

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 604

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto eleven new sections relating to elementary and secondary education.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section A. Chapter 161, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto eleven new sections, to be known as sections 161.1080, 161.1085, 161.1090, 161.1095, 161.1100, 161.1105, 161.1110, 161.1115, 161.1120, 161.1125, and 161.1130, to read as follows:

161.1080. Sections 161.1080 to 161.1130 shall be known and may be cited as the "School Turnaround Act".

161.1085. For purposes of sections 161.1080 to 161.1130, the following terms mean:

(1) "Department", the department of elementary and secondary education;

(2) "Governing board", the board of education of a district or the governing board of a charter school that has declared itself a local educational agency;

(3) "Initial remedial year", the year in which a district school or charter school is designated as a school in need of intervention under section 161.1090;

(4) "Local educational agency", any school district and any

charter school that has declared itself a local educational agency;

(5) "School", a public school under the control of a local educational agency;

(6) "School in need of intervention", a school that has been designated as in need of intervention by the department according to an outcome-based measure as determined by the department under section 161.1090, which may include, but shall not be required to include, schools identified for intervention under the state's Every Student Succeeds Act plan;

(7) "Statewide assessment", any test of student achievement in English language arts, mathematics, or science, including any such test administered in a computer-adaptive format, that is administered statewide under section 160.518.

161.1090. 1. Subject to appropriation, the department shall establish a school turnaround program to assist schools designated by the department as in need of intervention in accordance with the provisions of sections 161.1080 to 161.1130.

2. The department shall use an outcome-based measure to set criteria for the designation of schools in need of intervention.

3. No more than one month after statewide assessment results are made public, the department shall designate specific schools as in need of intervention. The department shall designate a school as in need of intervention only if sufficient funds are available in the school turnaround fund established in section 161.1105 to pay an independent school turnaround expert.

4. The department shall determine the specific criteria that a school shall be required to meet in order to exit the

school turnaround program based on the same outcome-based measure that was used to designate the school as in need of intervention.

5. The department shall not designate any school as in need of intervention before September 1, 2020.

6. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the criteria established under this section from satisfying a school's requirement for intervention under the Every Student Succeeds Act.

161.1095. 1. Before October first of an initial remedial year, the governing board of any local educational agency with a school in need of intervention shall establish a school turnaround committee composed of the following members:

(1) One member of the governing board;

(2) The school principal;

(3) Three parents of students enrolled in the school, appointed by the local parent-teacher association;

(4) Four teachers at the school, appointed by the principal; and

(5) The district's chief financial officer or equivalent.

2. Before October fifteenth of an initial remedial year, the governing board of any local educational agency with a school in need of intervention shall partner with the school turnaround committee to select an independent school turnaround expert from the experts identified by the department under section 161.1100.

3. The governing board shall not select an independent school turnaround expert that is:

(1) The local educational agency with the school in need of intervention; or

(2) An employee of the local educational agency with the school in need of intervention.

4. A school turnaround committee shall partner with the independent school turnaround expert selected under subsection 2 of this section to develop and implement a school turnaround plan that includes:

(1) The findings of the analysis conducted by the independent school turnaround expert on the data described in subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of section 161.1100;

(2) Recommendations regarding changes to the school's personnel, culture, curriculum, assessments, instructional practices, digital tools and other methods for teaching and learning, governance, leadership, finances, policies, or other areas that may be necessary to implement the school turnaround plan;

(3) Measurable student achievement goals and objectives;

(4) A professional development plan that identifies a strategy to address problems of instructional practice;

(5) A leadership development plan focused on proven strategies to turn around schools in need of intervention that align with administrator standards developed under section 168.410;

(6) A detailed budget specifying how the school turnaround plan will be funded;

(7) A plan to assess and monitor progress;

(8) A plan to communicate and report data on progress to stakeholders; and

(9) A time line for implementation.

5. Any local educational agency with a school in need of intervention shall:

(1) Prioritize funding and resources to the school in need of intervention; and

(2) Grant the school in need of intervention streamlined authority over staff, schedule, policies, budget, and academic programs to implement the school turnaround plan.

