

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 221

(By Senators Beach, Kessler (Mr. President),
Miller and Stollings)

[Originating in the Committee on Education;
reported January 25, 2012.]

A BILL to amend and reenact §18A-3A-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to requiring the Center for Professional Development to provide for the routine education of all professional educators and certain service personnel on warning signs and resources to assist in suicide prevention.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §18A-3A-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3A. CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

§18A-3A-2. Professional development project.

1 Subject to the provisions of section twenty-three-a,
2 article two, chapter eighteen of this code, through this
3 project the Center for Professional Development shall:

4 (1) Identify, coordinate, arrange and otherwise assist in
5 the delivery of professional development programs and
6 activities that help professional educators acquire the
7 knowledge, skills, attitudes, practices and other such
8 pertinent complements ~~deemed~~ considered essential for an
9 individual to demonstrate appropriate performance as a
10 professional ~~personnel~~ person in the public schools of West
11 Virginia. The basis for ~~such~~ the performance shall be the
12 laws, policies and regulations adopted for the public schools
13 of West Virginia, and amendments thereto. The center also
14 may permit and encourage school personnel such as class-
15 room aides, higher education teacher education faculty and
16 higher education faculty in programs such as articulated tech
17 prep associate degree and other programs to participate in
18 appropriate professional development programs and activi-
19 ties with public school professional educators;

20 (2) Identify, coordinate, arrange and otherwise assist in
21 the delivery of professional development programs and
22 activities that help principals and administrators acquire

23 knowledge, skills, attitudes and practices in academic
24 leadership and management principles for principals and
25 administrators and such other pertinent complements
26 ~~deemed~~ considered essential for principals and administra-
27 tors to demonstrate appropriate performance in the public
28 schools of West Virginia. The basis for ~~such~~ the performance
29 shall be the laws, policies and regulations adopted for the
30 public schools of West Virginia, and amendments thereto;

31 (3) Serve in a coordinating capacity to assure that the
32 knowledge, skills, attitude and other pertinent complements
33 of appropriate professional performance which evolve over
34 time in the public school environment are appropriately
35 reflected in the programs approved for the education of
36 professional personnel, including, but not limited to, advis-
37 ing the teacher education programs of major statutory and
38 policy changes in the public schools which affect the job
39 performance requirements of professional educators, includ-
40 ing principals and administrators;

41 (4) Provide for the routine updating of professional skills
42 of professional educators, including principals and adminis-
43 trators, through in-service and other programs. ~~Such~~ The
44 routine updating may be provided by the center through

45 statewide or regional institutes which may require a regis-
46 tration fee;

47 (5) Provide for the routine education of all professional
48 educators, including principals and administrators, and
49 those service personnel having direct contact with students
50 on warning signs and resources to assist in suicide preven-
51 tion under guidelines established by the state board. The
52 education may be accomplished through self review of
53 suicide prevention materials and resources approved by the
54 state board. The provisions of this paragraph may be known
55 and cited as the “Jason Flatt Act of 2012”;

56 ~~(5)~~ (6) Provide consultation and assistance to county staff
57 development councils established under the provisions of
58 section eight, article three of this chapter in planning,
59 designing, coordinating, arranging for and delivering
60 professional development programs to meet the needs of the
61 professional educators of their district. From legislative
62 appropriations to the center, ~~for professional development~~
63 ~~exclusive of such~~ the amounts required for the expenses of
64 the principals academy, the center shall, unless otherwise
65 directed by the Legislature, provide assistance in the
66 delivery of programs and activities to meet the expressed

67 needs of the school districts for professional development to
68 help teachers, principals and administrators demonstrate
69 appropriate performance based on the laws, policies and
70 regulations adopted for the public schools of West Virginia;
71 and

72 ~~(6)~~ (7) Cooperate and coordinate with the institutions of
73 higher education to provide professional staff development
74 programs that satisfy some or all of the criteria necessary for
75 currently certified professional educators to meet the
76 requirements for an additional endorsement in an area of
77 certification and for certification to teach in the middle
78 school grades.

79 If the center is not able to reach agreement with the
80 representatives of the institutions providing teacher educa-
81 tion programs on which courses will be approved for credit
82 toward additional endorsements, the state board may certify
83 certain professional staff development courses to meet
84 criteria required by the state board. This certification shall
85 be done on a course by course basis.