2023 Spring Session Educational Mandates

What is an educational mandate?

The State Mandates Act (30 ILCS 803/3(b)) defines a mandate as any action at the state level that would cause a local education agency to incur additional costs in carrying out that action.

During the 2023 Spring Legislative Session, 23 additional mandates were imposed on local education agencies. This brings the total number of mandates thrust upon districts since 1982 to **731**. Below is a list of the 23 additional mandates that emerged from Spring session:

HB300 (Belt/Stuart)

Provides that the minimum salary rate for a school year shall be increased by a percentage equal to the annualized percentage increase (instead of the percentage increase), if any, in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for all items published by the U.S. Department of Labor for the 12-month period ending on June 30 of the school year that ended 12 months prior to the school year in which the adjusted salary is to be in effect (instead of for the previous school year). Provides that the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability shall certify and publish the minimum salary rate to be used.

HB342 (Lightford/Ammons)

Requires teachers institute days to provide instruction on trauma-informed practices. Adds information that must be included in the Illinois Report Card by 2024.

HB1123 (Glowiak Hilton/Costa Howard)

Provides that for any school report card prepared after July 1, 2025, for all high school graduation completion rates that are reported on the school report card, the state superintendent of education shall also report the percentage of students who did not meet the requirements of high school graduation completion for any reason and, of those students, the percentage who are classified as students with disabilities who fulfill the requirements for participation in a graduation ceremony as set forth in Section 14-16 of the School Code (Brittany's Law).

HB1561 (Johnson/Lilly)

Requires school districts to conduct in-service training for all school district employees on the methods to respond to trauma at least once every two years. A school board may satisfy the trauma response training requirements by using the training, including online training, available from the American College of Surgeons or any other similar organization.

HB1633 (Glowiak Hilton/West, II)

In the provisions concerning instruction on Native American history, requires the instruction to be included in every social studies course pertaining to American history or government. Provides that the study of the genocide of and discrimination against Native Americans, as well as tribal sovereignty, treaties made between tribal nations and the United States, and the circumstances pertaining to forced Native American relocation shall be taught in Grades 6 through 12. Provides that the instruction may be integrated as part of other required units of instruction.

HB2156 (Syverson/Keicher)

Provides that student IDs shall provide contact information for the Safe2Help Illinois Helpline. If the school district does not provide student ID cards to students or to all of its students, this information must be published on the school website.

HB2396 (Lightford/Canty)

Beginning with the 2027-28 school year, requires each school board to establish full-day kindergarten. There is no accompanying allocation to support this initiative (unfunded mandate).

HB3116 (Villa/Stuart)

Requires that at least once every two years, a school board must conduct in-service training on homelessness for all school personnel. The bill further defines the general content of the training and states that a school board may work with a community-based organization that specializes in working with homeless children and youth to develop and provide the training.

HB3224 (Koehler/Ness)

Provides that, as part of transition planning, a school district shall provide a student and the parent or guardian of the student (instead of just the student) with information about the district's career and technical education opportunities. Provides that a student and the parent or guardian of the student shall be provided with information about dual credit courses offered by the school district. Provides that if the student is enrolled in a dual credit course for dual credit or for high school credit only, the student's participation in the course shall be included as part of the student's transition to Individualized Education Program activities.

HB3425 (Feigenholtz/Croke)

Requires a bullying policy to be based on the State Board of Education's template for a model bullying preventing policy, which includes the criteria set forth in the definition of "policy on bullying". Provides that a bullying prevention policy must include procedures for informing parents or guardians of all students involved in the alleged incident of bullying within 24 hours after the school's administration is made aware of the incident. Provides that school districts, charter schools, and nonpublic, nonsectarian elementary and secondary schools must submit data in an annual report due to the State Board of Education no later than August 15 of each year starting with the 2024-25 school year through the 2030-31 school year.

HB3428 (Glowiak Hilton/Blair-Sherlock)

Provides that a school district, public school, charter school, or nonpublic school shall maintain a supply of an opioid antagonist in any secure location where an individual may have an opioid overdose. Provides that if there is a shortage of opioid antagonists, a school district, public school, charter school, or nonpublic school shall make a reasonable effort to maintain a supply of an opioid antagonist. Provides that the requirement that a health care professional prescribe opioid antagonists applies only if the school district or school is not able to obtain opioid antagonists without a prescription.

HB3559 (Morrison/Yang Rohr)

Requires that a school building's emergency and crisis response plan, protocol, and procedures include a plan for local law enforcement to rapidly enter the school building in the event of an emergency.

HB3643 (Villivalam/Rashid)

Provides that, subject to appropriation and additional requirements, each school board shall provide religious dietary food options as part of the school lunch program. The FY 2024 Budget does not include an appropriation for this initiative.

HB3680 (Faraci/Benton)

Provides that, when deciding whether to exempt a student from participating in a walkthrough lockdown drill, the administrator and school support personnel shall include the student's Individualized Education Program team or 504 Plan team in the decision to exempt the student from participating.

HB3768 (Villivalam/Rashid)

Amends the Uniform Racial Classification Act and the Data Governance and Organization to Support Equity and Racial Justice Act. Adds "Middle Eastern or Northern African" as a racial classification for purposes of the Acts.

HB3924 (Ellman/Yang Rohr)

Provides that school districts shall provide instruction on the dangers of fentanyl. Provides that students shall be assessed on the fentanyl instruction.

HB3932 (Ellman/Yang Rohr)

Provides that beginning with the 2024-25 school year, the Comprehensive Health Education Program shall include instruction, study, and discussion in Grades 9 through 12 on the dangers of allergies.

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SB90 (Murphy/West, II)

Provides that each school district; charter school; or nonpublic, nonsectarian elementary or secondary school must create, implement, and maintain a policy on discrimination and harassment based on race, color, and national origin, and prohibits retaliation. Provides that each school district; charter school; or nonpublic, nonsectarian elementary or secondary school must establish procedures for responding to complaints of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, and national origin, and retaliation.

SB183 (Murphy/Mussman)

Requires parents or guardians to receive information relating to the curriculum, services, and policies of an alternative school program before the transfer goes into effect. Requires that appropriate personnel of the sending school district and the alternative school program meet to develop an alternative education plan for the student and that the student and the student's parents or guardians be invited to the meeting.

SB1993 (Loughran Cappel/Canty)

Provides that prior to approving a new contract for any district-administered assessment, the school board must hold a public vote at a regular meeting of the school board, at which the terms of the proposal must be substantially presented and an opportunity for allowing public comments must be provided, subject to applicable notice requirements.

SB1994 (Loughran Cappel/Yednock)

Requires any district that does not receive federal impact aid to calculate the combined, annual average expenditures of its operational funds for the previous three fiscal years, as reported in the school district's most recently audited annual financial reports. Requires that school boards annually present a written report covering the annual average expenditures of its operational funds for the previous three fiscal years at a board meeting. If a district's combined cash reserve balance of its operational funds exceeds 2.5 times annual average expenditures of its operational funds for the previous three fiscal years, the school board shall adopt and file with the State Board of Education a written operational funds reserve reduction plan by December 31. Requires the State Board of Education to publish these plans on its Internet website.

SB2039 (Harmon/Syed)

Provides that during the student's annual Individualized Education Program (IEP) review meeting, if the student has an intellectual disability or a developmental disability, the student's IEP team shall determine the student's PUNS database registration status based upon information provided by the student's parents or guardian or by the student.

SB2218 (Preston/Evans, Jr.)

Provides that a school board's honorable dismissal list shall include the race or ethnicity of a teacher if the teacher provides this information.