
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2279 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY ORTITAY, RYAN, CIRESI AND DeLUCA,
FEBRUARY 18, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 18, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
5 laws relating thereto," in district superintendents and
6 assistant district superintendents, further providing for
7 business administrator and providing for qualifications of
8 business administrator.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Section 1089 of the act of March 10, 1949
12 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
13 amended by adding a subsection to read:

14 Section 1089. Business Administrator.--* * *

15 (e.1) A person serving as business administrator or in an
16 equivalent position shall serve as a member of the school
17 entity's leadership team.

18 * * *

19 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

20 Section 1089.1. Qualifications of Business Administrator.--

21 (a) A school entity may not hire an individual to serve as a

1 business administrator or in an equivalent position under
2 section 1089 unless the individual meets the minimum
3 qualifications under this section.

4 (b) Except as provided under subsection (c) an individual
5 hired as a business administrator or in an equivalent position
6 after the effective date of this section shall have a minimum of
7 a baccalaureate degree with at least twelve (12) credit hours in
8 accounting, finance, economics, management or other subject
9 relevant to the financial or management functions of a business
10 administrator position.

11 (c) The following shall apply:

12 (1) If an individual possesses a baccalaureate degree but
13 the degree requirements did not include twelve (12) credit hours
14 in a relevant subject as required under subsection (b), a school
15 entity may hire the individual as a business administrator or in
16 an equivalent position provided either:

17 (i) the individual agrees to obtain twelve (12) credit hours
18 in accounting, finance, economics, management or other subject
19 relevant to the financial or management functions of the
20 business administrator position within eighteen (18) months from
21 the individual's hiring date; or

22 (ii) the individual has at least three (3) years of
23 experience working in school business in a school entity.

24 (2) If an individual does not possess a baccalaureate
25 degree, a school entity may hire the individual as business
26 administrator or in an equivalent position provided either:

27 (i) the individual agrees to obtain a baccalaureate degree
28 that includes twelve (12) credit hours in accounting, finance,
29 economics, management or other subject relevant to the financial
30 or management functions of the business administrator position

1 within sixty (60) months from the individual's hiring date; or
2 (ii) the individual has at least ten (10) years of
3 experience working in school business in a school entity.

4 (3) An individual employed as a business administrator or in
5 an equivalent position prior to the effective date of this
6 section who does not possess a baccalaureate degree or five (5)
7 years of experience working in school business in a school
8 entity are exempt from the requirements of this section.

9 (d) An individual hired as a business administrator or in an
10 equivalent position after the effective date of this section
11 with less than five (5) years of experience with a school entity
12 shall be required to earn twenty (20) continuing education units
13 or twenty (20) continuing professional education hours in school
14 accounting, budgeting, debt, reporting, financial planning,
15 facility construction and operation, special education funding
16 and services, purchasing of any school supply or service,
17 student transportation, food service, human resources,
18 technology, Federal funding, school business management,
19 leadership or communications from an organization approved to
20 offer continuing professional education hours by the State Board
21 of Accountancy or a State or national organization providing
22 continuing education units as part of a certification program
23 for school business officials within twenty-four (24) months
24 from the individual's hiring date.

25 (e) If a school entity hires an individual as a business
26 administrator or in an equivalent position under subsection (c)
27 and the individual does not comply with the requirements of this
28 section, the school entity shall apply to the Secretary of
29 Education for an extension for the individual to comply with
30 subsection (c) (1) or (2). The school entity must provide

1 documentation of the reasons the individual is not compliant
2 with subsection (c) (1) or (2) and a timeline for when the
3 individual will meet the applicable requirements. The Secretary
4 of Education shall provide a school entity with a response,
5 indicating whether the extension has been granted or denied,
6 within sixty (60) days of receipt of the request.

7 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.