

Legislative Oversight Commission on Education Accountability Report
Senate Bill 228- Innovation Zone Legislation
W.Va. Code 18-5B-13 and WVBE Policy 3236 (revised June, 2014)
December, 2014

The legislative rule authorizes the West Virginia Board of Education to designate education Innovation Zones in Schools, groups of schools and departments or subdivisions of a school or schools; establishes an application, plan review, approval and amendment process; authorizes exceptions to certain policies, rules, interpretations and statutes; provides for approval of the Innovation Zone plan by certain employees of a school; provides for revocation of designation and plan approval; request annual report by the WVBE; designates the order in which the WVBE must consider applications; provides for the voluntary transfer of employees; authorizes teacher job postings that exceed certain qualifications and requirements; and provides that a state institution of higher education may establish a school designated as an Innovation Zone beginning with the 2010-2011 school year.

WVBE Policy 3236 edited in June, 2014 to include the following legislation: An Act to amend and reenact §18-5B-3 of the code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; and to further amend said code by adding thereto a new section, designated §18-5B-13, all relating to school innovation zones Act; providing limited priority for limited years for certain entrepreneurship education innovation zones to include at least one partner from the local business community and thereby authorizing Innovation School Districts.

All applications must target one or more priority areas listed below:

Community School Partnership -

The term “**community school**” means a public elementary or secondary school that participates in a community-based effort to coordinate and integrate educational, developmental, family, health, and other comprehensive services through community-based organizations and public /private partnerships. Community Schools provide access to such services for students, families, and the community, such as access during the school year (including before and after-school), as well as during the summer. Some may include: Early Childhood Education Programs under the Head Start Act, including Early Head Start programs and child care; Remedial education activities and enrichment activities, including expanded learning time; Summer enrichment and learning experiences; dental health care; mental health counseling services (expanded-school mental health

Comprehensive Literacy Development (creating a school-wide elementary focus on literacy and numeracy)

Career Development (middle school focus to prepare students in the middle grades to set goals through interest and talent to view graduation as a culmination of planned activities and classes from year-to-year to result in a career pathway)

Redesign of Instructional Time (Intended to provide principals and teachers with flexibility from the constraints of certain statutes, policies and rules in order to serve as testing grounds for innovative reform strategies that enhance student success and increase accountability)

Personalize Learning through Technology (Project 24) is an urgent call to action on the need for systemic planning around the effective use of technology and digital learning to achieve the goal of "career and college readiness" for all students.

Entrepreneurship Education Innovation Zone – to include at least one partner from the local Business community and thereby authorizing Innovation School Districts.

2014-2015 Innovation Zone Grants:

A notice to county superintendents provided the following information regarding the 2014-2015 release of Innovation Zone Funding from the West Virginia Legislature:

The success of Innovation Zone grants throughout the State is continuing to evolve through districts embracing the “community school model” and the newly designated “Entrepreneurship” Education Innovation Zone. The community school model operating in a public elementary or secondary school that participates in a community-based effort to coordinate and integrate education, developmental, family, health and other comprehensive services through community-based organizations and public and private partnerships. Entrepreneurship is the focus of the newly awarded Greenbrier County 3-year Innovation Zone grant in the amount of \$299,416. With programs including pre-engineering, visual arts, building trades, electronic media and auto body. Students will seek to develop innovative and self-sustaining programs.

Innovation Zone Grants awarded for 2014-2015:

Barbour County Schools – 3-year \$300,000 – Priority areas: Career Development, Redesign of Instructional Time and Personalized Learning through Technology

Lincoln County Schools (Midway Elementary and Ranger Elementary) – 3-year \$300,000 – Priority areas: Community Schools and Comprehensive Literacy Development

McDowell County Schools (Southside K-8) – 3-year \$299,424 – Priority Area: Community School Partnership

Clay County Schools (H. E. White Elementary) – 3-year \$283,788 – Priority Area: Community School Partnership

Mercer County Schools – 3-year \$300,000 – Priority Area: Community School Partnership

Greenbrier County (East Greenbrier Middle, Greenbrier East High and Western Greenbrier Middle) – 3-year \$299,416. – Priority Areas: Community School Partnership and Entrepreneurship

Grant County Schools (Maysville Elementary School, Petersburg Elementary School, Petersburg High School, Union Educational Complex) – 3-year \$300,000. – Priority Area: Entrepreneurship

Mingo County Schools (Burch Middle School, Matewan PK-8 School, and Mingo Central High School) – 3-year \$285,000. – Priority Areas: Community Schools Partnership and Career Development

Calhoun County Schools (Arnoldsburg Elementary) – 1-year innovation zone \$86,666. – Priority Area: Comprehensive Literacy Development

Ohio County Schools (Madison Elementary) – 1-year innovation zone \$41,850. – Priority Area: Comprehensive Literacy Development

Dropout Prevention and Recovery Innovation Zone Awards for 2013-14:

