of war as a substitute for a teacher on leave while on full-time duty in the U.S. armed forces or any reserve or auxiliary thereof and who is notified in writing at the time of employment that the position is of a temporary nature.

(2) All teachers shall be employed on probation, but after continuous and successful probation for 3 years and the gaining of the 4th contract in the same school system or school, their employment shall be permanent except as provided in sub. (3). All principals shall be employed on probation, but after continuous and successful probation for 3 years and the gaining of a 4th contract in the same school system or school, their employment shall be permanent except as provided in sub. (3). Upon accepting employment in another school system or school to which this section applies, a teacher who has acquired permanent employment under this section shall be on probation therein for 2 years. After continuous and successful probation for 2 years and gaining the 3rd contract in such school system or school, employment therein shall be permanent except as provided in sub. (3). A person who acquired tenure as a teacher under this section shall not be deprived of tenure as a teacher by reason of the person's employment as a principal.

(3) No teacher who has become permanently employed under this section may be refused employment, dismissed, removed or discharged, except for inefficiency or immorality, for wilful and persistent violation of reasonable regulations of the governing body of the school system or school or for other good cause, upon written charges based on fact preferred by the governing body or other proper officer of the school system or school in which the teacher is employed. Upon the teacher's written request and no less than 10 nor more than 30 days after receipt of notice by the teacher, the charges shall be heard and determined by the governing body of the school system or school by which the teacher is employed. Hearings shall be public when requested by the teacher and all proceedings thereat shall be taken by a court reporter. All parties shall be entitled to be represented by counsel at the hearing. The action of the governing body is final.

(4) If necessary to decrease the number of permanently employed teachers by reason of a substantial decrease of pupil population within the school district, the governing body of the school system or school may lay off the necessary number of teachers, but only in the inverse order of the appointment of such teachers. No permanently employed teacher may be prevented from securing other employment during the period that the teacher is laid off under this subsection. Such teachers shall be reinstated in inverse order of their being laid off, if qualified to fill the vacancies. Such reinstatement shall not result in a loss of credit for previous years of service. No new permanent or substitute appointments may be made while there are laid off permanent teachers available who are qualified to fill the vacancies.

(5) A collective bargaining agreement may modify, waive or replace any of the provisions of this section as they apply to teachers in the collective bargaining unit, but neither the employer nor the bargaining agent for the employees is required to bargain such modification, waiver or replacement.

History: 1971 c. 154; 1979 c. 89; 1981 c. 223; 1983 a. 391; 1993 a. 492.

Layoff and reinstatement provisions in this section are to be applied separately to classroom teachers and principals. 70 Atty. Gen. 6.

118.235 Lunch period for teachers. Every school board shall grant daily a duty-free lunch period to each of its teachers, except that a school district may contract with any teacher employed by it for services during such period. Such period shall be not less than 30 minutes and shall be provided at or near the time of the regular school lunch period.

118.24 School district administrator. (1) A school board may employ a school district administrator, a business manager and school principals and assistants to such persons. The term of each employment contract shall expire on June 30 of an odd-numbered year and may not exceed 2 years.

(2) (a) Under the direction of the employing school board, the school district administrator shall have general supervision and management of the professional work of the schools and the promotion of pupils.

(b) The school district administrator shall not be a member of the school board and shall not engage in any pursuit which interferes with the proper discharge of the duties.

(c) The school district administrator shall make written recommendations to the school board on teachers, courses of study, discipline and such other matters as the administrator thinks advisable and shall perform such other duties as the school board requires.

(d) The school district administrator may act as principal or teacher in any school under the administrator's supervision.

(e) The school district administrator shall attend annually one convention called by the state superintendent for the purpose of consultation upon matters pertaining to the supervision and management of the schools. The administrator shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred for travel, board and lodging because of attendance at such convention. Bills for such expenses shall be audited and allowed by the school board upon presentation of an itemized statement of expense accompanied by a certificate of attendance signed by the state superintendent.

(f) The school district administrator shall ensure that the administrative and pupil service staff in the district cooperate with the county department under s. 51.42 in the dissemination of information regarding the availability of alcohol and drug abuse services and to jointly establish procedures for the referral to appropriate agencies of students experiencing problems resulting from the use of alcohol or other drugs.

(3) The principal shall perform such administrative and instructional leadership responsibilities as are assigned by the district administrator under the rules and regulations of the school board.

(4) A business administrator shall perform such fiscal and business management and other administrative duties as are assigned by the district administrator subject to the rules, regulations and approval of the school board.

(5) School principals and business administrators, and assistants thereto, may, upon authorization from the school board or district administrator, attend conventions for the purpose of promoting and stimulating their professional growth and for improving the schools of the district and the state. For such approved attendance they may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred for travel, board, lodging and attendance at such conventions upon proper filing of proof of attendance and of such necessary expenditures.

(6) The employment contract of any person described under sub. (1) shall be in writing and filed with the school district clerk. At least 4 months prior to the expiration of the employment contract, the employing school board shall give notice in writing of either renewal of the contract or of refusal to renew such person's contract. If no such notice is given, the contract then in force shall continue in force for a term that expires on June 30 of an odd-numbered year and that does not exceed 2 years. Any such person who receives notice of renewal or who does not receive notice of renewal or refusal to renew the person's contract at least 4 months before the contract expiration shall accept or reject the contract in writing on or before a date 3 months prior to the contract expiration. No such person may be employed or dismissed except by a majority vote of the full membership of the school board. Nothing in this section prevents the modification or termination of an employment contract by mutual agreement of the parties. No school board may enter into a contract of employment with any such person for a period of time as to which such person is then under a contract of employment with another school board.

