

SENATE BILL NO. 650

November 13, 2019, Introduced by Senators THEIS and MOSS and referred to the Committee on Education and Career Readiness.

A bill to amend 1979 PA 94, entitled
"The state school aid act of 1979,"
by amending section 23a (MCL 388.1623a), as amended by 2018 PA 586.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 23a. (1) A dropout recovery program operated by a
2 district qualifies for the special membership counting provisions
3 of section 6(4)(dd) and the hours and ~~day~~**days** of pupil instruction
4 exemption under section 101(12) if the dropout recovery program

1 meets all of the following:

2 (a) Enrolls only eligible pupils.

3 (b) Provides an advocate or teacher of record, or both. An
4 advocate may serve in that role for more than 1 pupil but ~~no~~**not**
5 more than 50 pupils. An advocate or teacher of record may be
6 employed by the district or may be provided by an education
7 management organization that is partnering with the district.
8 Before an individual is assigned to be an advocate or teacher of
9 record for a pupil in the dropout recovery program, the district
10 ~~shall~~**must** comply with sections 1230 and 1230a of the revised
11 school code, MCL 380.1230 and 380.1230a, with respect to that
12 individual.

13 (c) Develops a written learning plan.

14 (d) Monitors the pupil's progress against the written learning
15 plan.

16 (e) Requires each pupil to make satisfactory monthly progress,
17 as defined by the district under subsection (2).

18 (f) Reports the pupil's progress results to the partner
19 district at least monthly.

20 (g) The program may be operated on or off a district school
21 campus, but may be operated using distance learning online only if
22 the program provides a computer and ~~Internet~~**internet** access for
23 each eligible pupil participating in the program.

24 (h) Is operated throughout the entire calendar year.

25 (i) If the district partners with an education management
26 organization for the program, the education management organization
27 has a dropout recovery program partnership relationship with at
28 least 1 other district.

29 (2) A district operating a dropout recovery program under this

1 section shall adopt a definition of satisfactory monthly progress
2 that is consistent with the definition of that term under
3 subsection (3).

4 (3) As used in this section:

5 (a) "Advocate" means an adult available to meet in person with
6 assigned pupils, as needed, to conduct social interventions, to
7 proctor final examinations, and to provide academic and social
8 support to pupils enrolled in the district's dropout recovery
9 program.

10 (b) "Education management organization" means a private
11 provider that operates 1 or more other dropout recovery programs
12 that meet the requirements of this section in partnership with 1 or
13 more districts.

14 (c) "Eligible pupil" means a pupil who has been expelled from
15 school under the mandatory expulsion provisions in section 1311 or
16 1311a of the revised school code, MCL 380.1311 and 380.1311a, a
17 pupil who has been suspended or expelled from school under a local
18 policy, a pupil who is referred by a court, a pupil who is pregnant
19 or is a parent, a pupil who was previously a dropout, or a pupil
20 who is determined by the district to be at risk of dropping out.

21 (d) "Satisfactory monthly progress" means an amount of
22 progress that is measurable on a monthly basis and that, if
23 continued for a full 12 months, would result in the same amount of
24 academic credit being awarded to the pupil as would be awarded to a
25 general education pupil completing a full school year. Satisfactory
26 monthly progress may include a lesser required amount of progress
27 for the first 2 months a pupil participates in the program.

28 (e) "Teacher of record" means a teacher who holds a valid
29 Michigan teaching certificate; who, if applicable, is endorsed in

1 the subject area and grade of the course; and is responsible for
2 providing instruction, determining instructional methods for each
3 pupil, diagnosing learning needs, assessing pupil learning,
4 prescribing intervention strategies, reporting outcomes, and
5 evaluating the effects of instruction and support strategies. ~~Until~~
6 ~~February 1, 2020, if~~ **If** the district partners with an education
7 management organization for the program, the teacher of record may
8 be employed by or contracted through the education management
9 organization.

10 (f) "Written learning plan" means a written plan developed in
11 conjunction with the advocate that includes the plan start and end
12 dates, courses to be taken, credit to be earned for each course,
13 teacher of record for each course, and advocate name and contact
14 information.