6. Before March first of an initial remedial year, a school turnaround committee shall submit the school turnaround plan to the governing board for approval.

7. Except as provided in subsection 8 of this section, before April first of an initial remedial year, the governing board shall submit the school turnaround plan to the department for approval.

8. If the governing board does not approve the school turnaround plan submitted under subsection 6 of this section, the school turnaround committee may submit a new or revised school turnaround plan to the governing board for approval. In order to allow additional time for the governing board to consider a new or revised school turnaround plan, the rules may extend the April first deadline for the governing board to submit the school turnaround plan to the department. The department shall not approve a school turnaround plan unless such plan has been approved by the governing board of the school in need of intervention.

161.1100. 1. Before August 30, 2020, the department shall identify two or more approved independent school turnaround experts, through a request for proposals process, that a school

in need of intervention may select from to partner with, to:

(1) Collect and analyze data on the school's student achievement, personnel, culture, curriculum, assessments, instructional practices, digital tools and other methods for teaching and learning, governance, leadership, finances, and policies;

(2) Recommend changes to the school's culture, curriculum, assessments, instructional practices, governance, finances, policies, or other areas based on data collected under subdivision (1) of this subsection;

(3) Develop and implement, in partnership with the school turnaround committee, a school turnaround plan that meets the criteria described in section 161.1095;

(4) Monitor the effectiveness of a school turnaround plan through reliable means of evaluation including, but not limited to, on-site visits, observations, surveys, analysis of student achievement data, and interviews;

(5) Provide ongoing implementation support and project management for a school turnaround plan;

(6) Provide high-quality professional development and coaching personalized for school staff that is designed to build:

(a) The leadership capacity of the school principal;

(b) The instructional capacity of school staff; and

(c) The collaborative practices of teacher and leadership teams;

(7) Provide job-embedded professional learning and coaching for all instructional staff on a weekly basis, at a minimum;

(8) Provide job-embedded professional learning and coaching

for the school principal at least twice monthly, focused on proven strategies to turn around schools in need of intervention that are aligned with administrator standards developed under section 168.410; and

(9) Leverage support from community partners to coordinate an efficient delivery of supports to students both inside and outside the classroom.

2. In identifying independent school turnaround experts under subsection 1 of this section, the department shall identify experts who:

(1) Have a credible track record of improving student academic achievement in public schools with various demographic characteristics, as measured by statewide assessments;

(2) Have experience designing, implementing, and evaluating data-driven instructional systems in public schools;

(3) Have experience coaching public school administrators and teachers on designing and implementing data-driven school improvement plans;

(4) Have experience collaborating with the various education entities that govern public schools;

(5) Have experience delivering high-quality professional development and coaching in instructional effectiveness to public school administrators and teachers;

(6) Are willing to be compensated for professional services based on performance as described in section 161.1105; and

(7) Are willing to partner with any school in need of intervention in the state, regardless of location.

161.1105. 1. The department shall award contracts to

independent school turnaround experts. Governing boards shall not be required to pay independent school turnaround experts.

2. When awarding a contract to an independent school turnaround expert selected by the governing board under section 161.1095, the department shall ensure that a contract between the governing board and the independent school turnaround expert specifies that the department shall:

(1) Pay an independent school turnaround expert no more than fifty percent of the expert's professional fees during the time period the school turnaround expert is providing services to the school in need of intervention; and

(2) Pay the remainder of the independent school turnaround expert's professional fees upon the independent school turnaround expert successfully helping a school in need of intervention meet exit criteria as determined by the department under section 161.1090 within four school years after a school is designated as needing intervention.

3. In negotiating a contract with an independent school turnaround expert, the department shall offer:

(1) An average of five hundred thousand dollars for the entirety of the project;

(2) Differentiated amounts of funding based on student enrollment; and

(3) A higher amount of funding for schools that are in the lowest-performing one percent of schools statewide according to the outcome-based measure determined by the department under section 161.1090.