(7) Prior to giving notice of refusal to renew the contract of any person described under sub. (1), the employing board shall

give such person preliminary notice in writing by registered mail at least 5 months prior to the expiration of such contract that the board is considering nonrenewal of the contract, and that if such person files a written request with the board within 7 days after receiving such notice, the person has the right to a hearing before the board prior to being given written notice of refusal to renew the contract. The written request for a hearing shall include a statement requesting either a private hearing or a public hearing before the board. Section 118.22 does not apply to such a proceeding. If a hearing concerning nonrenewal of the contract is requested, the reasons upon which the board is considering nonrenewal may also be requested and the board shall furnish such reasons before the hearing in writing.

(8) Personnel administrators and supervisors, curriculum administrators and assistants to such administrative personnel, when employed by the school board of any district to perform administrative duties only, may be employed for a term that expires on June 30 of an odd-numbered year and that does not exceed 2 years. The term shall coincide with the state fiscal biennium. Subsections (5) to (7) are applicable to such persons when they are employed to perform administrative duties only.

(9) Nothing in this section shall be construed:

(a) To prohibit the school board of any district from hiring part-time administrative personnel; or

(b) To prohibit the employment relations commission from making a determination that persons hired as part-time administrative personnel shall be included in the collective bargaining unit of persons hired as teachers and shall be covered by the terms of a collective bargaining agreement which exists pursuant to s. 111.70.

History: 1975 c. 379, 421; 1979 c. 331; 1983 a. 317; 1985 a. 176; 1993 a. 16

118.245 Limitation on salary and fringe benefit costs for professional employes. (1) In this section, "professional employe" means a school district employe who holds a license issued by the state superintendent under s. 115.28 (7), whose employment requires that license, and who is not included in a collective bargaining unit for which a representative is recognized or certified under subch. IV of ch. 111.

(2) Each school district shall maintain for each of its professional employes during the period beginning on August 12, 1993, and ending on June 30, 1996, at least the same percentage contribution provided by the school district to the employes' existing fringe benefit costs, and shall maintain all existing fringe benefits provided to the employes during each 12-month period ending on June 30, as such contributions and benefits existed on March 31 preceding that 12-month period.

(3) No school district may grant to its professional employes an average increase for all such employes in compensation during the period beginning on August 12, 1993, and ending on June 30, 1996, having an average cost per employe exceeding 2.1% of the average total cost per employe of compensation and fringe benefits provided by the school district to its professional employes for any 12-month period ending on June 30, including any increase due to a promotion or the attainment of increased professional qualifications, unless the increased cost required to maintain the percentage contribution by the school district to the employes' existing fringe benefit costs and to maintain all fringe benefits provided to the employes under sub. (2) exceeds 1.7% of the average total cost per employe of compensation and fringe benefits provided by the school district to its professional employes for any such 12-month period, in which case the school district shall not grant to its professional employes an average increase for all such employes in compensation during that period having a total cost per employe exceeding an average of that percentage, if any, for each 12-month period ending on June 30, of the prorated portion of 2.1% of the average total cost per employe of compensation and fringe benefits provided by the school district to its professional employes that remains, if any, after the average increased cost of such maintenance exceeding 1.7% of the average total cost per

employe of compensation and fringe benefits provided by the school district to its professional employes for each 12-month period is subtracted from the average increased cost of such a compensation increase.

(4) For purposes of determination of the increased cost of any fringe benefits or compensation provided to a professional employe, any cost increase that is incurred on any day other than the beginning of a 12-month period under sub. (2) or (3) shall be calculated as if the cost increase were incurred as of the beginning of the 12-month period.

History: 1993 a. 16

118.25 Health examinations. (1) In this section "school employe" means a person employed by a school board who comes in contact with children or who handles or prepares food for children while they are under the supervision of school authorities.

(2) (a) As a condition of employment, the school board, except in 1st class cities, shall require a physical examination, including a chest X-ray or tuberculin test, of every school employe of the school district. Freedom from tuberculosis in a communicable form is a condition of employment. In the case of a new school employe, the school board may permit the school employe to submit proof of an examination, chest X-ray or tuberculin test complying with this section which was taken within the past 90 days in lieu of requiring such examination, X-ray or test. If the reaction to the tuberculin test is positive, a chest X-ray shall be required. Additional physical examinations shall be required thereafter at intervals determined by the school board. The school employe shall be examined by a physician in the employ of or under contract with the school district, but if a physician is not employed or under contract, the examination shall be made by a physician selected by the school employe.

(b) Such physical examinations, chest X-rays or tuberculin tests shall not be required of any school employe who files with the school board an affidavit setting forth that the employe depends exclusively upon prayer or spiritual means for healing in accordance with the teachings of a bona fide religious sect, denomination or organization and that the employe is to the best of the employe's knowledge and belief in good health and that the employe claims exemption from health examination on these grounds. Notwithstanding the filing of such affidavit, if there is reasonable cause to believe that such employe is suffering from an illness detrimental to the health of the pupils, the school board may require a health examination of such school employe sufficient to indicate whether or not such school employe is suffering from such an illness. No school employe may be discriminated against by reason of the employe's filing such affidavit.

(c) The physician making a physical examination shall prepare a report of the examination upon a standard form prepared by the department of health and social services and the department. Such report shall be retained in the physician's files and the physician shall make confidential recommendations therefrom to the school board and to the school employe on a form prepared by the department of health and social services and the department. The recommendation form shall contain space for a certificate that the person is free from tuberculosis in a communicable form. The cost of such examinations, including X-rays and tuberculin tests, shall be paid out of school district funds.