Cabell County Schools and June Harless School for Rural Education “Incubator School” - 3-year \$300,000 – Priority Areas: Comprehensive Literacy Development, Redesign of Instructional Time, and Community School Partnership

Cabell County Schools and June Harless School for Rural Education -3-year \$292,484. – Priority Areas: Redesign of Instructional Time

Phillip Barbour High School, Barbour County Schools, “New Tech High School” - 3-year \$300,000 – Priority Area: Personalized Learning through Technology

McDowell County Career and Technical Center; 1-year \$46,500 – Priority Area: Personalized Learning through Technology

Mary C. Snow, Stonewall Jackson, and Capital High School, Kanawha County, 3-year \$300,000
Cabell County Schools and June Harless School for Rural Education “Reggio Emilia Pre-K Model”; 3-year \$300,000 – Priority Area: Community School Partnership

Mercer County, Bluefield High, Junior and Intermediate Schools, Mercer County; 3-year \$219,499 – Priority Areas: Comprehensive Literacy Development (elementary) and Career Development (middle)

Randolph County Schools – 3-year \$296,480 – Priority Areas: Redesign of Instruction Time, Personalized Learning through Technology and Community School Partnership

Musselman High School in Berkeley County – 3- year \$283,230 – Priority Area: Community School Partnership

Greenbrier East High School – 3-year \$238,297 – Priority Area: Community School Partnership

Dropout Prevention and Recovery Innovation Zone Awards for 2012-13:

Graduation Rates went up in 7 out of 12 eligible schools and Dropout Rate went down in 7 out of 12 eligible schools.

- Cabell County Schools; \$285,273
- Doddridge County High School; \$48,650
- Fayette County Schools; \$198,955
- Greenbrier West High School; \$242,425
- Lincoln County Schools; \$300,000
- Monroe County Schools; \$227,500
- McDowell County Schools; \$300,000
- Nicholas County Schools; \$69,600
- Pocahontas County Schools; \$300,000
- Putnam County Schools; \$300,000
- Upshur County Schools; \$299,475

Union Elementary, Upshur County, \$50,000
Wheeling Park High School; \$30,120

Dropout Prevention and Recovery Innovation Zone Awards for 2011-12:

Graduation Rates went up in 6 out of 8 eligible schools and Dropout Rate went down in 7 out of 8 eligible schools.

Barbour County Schools; \$300,000
Bluefield High School, Mercer County; \$154,391
Braxton County High School, Braxton County; \$282,000
Buffalo High School, Putnam County; \$300,000
Cabell County Schools; \$300,000
Independence Middle, Raleigh County; \$300,000
Kanawha County Schools; \$290,779
North Marion High School, Marion County; \$299,910
Smoot Elementary, Greenbrier County, \$50,000
Union Elementary, Upshur County; \$48,854
Wood County Schools; \$300,000

The High School Graduation Improvement Act Study examines the impact of raising the dropout age from 16 to 17 beginning with the 2011-2012 freshman cohort.

Dropout Prevention and Recovery Innovation Zone Awards for 2010-11:

Cabell Elementary, Above and Beyond, Cabell County;
Clay County High School, Clay County; \$7,500
Davis Stuart School, Greenbrier County; \$4,200
Dorcas Elementary, Grant County; \$20,000
Easton and Woodburn Elementaries, Monongalia County; \$22,500
Elk Elementary, Kanawha County; \$31,765
Fairplains Elementary, Wood County; \$46,900
Monongalia Technical Center, Monongalia County; \$3,800
North Marion High School, Marion County; \$36,600
Nutter Fort Intermediate, Harrison County; \$24,570
Pikeview Middle, Mercer County; \$41,150
Ritchie County High School, Ritchie County; \$48,465
Rupert Elementary, Greenbrier County; \$49,999
South Jefferson Elementary, Jefferson County; \$18,300
Union Elementary, Upshur County; \$40,416.58
Village of Barboursville, Cabell County; \$17,817.76

Dropout Prevention and Recovery Innovation Zones Awards for 2009-2010:

Belmont Elementary, Pleasants County; \$45,000
Berkeley Heights Elementary, Berkeley County; \$9,100
Beverly Elementary, Randolph County; \$42,500
Braxton County High School, Braxton County; \$17,500

Cabell County Elementary Schools Consortium, Cabell County, \$50,000
Cabell County Secondary Schools Consortium, Cabell County, \$50,000
Cameron Elementary and High, Marshall County, \$49,000
Cherry River Elementary, Nicholas County; \$7,625
Hacker Valley Elementary, Webster County; \$10,850
Hometown Elementary, Putnam County; \$10,900
Lincoln High School, Harrison County; \$6,990
Mercer County Technical School, Mercer County; \$30,000
Nellis Elementary, Boone County; \$43,825
Page Jackson Elementary, Jefferson County; \$6,915
Piedmont Elementary, Kanawha County, \$27,798
Putnam County High Schools Consortium, Putnam County; \$24,000
Warm Springs Intermediate, Morgan County; \$28,255
Wheeling Park High School, Ohio County; \$11,172