4. There is hereby created in the state treasury the



"School Turnaround Fund". The fund shall consist of all moneys that may be appropriated to it by the general assembly and any gifts, contributions, grants, or bequests received from federal, private, or other sources. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements of public moneys in accordance with distribution requirements and procedures developed by the department of elementary and secondary education. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used solely for payments to independent school turnaround experts and for administrative expenses for the school turnaround program. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

161.1110. 1. The department shall review a school turnaround plan submitted for approval under section 161.1095 within thirty days of submission.

2. The department shall approve a school turnaround plan that:

- (1) Is timely;
- (2) Is well-developed; and
- (3) Meets the criteria described in section 161.1095.

3. The department shall promulgate rules to establish an appeals process for a governing board that does not receive

approval of its school turnaround plan from the department under section 161.1095.

4. The department shall ensure that the rules require the appeals process, described in subsection 3 of this section, be resolved before May fifteenth of the initial remedial year.

5. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "School Intervention Fund". The fund shall consist of all moneys that may be appropriated to it by the general assembly and any gifts, contributions, grants, or bequests received from federal, private, or other sources for the purpose of distributing grants to local educational agencies as described in this section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements of public moneys in accordance with distribution requirements and procedures developed by the department of elementary and secondary education. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of grants to local educational agencies as described in this section.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

6. The department shall award grants from the school intervention fund to local educational agencies for the purpose of funding interventions identified in approved school turnaround

plans. A local educational agency shall be eligible for a grant only if it provides matching funds or an in-kind contribution of goods or services in an amount equal to the grant award it would receive from the department.

161.1115. 1. A school in need of intervention that does not meet the exit criteria determined by the department under section 161.1090 within three school years after the day on which the school is designated a school in need of intervention may petition the department for an extension to continue school improvement efforts for up to two years.

2. The department shall grant an extension under subsection 1 of this section only if the school in need of intervention:

(1) Has demonstrated at least fifty percent of the improvement necessary to exit the turnaround process; or

(2) Submits an appeal to the department.

3. The department may extend the contract of an independent school turnaround expert for a school in need of intervention that is granted an extension under this section.

4. A school that has been granted an extension under this section is eligible for continued funding under subsection 3 of this section.

5. The department shall promulgate rules establishing additional interventions for:

(1) A school in need of intervention that:

(a) Does not meet the predetermined exit criteria within three school years after the day on which the school is designated in need of intervention; and

(b) Is not granted an extension under this section; and

(2) A school in need of intervention that:

(a) Is granted an extension under this section; and

(b) Does not meet the predetermined exit criteria within three school years after the day on which the school in need of intervention is granted an extension.

161.1120. 1. For purposes of this section, the term "eligible school" means a school in need of intervention that:

(1) Meets predetermined exit criteria within three school years after the day on which the school is designated a school in need of intervention; or

(2) If granted an extension under section 161.1115, meets predetermined exit criteria within the extension period.

2. Subject to appropriation, the department shall establish a statewide program to be known as the "School Recognition and Reward Program" to provide incentives to schools and teachers to improve schools in need of intervention.

3. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "School Recognition and Reward Fund". The fund shall consist of all moneys that may be appropriated to it by the general assembly and any gifts, contributions, grants, or bequests received from federal, private, or other sources for the purpose of distributing grants to local educational agencies as described in this section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements of public moneys in accordance with distribution requirements and procedures developed by the department of elementary and secondary education. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon

appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of grants to local educational agencies as described in this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

4. The department shall award grants from the school recognition and reward fund to local educational agencies with eligible schools. The department shall require, as a condition of awarding a grant, that the local educational agency use the grant moneys to reward eligible schools, teachers employed by eligible schools, or both the eligible schools and the teachers.

161.1125. Before November 30, 2021, and before November thirtieth of each year thereafter, the department shall report to the joint committee on education on the implementation of sections 161.1080 to 161.1130.

161.1130. The department shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of sections 161.1080 to 161.1130. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in sections 161.1080 to 161.1130 shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, and, if applicable, section 536.028. Sections 161.1080 to 161.1130 and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536

to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2019, shall be invalid and void.