(3) In counties having a population of less than 500,000, the school board may require periodic health examinations of pupils by physicians, under the supervision of local health departments and the department of health and social services, and may pay the cost of the examinations out of school district funds.

(4) If a health or physical examination made under this section includes the testing of vision, such test may be made by an optometrist. Forms used for reporting such vision tests shall so indicate.

(5) As a condition of employment, special teachers, school psychologists, school social workers, cooperative educational service agency personnel and other personnel working in public schools shall have physical examinations under sub. (2). The

employing school district or agency shall pay the cost of such examinations.

(6) As a condition of employment, employes of the state superintendent whose work brings them into contact with school children or with school employes shall have physical examinations under sub. (2).

History: 1979 c. 221, 301; 1993 a. 27, 492.

118.255 Health treatment services for children with special physical or mental health treatment needs.

(1) (a) Under this section "physical or mental health treatment services" means treatment for physical or orthopedic disability, developmental disability, emotional disturbance, hearing impairment, visual disability, speech or language disability; and includes itinerant services such as evaluative and diagnostic services.

(b) Words and phrases used in this section which are identical to words and phrases defined in s. 115.76 shall be given the meaning contained in s. 115.76.

(2) (a) If a school board, cooperative educational service agency or county handicapped children's education board provides physical or mental health treatment services to its pupils, it may also provide such services within the private school facilities to those private school pupils who are referred to the public school board, cooperative educational service agency or county handicapped children's education board by the administrator of a private school for evaluation for possible servicing. There shall be no charge for health treatment services provided to any pupils unless public school students or their parents are charged for similar services. For purposes of state aid, as it is provided under s. 115.88 to the public school district, for the health treatment service program, private school pupils receiving such health treatment services shall be counted among the pupils of the public school district receiving such services, although each child may receive health treatment services within the child's own school facilities, whether public or private.

(b) A school board, cooperative educational service agency, or county handicapped children's education board providing services under this section may enter into agreements with the administrator of a private school on the scheduling, space and other necessary arrangements for performance of such health treatment services. A school board, cooperative educational service agency or county handicapped children's education board shall not pay any private school for any services or facilities provided under this section. Control of the health treatment services program shall rest with the public school board, cooperative educational service agency or county handicapped children's education board.

(c) A school board, cooperative educational service agency or county handicapped children's education board may provide health treatment services only within private school facilities located within the boundaries of the school district, cooperative educational service agency or county.

(3) The school board, cooperative educational service agency or county handicapped children's education board maintaining health treatment services shall report annually to the department of public instruction, and at such other times as the department directs, such information as the department requires.

(4) If the state superintendent is satisfied that the health treatment services program has been maintained during the preceding school year in accordance with law he or she shall certify to the department of administration in favor of each school board, cooperative educational service agency and county handicapped children's education board maintaining such health treatment services, an amount equal to 63% of the amount expended for items listed in s. 115.88 (1) by the school board, cooperative educational service agency and county handicapped children's education board during the preceding year for these health treatment services. The department of administration, upon such certification

shall distribute the amounts to the appropriate school board, cooperative educational service agency and county handicapped children's education board.

History: 1973 c. 307; 1977 c. 83; 1981 c. 317; 1983 a. 27; 1983 a. 189 s. 329 (17m); 1983 a. 512; 1987 a. 27, 338; 1993 a. 492.

This section authorizes local school districts to provide health and welfare services, but not educational services, to students attending private schools; it may be unconstitutional to the extent that any of the services authorized thereby are rendered in church-affiliated private schools. 64 Atty. Gen. 75.

118.257 Liability for referral to police. (1) In this section:

(a) "Controlled substance" has the meaning specified in s. 161.01 (4).

(b) "Distribute" has the meaning specified in s. 161.01 (9).

(c) "Pupil services professional" means a school counselor, school social worker, school psychologist or school nurse.

(d) "School" means a public, parochial or private school which provides an educational program for one or more grades between grades 1 and 12 and which is commonly known as an elementary school, middle school, junior high school, senior high school or high school.

(2) A school administrator, principal, pupil services professional or teacher employed by a school board is not liable for referring a pupil enrolled in the school district to law enforcement authorities, or for removing a pupil from the school premises or from participation in a school-sponsored activity, for suspicion of possession, distribution or consumption of an alcohol beverage or a controlled substance.

History: 1979 c. 331; 1981 c. 79 s. 17; 1983 a. 373; 1987 a. 170.

118.258 Electronic communication devices prohibited. (1) Each school board shall adopt rules prohibiting a pupil

from using or possessing an electronic paging or 2-way communication device while on premises owned or rented by or under the control of a public school. The rules may allow for the use or possession of such a device by a pupil if the school board or its designee determines that the device is used or possessed for a medical, school, educational, vocational or other legitimate use.

(2) (a) Annually, the school board shall provide each pupil enrolled in the school district with a copy of the rules under sub. (1).

(b) The school board shall submit a copy of the rules under sub. (1) to the state superintendent when the rule is first adopted and whenever the rule is amended.

History: 1989 a. 121.

118.26 Claim against school district. No action may be brought or maintained against a school district upon a claim or cause of action unless the claimant complies with s. 893.80.

History: 1977 c. 285; 1979 c. 323 s. 33

VTAE districts are school districts under this section. *Binder v. Madison*, 72 W (2d) 613, 241 NW (2d) 613.

