

SENATE, No. 1421

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator A.M.Bucco

SYNOPSIS

Requires school report card to include information about placement of graduates, including apprenticeships.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/15/2024)

S1421 SINGLETON, MCKNIGHT

2

1 AN ACT concerning information on school performance reports and
2 amending P.L.1995, c.235.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1995, c.235 (C.18A:7E-3) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 3. Report cards issued pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1995, c.235
10 (C.18A:7E-2) shall include, but not be limited to, the following
11 information for:

12 a. the school district and for each school within the district, as
13 appropriate:

14 (1) results of the elementary assessment programs;

15 (2) results of the Early Warning Test;

16 (3) results of the High School Proficiency Test;

17 (4) daily attendance records for students and professional staff;

18 (5) student graduation and dropout rates;

19 (6) annual student scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test;

20 (7) total student enrollment, percentage of limited English
21 proficient students, percentage of students in advanced placement
22 courses, and any other school characteristics which the
23 commissioner deems appropriate;

24 (8) instructional resources including teacher/student ratio,
25 average class size and amount of instructional time per day, as
26 calculated by formulas specified by the commissioner;

27 (9) a written narrative by the school principal or a designee
28 which describes any special achievements, events, problems or
29 initiatives of the school or district;

30 (10) data identifying the number and nature of all reports of
31 harassment, intimidation, or bullying;

32 (11) indicators of student career readiness;

33 (12) the number and percentage of students who were
34 chronically absent, as defined in rules and regulations promulgated
35 by the Commissioner of Education within 90 days of the effective
36 date of P.L.2018, c.23 (C.18A:38-25.1 et al.), including the number
37 and percentage of students who were chronically absent
38 disaggregated by multiple student subgroups to be determined by
39 the commissioner;

40 (13) the number and percentage of students who received a
41 disciplinary suspension;

42 (14) the number of school psychologists, school counselors,
43 social workers, student assistance coordinators, and other mental
44 health professionals employed by, or under contract with, the school
45 district to provide mental health services to students, and the ratio

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 of students to the total number of mental health professionals
2 providing services in the school and the district; **and**
3 (15) the number of school safety specialists; and
4 (16) the number of students achieving placement following
5 graduation, including placement in an apprenticeship; and
6 b. the school district, as appropriate:
7 (1) per pupil expenditures and State aid ratio;
8 (2) percent of budget allocated for salaries and benefits of
9 administrative personnel;
10 (3) percent of budget allocated for salaries and benefits of
11 teachers;
12 (4) percentage increase over the previous year for salaries and
13 benefits of administrative and instructional personnel;
14 (5) the number of administrative personnel and the ratio of
15 administrative personnel to instructional personnel;
16 (6) a profile of the most recent graduating class concerning their
17 educational or employment plans following graduation; and
18 (7) any other information which the commissioner deems
19 appropriate.

20 For the purposes of this section, the Commissioner of Education
21 shall establish a uniform methodology for the reporting of the data
22 concerning administrative personnel on a full-time equivalent basis.
23 (cf: P.L.2021, c.387, s.1)

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25 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
26 the first full school year following the date of enactment.

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29 STATEMENT

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31 This bill requires the Commissioner of Education to include
32 information about the placement of students following graduation in
33 the school performance reports, which are referred to as “report
34 cards” under current law.

35 School performance reports contain information on a number of
36 student outcomes, including graduation and dropout rates, and post-
37 secondary school enrollment. This bill would require the school
38 performance report to contain additional information about the
39 number of students achieving placement after graduating from high
40 school. Under the bill, placement would include placement in an
41 apprenticeship.