



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Jennifer Stump

S.B. 177

129th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Sen. Turner

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires each public high school that receives money from a federal School Improvement Grant to establish a student advisory committee to make recommendations about the school improvement process.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Student advisory committees

Under the bill, each high school that is operated by a school district, community (charter) school, or STEM school and that receives money from a federal School Improvement Grant (see "**Background**" below) must establish a student advisory committee to make recommendations about the school improvement process. This committee must make recommendations at least twice each year to the school principal, the school's representative of the teachers' union, and, in the case of a district-operated school, the district superintendent. The recommendations must address the following topics:

- (1) Strategies to improve teaching and learning at the school;
- (2) How to use technology in the classroom to engage students in the learning process;
- (3) Strategies to encourage high-achieving students to work with underperforming students to improve the school's academic culture and graduation rate;
- (4) Ways to improve student behavior and reduce bullying and other disruptive conduct;

(5) Procedures for monitoring the progress of the changes implemented with the grant money; and

(6) Any other issues requested by school personnel or the district's or school's governing body.¹

Make-up of committees

The school principal and school employees who represent the teachers' union must determine the composition of the advisory committee and the process for selecting its members. The selection process must allow all students in the school to be involved in choosing committee members.²

Joint committee meetings

If a school district has more than one high school that is required to have a student advisory committee, the district must organize joint meetings of those committees twice each school year. In addition to the district-level meetings, the Department of Education must coordinate semiannual joint meetings of all student advisory committees statewide. At both the district and state levels, the first meeting must be held by October 15 and the second meeting by February 15. The stated purpose of these meetings is to enable committee members to share information and successful practices in teaching and learning and to develop their leadership skills.³

Background – School Improvement Grants

Under the federal No Child Left Behind Act, school districts and buildings that receive Title I funds for at-risk students and do not make the federal standard of adequate yearly progress for two or more consecutive years are identified for improvement and must implement corrective actions designed to increase student achievement. The U.S. Department of Education provides School Improvement Grants to states to support these improvement efforts. Each state in turn uses a competitive process to award three-year subgrants to Title I districts and schools identified for improvement. The subgrants, which must be targeted to the lowest-achieving schools, range from \$50,000 to \$500,000 per school.⁴

¹ R.C. 3302.042(A) to (C); see also R.C. 3314.03(A)(11)(d) and 3326.11.

² R.C. 3302.042(B).

³ R.C. 3302.042(D).

⁴ 20 United States Code 6303(g).

HISTORY

ACTION

DATE

Introduced

05-31-11

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