118.27 Gifts and grants. The school board of a district may receive, accept and use gifts or grants of furniture, books, equipment, supplies, moneys, securities or other property, real or personal, used or useful for school research and educational purposes. All moneys received as gifts or grants shall be placed in the school district treasury but shall be considered segregated trust funds. Whenever a school board receives gifts or grants under this section, it shall make such use thereof, or invest the same in the case of moneys, as the donor or grantor specifies. In the absence of any specific direction as to the use of such gifts or grants by a donor or grantor, the school board may determine the use of or invest the same in accordance with the law applicable to trust investments. In the use, control or investment of such gifts or grants, the school board may exercise the rights and powers generally conferred upon trustees.

If moneys are accepted under this section, district must act as trustee of the moneys, except under circumstances in 66.30 (2m). 74 Atty. Gen. 45.

118.28 Community action agencies. The school board of a school district may appropriate funds for promoting and assisting any community action agency under s. 46.30.

History: 1977 c. 29; 1983 a. 27 s. 2200 (20).

118.29 Administration of drugs to pupils and emergency care. (1) DEFINITIONS In this section:

(a) "Administer" means the direct application of a drug or prescription drug, whether by injection, ingestion or other means, to the human body.

(b) "Drug" has the meaning specified in s. 450.01 (10).

(c) "Health care professional" means a person licensed as an emergency medical technician under s. 146.50 or any person licensed, certified, permitted or registered under chs. 441 or 446 to 449.

(d) "High degree of negligence" means criminal negligence, as defined in s. 939.25 (1).

(e) "Practitioner" means any physician, dentist or podiatrist licensed in any state.

(f) "Prescription drug" has the meaning specified in s. 450.01 (20).

(2) AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER DRUGS; CIVIL LIABILITY EXEMPTION. (a) Notwithstanding chs. 441, 447, 448 and 450, a school bus operator validly authorized under ss. 343.12 and 343.17 (3) (c) to operate the school bus he or she is operating, any school employe or volunteer, county handicapped children's education board employe or volunteer or cooperative educational service agency employe or volunteer authorized in writing by the administrator of the school district, the board or the agency, respectively, or by a school principal, and any private school employe or volunteer authorized in writing by a private school administrator or private school principal:

1. May administer any drug which may lawfully be sold over the counter without a prescription to a pupil in compliance with the written instructions of the pupil's parent or guardian if the pupil's parent or guardian consents in writing.

2. May administer a prescription drug to a pupil in compliance with the written instructions of a practitioner if the pupil's parent or guardian consents in writing.

3. Is immune from civil liability for his or her acts or omissions in administering a drug or prescription drug to a pupil under subd. 1. or 2. unless the act or omission constitutes a high degree of negligence. This subdivision does not apply to health care professionals.

(b) Any school district administrator, county handicapped children's education board administrator, cooperative educational service agency administrator, public or private school principal or private school administrator who authorizes an employe or volunteer to administer a drug or prescription drug to a pupil under par. (a) is immune from civil liability for the act of authorization unless it constitutes a high degree of negligence.

(3) EMERGENCY CARE; CIVIL LIABILITY EXEMPTION. Any school bus operator validly authorized under ss. 343.12 and 343.17 (3) (c) to operate the school bus he or she is operating and any public or private school employe or volunteer, county handicapped children's education board employe or volunteer or cooperative educational service agency employe or volunteer, other than a health care professional, who in good faith renders emergency care to a pupil of a public or private school is immune from civil liability for his or her acts or omissions in rendering such emergency care. The immunity from civil liability provided under this subsection is in addition to and not in lieu of that provided under s. 895.48 (1).

(4) WRITTEN POLICIES. Any school board, county handicapped children's education board, cooperative educational service agency or governing body of a private school whose employes or volunteers may be authorized to administer drugs or prescription drugs to pupils under this section shall adopt a written policy governing the administration of drugs and prescription drugs to pupils. In developing the policy, the school board, board, agency

or governing body shall seek the assistance of one or more appropriate health care professionals who are employes of the school board, board, agency or governing body or are providing services or consultation under s. 121.02 (1) (g). The policy shall include procedures for obtaining and filing in the school or other appropriate facility the written instructions and consent required under sub. (2) (a), for the periodic review of such written instructions, for the storing of drugs and prescription drugs, for record keeping and for the appropriate instruction of persons who may be authorized to administer drugs or prescription drugs to pupils under this section.

(5) EXEMPTION. No employe except a health care professional may be required to administer a drug or prescription drug to a pupil under this section by any means other than ingestion.

History: 1983 a. 334; 1985 a. 146 s. 8; 1985 a. 218; 1987 a. 14, 399; 1989 a. 56, 102, 105; 1991 a. 103.

118.295 Suicide intervention; civil liability exemption. Any school board, private school, county handicapped children's education board or cooperative educational service agency, and any officer, employe or volunteer thereof, who in good faith attempts to prevent suicide by a pupil is immune from civil liability for his or her acts or omissions in respect to the suicide or attempted suicide. The civil liability immunity provided in this section is in addition to and not in lieu of that provided under s. 895.48 (1).

History: 1985 a. 29; 1987 a. 14.

118.30 Pupil assessment. (1) (a) The state superintendent shall adopt or approve examinations that are designed to measure pupil attainment of knowledge in the 8th and 10th grades and reimburse school districts for the costs of the examinations. Except as otherwise provided in this section, beginning in the 1993-94 school year, the school board shall administer the examinations annually to all pupils enrolled in the school district, including pupils enrolled in charter schools located in the school district, in the 8th and 10th grades.

(b) Examinations under this section may not be administered after June 30, 1998.

(2) (a) To the extent possible, all examinations under this section shall be free of bias.

(b) 1. The school board may determine not to administer an examination under this section to a pupil enrolled in a special education program under subch. V of ch. 115. The school board may modify the format and administration of an examination for a pupil enrolled in such a program.

2. According to criteria established by the state superintendent by rule, the school board may determine not to administer an examination under this section to a limited-English speaking pupil, as defined under s. 115.955 (7), may permit the pupil to be examined in his or her native language or may modify the format and administration of an examination for such pupils.

3. Annually, the school board shall notify the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in the 8th and 10th grades in the school district, including pupils enrolled in charter schools located in the school district, that he or she may request the school board to excuse the pupil from taking an examination administered under this section. Upon the request of a pupil's parent or guardian, the school board shall excuse the pupil from taking an examination administered under this section.

4. The state superintendent may provide the notice to be used by school boards under subd. 3.

(c) The results of examinations administered under this section to pupils enrolled in public schools, including charter schools, may not be used to evaluate teacher performance, to discharge, suspend or formally discipline a teacher or as the reason for the nonrenewal of a teacher's contract.

(d) The results of examinations under this section may not be used in determining general or categorical aids to school districts.

118.30 GENERAL SCHOOL OPERATIONS

(3) The state superintendent shall make available upon request, within 90 days after the date of administration, any examination required to be administered under this section. This subsection does not apply while the examination is being developed or validated.

History: 1991 a 269; 1993 a 16, 367.

118.31 Corporal punishment. (1) In this section, "corporal punishment" means the intentional infliction of physical pain which is used as a means of discipline. "Corporal punishment" includes, but is not limited to, paddling, slapping or prolonged maintenance of physically painful positions, when used as a means of discipline. "Corporal punishment" does not include actions consistent with an individualized education program developed under s. 115.80 (4) (a) or reasonable physical activities associated with athletic training.

(2) Except as provided in sub. (3), no official, employe or agent of a school board may subject a pupil enrolled in the school district to corporal punishment.

(3) Subsection (2) does not prohibit an official, employe or agent of a school board from:

(a) Using reasonable and necessary force to quell a disturbance or prevent an act that threatens physical injury to any person.

(b) Using reasonable and necessary force to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object within a pupil's control.

(c) Using reasonable and necessary force for the purpose of self-defense or the defense of others under s. 939.48.

(d) Using reasonable and necessary force for the protection of property under s. 939.49.

(e) Using reasonable and necessary force to remove a disruptive pupil from a school premises or motor vehicle, as defined in s. 125.09 (2) (a) 1. and 4., or from school-sponsored activities.

(f) Using reasonable and necessary force to prevent a pupil from inflicting harm on himself or herself.

(g) Using reasonable and necessary force to protect the safety of others.

(h) Using incidental, minor or reasonable physical contact designed to maintain order and control.

(4) Each school board shall adopt a policy that allows any official, employe or agent of the school board to use reasonable and necessary force for the purposes of sub. (3) (a) to (h). In determining whether or not a person was acting within the exceptions in sub. (3), deference shall be given to reasonable, good faith judgments made by an official, employe or agent of a school board.

(5) Except as provided in s. 939.61 (1), this section does not create a separate basis for civil liability of a school board or their officials, employes or agents for damages arising out of claims involving allegations of improper or unnecessary use of force by school employes against students.

(6) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, permit or otherwise affect any action taken by an official, employe or agent of a school board with regard to a person who is not a pupil enrolled in the school district.

History: 1987 a 303; 1989 a 26; 1991 a 164; 1993 a 334.

NOTE: This section was created by 1987 Wis. Act 303. Section 1 of that act is entitled "Legislative findings and purpose".

118.32 Strip search by school employe. Any official, employe or agent of any school or school district is prohibited under s. 948.50 from conducting a strip search of any pupil.

History: 1983 a 489; 1987 a 332 s. 64.

118.33 High school graduation standards. (1) (a) Except as provided in par. (d), beginning on September 1, 1988, a school board may not grant a high school diploma to any pupil unless the pupil has earned:

1. In the high school grades, at least 4 credits of English including writing composition, 3 credits of social studies including state and local government, 2 credits of mathematics, 2 credits of science and 1.5 credits of physical education.

2. In grades 7 to 12, at least 0.5 credit of health education.

(am) The state superintendent shall encourage school boards to require an additional 8.5 credits selected from any combination of vocational education, foreign languages, fine arts and other courses.

(b) Beginning September 1, 1988, a school board may not grant a high school diploma to any pupil unless, during the high school grades, the pupil has been enrolled in a class or has participated in an activity approved by the school board during each class period of each school day, or the pupil has been enrolled in an alternative education program, as defined in s. 115.28 (7) (e) 1. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits a school board from establishing a program that allows a pupil enrolled in the high school grades who has demonstrated a high level of maturity and personal responsibility to leave the school premises for up to one class period each day if the pupil does not have a class scheduled during that class period.

(c) A school board may require a pupil to participate in community service activities in order to receive a high school diploma.

(d) A school board may grant a high school diploma to a pupil who has not satisfied the requirements under par. (a) if all of the following apply:

1. The pupil was enrolled in an alternative education program, as defined in s. 115.28 (7) (e) 1.

2. The school board determines that the pupil has demonstrated a level of proficiency in the subjects listed in par. (a) equivalent to that which he or she would have attained if he or she had satisfied the requirements under par. (a).

(2) The state superintendent shall:

(c) Establish course requirements under sub. (1) and approve any school board's high school graduation standards policy that is equivalent to the requirements under sub. (1).

(m) Adopt policies to accommodate pupils with exceptional educational interests, needs or requirements, not limited to children with exceptional educational needs, as defined under s. 115.76 (3).

(3) By September 1, 1986, each school board operating high school grades shall submit to the state superintendent a report describing the school board's policies and guidelines on high school graduation standards, including a list of courses required under sub. (1) (a) and the number of hours in each school term required to earn one credit under sub. (1) (a), and thereafter shall notify the state superintendent whenever changes are made in such policies or guidelines. The department shall make reasonable efforts to combine the reports required under this subsection with other required school board reports.

(3m) A course taken at a technical college by a child attending the school part-time or in lieu of high school under s. 118.15 (1) (b), or attending the school under s. 118.15 (1) (cm), does not fulfill any of the high school graduation requirements under sub. (1) (a) unless the state superintendent has approved the course for that purpose.

(4) (a) The state superintendent shall establish procedures for school boards to certify to the state superintendent whether they are in compliance with the requirements under sub. (1) and the rules promulgated under sub. (2).

(b) The state superintendent may periodically review school district high school graduation standards and shall notify any school board not in compliance with the requirements under sub. (1) or the rules promulgated under sub. (2), identifying the changes necessary.

(5) The department shall include in its biennial report under s. 15.04 (1) (d) information on the status of statewide high school graduation standards.

History: 1983 a 411; 1985 a 29; 1991 a 39, 269; 1993 a 223, 339, 340, 399, 491.

NOTE: 1983 Wisconsin Act 411, which created this section, has "Legislative declaration" in section 1.

NOTE: 1993 Wis. Act 339, which created sub. (1) (d), contains explanatory notes.

118.34 Technical preparation programs. (1) In cooperation with a technical college district board, each school board shall establish a technical preparation program in each public high school located in the school district. The program shall consist of a sequence of courses, approved by the technical college system board under s. 38.04 (26), designed to allow high school pupils to gain advanced standing in the technical college district's associate degree program upon graduation from high school.

(2) (a) The technical college district director shall appoint a technical preparation council to coordinate the establishment of the technical preparation programs. The council shall consist of 12 members.

(b) The technical college district board and the school boards of school districts that operate high schools located in the technical college district shall establish a consortium to implement the technical preparation programs.

(3) The department and the technical college system board shall provide technical assistance to school boards to develop technical preparation programs in each high school. Annually, the school board shall evaluate its program and report the results to the state superintendent and the technical college system board.

History: 1991 a 39; 1993 a 16, 399, 491

118.35 Programs for gifted and talented pupils.

(1) In this section, "gifted and talented pupils" means pupils enrolled in public schools who give evidence of high performance capability in intellectual, creative, artistic, leadership or specific academic areas and who need services or activities not ordinarily provided in a regular school program in order to fully develop such capabilities.

(2) The state superintendent shall by rule establish guidelines for the identification of gifted and talented pupils.

(3) Each school board shall:

(a) Ensure that all gifted and talented pupils enrolled in the school district have access to a program for gifted and talented pupils.

(b) Annually by August 15, report to the state superintendent the number of gifted and talented pupils who participated in a program under par. (a) in the previous school year and such other information as the state superintendent requests.

History: 1985 a 29

118.37 Postsecondary enrollment options program. (1) **DEFINITION** In this section, "institution of higher education" means a center or institution within the university of Wisconsin system, a technical college or a private, nonprofit institution of higher education located in this state.

(2) **ENROLLMENT IN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION; APPLICATION** (a) Beginning in the 1992-93 school year, any public school pupil enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade who is not attending a technical college under s. 118.15 (1) (b) may enroll in an institution of higher education for the purpose of taking one or more nonsectarian courses at the institution of higher education, subject to par. (b). The pupil shall submit an application to the institution of higher education in the previous school semester. The pupil shall indicate on the application whether he or she will be taking the course or courses for high school credit or postsecondary credit. The pupil shall also specify on the application that if he or she is admitted the institution of higher education may disclose the pupil's grades, the courses that he or she is taking and his or her attendance record to the public school in which the pupil is enrolled.

(b) Paragraph (a) applies to a private institution of higher education only if the private institution of higher education has notified the state superintendent of its intent to participate in the program under this section by September 1 of the previous school year.

(3) **NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL BOARD; DETERMINATION OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT.** (a) A pupil who intends to enroll in an institution

of higher education under this section shall notify the school board of the school district in which he or she is enrolled of that intention no later than March 1 if the pupil intends to enroll in the fall semester, and no later than October 1 if the pupil intends to enroll in the spring semester. The notice shall include the titles of the courses in which the pupil intends to enroll and the number of credits of each course, and shall specify whether the pupil will be taking the courses for high school or postsecondary credit.

(b) If the pupil specifies in the notice under par. (a) that he or she intends to take a course at an institution of higher education for high school credit, the school board shall determine whether the course is comparable to a course offered in the school district, and whether the course satisfies any of the high school graduation requirements under s. 118.33 and the number of high school credits to award the pupil for the course, if any. The state superintendent shall develop guidelines to assist school districts in making the determinations. The school board shall notify the pupil of its determinations, in writing, before the end of the semester in which it received the notice under par. (a). If the pupil disagrees with the school board's decision regarding comparability of courses, satisfaction of high school graduation requirements or the number of high school credits to be awarded, the pupil may appeal the school board's decision to the state superintendent within 30 days after the decision. The state superintendent's decision shall be final and is not subject to review under subch. III of ch. 227.

(3m) SCHOOL DISTRICT DUTY TO OFFER COMPARABLE COURSE

(a) Except as provided under par. (b), if in the current school year the number of pupils attending an institution of higher education under this section and enrolled in a course that is not comparable to a course offered in the school district is equal to or greater than the number of pupils normally required for the school board to offer a course, as determined by the school board, and the school board expects the situation to continue in the next school year, the school board shall offer the course in the next school year.

(b) The state superintendent may waive the requirement under par. (a) if he or she determines that the requirement would impose too great a cost because of the lack of equipment or space.

(4) **ADMISSION TO INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION; NOTIFICATION.** (a) An institution of higher education may admit a pupil under this section only if it has space available. A pupil may attend a technical college under this section only if he or she is a resident of this state.

(am) A pupil may attend an institution of higher education under this section only if the institution of higher education complies with s. 118.13 (1).

(b) If an institution of higher education admits a pupil, it shall notify the school board of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled, in writing, within 30 days after the beginning of classes at the institution of higher education. The notification shall include the course or courses in which the pupil is enrolled.

(c) If a pupil is not admitted to attend the course that he or she specified in the notice under sub. (3) (a) but is admitted to attend a different course, the pupil shall immediately notify the school board of the school district in which he or she is enrolled and the school board shall inform the pupil of its determinations under sub. (3) (b) regarding the course to which the pupil was admitted as soon as practicable.

(d) A pupil taking one or more courses for high school credit at an institution of higher education under this section may not take more than the equivalent of 15 credit hours in any academic semester.

(5) **PAYMENT.** Within 30 days after the end of the semester, the school board of the school district in which a pupil attending an institution of higher education under this section is enrolled shall pay the institution of higher education, on behalf of the pupil, the following amount for any course that is taken for high school credit and that is not comparable to a course offered in the school district:

(a) If the pupil is attending a center or institution within the university of Wisconsin system, the actual cost of tuition, fees, books and other necessary materials directly related to the course.

(b) If the student is attending a technical college, the actual cost of tuition, fees, books and other necessary materials directly related to the course.

(c) If the pupil is attending a private institution of higher education, the lesser of the following:

1. The actual cost of tuition, fees, books and other necessary materials directly related to the course.

2. An amount determined by dividing the state total net cost of the general fund in the previous school year by the state total membership in the previous school year, dividing that quotient by the statewide average number of high school credits taken by full-time pupils in the previous school year, as determined by the state superintendent, and multiplying that quotient by the number of high school credits taken by the pupil at the private institution of higher education, as determined under sub. (3) (b). In this subdivision, "net cost" has the meaning given in s. 121.004 (6), and "membership" has the meaning given in s. 121.004 (5).

(6) RESPONSIBILITY OF PUPIL FOR TUITION AND FEES (a) A pupil taking a course at an institution of higher education for high school credit under this section is not responsible for any portion of the tuition and fees for the course if the school board, or the state superintendent on appeal under sub. (3) (b), has determined that the course is not comparable to a course offered in the school district.

(b) A pupil taking a course at an institution of higher education for high school credit under this section is responsible for the tuition and fees for the course if the school board has determined that the course is comparable to a course offered in the school district, unless the state superintendent reverses the school board's decision on appeal under sub. (3) (b).

(c) A pupil taking a course at an institution of higher education for postsecondary credit under this section is responsible for the tuition and fees for the course.

(7g) TRANSPORTATION The parent or guardian of a pupil who is attending an institution of higher education under this section and is taking a course for high school credit that is not comparable to a course offered in the school district may apply to the state superintendent for reimbursement of the cost of transporting the pupil between the high school in which the pupil is enrolled and the institution of higher education that the pupil is attending if the pupil and the pupil's parent or guardian are unable to pay the cost of such transportation. The state superintendent shall determine the reimbursement amount and shall pay the amount from the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (cw). The state superintendent shall give preference under this subsection to those pupils who are eligible for a free or reduced-price lunch under 42 USC 1758 (b).

(8) PROGRAM INFORMATION Annually by October 1, each school board shall provide information about the program under this section to all pupils enrolled in the school district in the 9th, 10th and 11th grades.

(9) RULES The state superintendent shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this section, including rules establishing criteria for determining reimbursement amounts under sub. (7g).

History: 1991 a 39, 269, 315; 1993 a 399

118.40 Charter schools. (1) REQUEST FOR APPROVAL A school board may request the state superintendent for approval to establish up to 2 charter schools in the school district. The state superintendent shall approve the first 10 requests received. The state superintendent shall ensure that charter schools are established in no more than 10 school districts.

(1m) PETITION (a) A written petition requesting the school board to establish a charter school under this section may be filed with the school district clerk. The petition shall be signed by at least 10% of the teachers employed by the school district or by at

least 50% of the teachers employed at one school of the school district.

(b) The petition shall include all of the following:

1. The name of the person who is seeking to establish the charter school.

2. The name of the person who will be in charge of the charter school and the manner in which administrative services will be provided.

3. A description of the educational program of the school.

4. The methods the school will use to enable pupils to attain the educational goals under s. 118.01.

5. The method by which pupil progress in attaining the educational goals under s. 118.01 will be measured.

6. The governance structure of the school, including the method to be followed by the school to ensure parental involvement.

7. Subject to sub. (7) (a) and ss. 118.19 (1) and 121.02 (1) (a) 2., the qualifications that must be met by the individuals to be employed in the school.

8. The procedures that the school will follow to ensure the health and safety of the pupils.

9. The means by which the school will achieve a racial and ethnic balance among its pupils that is reflective of the school district population.

10. The requirements for admission to the school.

11. The manner in which annual audits of the financial and programmatic operations of the school will be performed.

12. The procedures for disciplining pupils.

13. The public school alternatives for pupils who reside in the school district and do not wish to attend or are not admitted to the charter school.

14. A description of the school facilities and the types and limits of the liability insurance that the school will carry.

15. The effect of the establishment of the charter school on the liability of the school district.

(2) PUBLIC HEARING; GRANTING OF PETITION. (a) If a school board has received approval under sub. (1), within 30 days after receiving a petition under sub. (1m) the school board shall hold a public hearing on the petition. At the hearing, the school board shall consider the level of employe and parental support for the establishment of the charter school described in the petition. After the hearing, the school board may grant the petition.

(b) Subject to sub. (1), a school board may grant a petition that would result in the conversion of all of the public schools in the school district to charter schools if all of the following apply:

1. At least 50% of the teachers employed by the school district sign the petition.

2. The school board provides alternative public school attendance arrangements for pupils who do not wish to attend or are not admitted to a charter school.

(2m) SCHOOL BOARD INITIATIVE (a) If a school board has received approval under sub. (1), the school board may on its own initiative contract with an individual or group to operate a school as a charter school. The contract shall include all of the provisions specified under sub. (1m) (b) and may include other provisions agreed to by the parties.

(b) A school board may not enter into a contract under par. (a) that would result in the conversion of all of the public schools in the school district to charter schools unless the school board complies with sub. (2) (b) 2.

(3) CONTRACT (a) If the school board grants the petition under sub. (2) (a), the school board shall contract with the person named in the petition under sub. (1m) (b) 1. to operate the school as a charter school under this section. The contract shall include all of the provisions specified in the petition and may include other provisions agreed to by the parties.

(b) A contract under par. (a) or under sub. (2m) may be for any term not exceeding 5 school years and may be renewed for one or more terms not exceeding 5 school years. The contract shall specify the amount to be paid by the school board to the charter school during each school year of the contract. In any school year, the school board may not spend on average more per pupil enrolled in the charter school than the school board spends on average per pupil enrolled in the public schools, excluding charter schools, as determined by the state superintendent.

(c) A school board may not enter into a contract for the establishment of a charter school located outside the school district or a contract that would result in the conversion of a private school to a charter school.

(d) A school board shall give preference in awarding contracts for the operation of charter schools to those charter schools that serve children at risk, as defined in s. 118.153 (1) (a).

(3m) SCHEDULE FOR ESTABLISHING. (a) By July 1, 1994, the state superintendent shall act on all requests to establish a charter school under sub. (1) that are received prior to July 1, 1994.

(am) A school board that receives approval to establish a charter school from the state superintendent under sub. (1) shall operate or demonstrate significant progress toward operating a charter school by the beginning of the school year following the end of the calendar year in which the approval was received.

(b) If the state superintendent determines that a school board has violated par. (am), the state superintendent shall withdraw his or her approval to establish the charter school.

(4) CHARTER SCHOOL DUTIES AND RESTRICTIONS. (a) *Duties.* A charter school shall do all of the following:

1. If the charter school replaces a public school in whole or in part, give preference in admission to any pupil who resides within the attendance area or former attendance area of that public school.

2. Be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices and all other operations.

(b) *Restrictions.* A charter school may not do any of the following:

1. Charge tuition.

2. Discriminate in admission or deny participation in any program or activity on the basis of a person's sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

(5) CHARTER REVOCATION. A charter may be revoked by the school board that contracted with the charter school if the school board finds that any of the following occurred:

(a) The charter school violated its contract with the school board.

(b) The pupils enrolled in the charter school failed to make sufficient progress toward attaining the educational goals under s. 118.01.

(c) The charter school failed to comply with generally accepted accounting standards of fiscal management.

(d) The charter school violated this section.

(6) PROGRAM VOLUNTARY. No pupil may be required to attend a charter school without his or her approval, if the pupil is an adult, or the approval of his or her parents or legal guardian, if the pupil is a minor.

(7) LEGAL STATUS; APPLICABILITY OF SCHOOL LAWS. (a) A charter school is an instrumentality of the school district in which it is located and the school board of that school district shall employ all personnel for the charter school.

(b) Except as otherwise explicitly provided, chs. 115 to 121 do not apply to charter schools.

(8) AUDIT. The joint legislative audit committee may direct the legislative audit bureau to perform a financial and performance evaluation audit of the charter school program under this section. The legislative audit bureau shall file its report as provided under s. 13.94 (1) (b) by January 1, 2000.

History: 1993 a. 16, 490.

118.42 Youth village program. (1) A nonprofit corporation may apply to the state superintendent for a grant to partially fund the costs of planning, developing and operating a youth village program that complies with all of the following:

(a) The program is designed to begin operating by July 1, 1996.

(b) The program is designed to provide an alternative education experience for pupils whose home or social environment seriously interferes with their educational progress and who are functioning below their grade level in basic academic skills, are behind in academic credits for their grade level or have a record of poor grades or attendance problems.

(c) The program is designed to be residential and to provide occupational training, academic instruction and personal support services.

(d) The program is designed to be established in cooperation with a school board and a county department of social services or human services.

(2) (a) The state superintendent shall review the applications and determine which of the applicants shall receive the grant.

(b) Notwithstanding sub. (1), up to \$150,000 of the amount awarded each school year may be used by the grant recipient for acquisition or renovation, or both, of a facility for the program if the grant recipient contributes an equal amount for that purpose from other sources.

(3) Any school board may contract with the grant recipient for the participation of pupils enrolled in the school district in the program. No pupil may be required to participate in the program without his or her approval, if the pupil is an adult, or the approval of his or her parents or legal guardian, if the pupil is a minor.

History: 1993 a. 377