

Effect of Change in PSSB 5415

- Adds professional learning day to the definition of basic education.
- Requires the Legislature to provide additional time and resources for content-specific professional learning days beginning the 2016-17 school year.
- Provides that school districts are required to fund one professional learning day for each certificated instructional staff, paraeducator, and school building-based administrator.
- Provides that the focus of the professional learning day are the school district or individual building goals.
- Requires that a professional learning day must:
 - Be equivalent to one full school day; however, school districts may organize the professional learning day into separate time blocks so long as it equals one full school day; and
 - Take place outside of the minimum one hundred eighty-day school calendar.

1 AN ACT Relating to professional educator learning days; amending
2 RCW 28A.150.200; adding a new section to chapter 28A.150 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the Washington
6 state institute for public policy reported that content-specific
7 professional development is much more effective than general
8 training. The goal of the legislature is to provide a sufficient
9 number of professional learning days necessary to meet the needs in
10 Washington's schools and to designate the professional learning days
11 to be part of basic education.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.150.200 and 2009 c 548 s 101 are each amended to
13 read as follows:

14 (1) The program of basic education established under this chapter
15 is deemed by the legislature to comply with the requirements of
16 Article IX, section 1 of the state Constitution, which states that
17 "It is the paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for
18 the education of all children residing within its borders, without
19 distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste, or sex,"
20 and is adopted pursuant to Article IX, section 2 of the state

1 Constitution, which states that "The legislature shall provide for a
2 general and uniform system of public schools."

3 (2) The legislature defines the program of basic education under
4 this chapter as that which is necessary to provide the opportunity to
5 develop the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the state-
6 established high school graduation requirements that are intended to
7 allow students to have the opportunity to graduate with a meaningful
8 diploma that prepares them for postsecondary education, gainful
9 employment, and citizenship. Basic education by necessity is an
10 evolving program of instruction intended to reflect the changing
11 educational opportunities that are needed to equip students for their
12 role as productive citizens and includes the following:

13 (a) The instructional program of basic education the minimum
14 components of which are described in RCW 28A.150.220;

15 (b) The program of education provided by chapter 28A.190 RCW for
16 students in residential schools as defined by RCW 28A.190.020 and for
17 juveniles in detention facilities as identified by RCW 28A.190.010;

18 (c) The program of education provided by chapter 28A.193 RCW for
19 individuals under the age of eighteen who are incarcerated in adult
20 correctional facilities; ~~((and))~~

21 (d) Transportation and transportation services to and from school
22 for eligible students as provided under RCW 28A.160.150 through
23 28A.160.180; and

24 (e) Professional learning days as provided under section 3 of
25 this act.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 28A.150
27 RCW to read as follows:

28 (1) Subject to funds appropriated for this purpose:

29 (a) Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the legislature shall
30 annually provide additional time and resources for high quality,
31 content-specific, professional learning days for each state-funded
32 certificated instructional staff, paraeducator, and school building-
33 based administrator to increase knowledge and skills in the areas of
34 current and future educational reforms. The minimum funding for a
35 professional learning day must be equivalent to the aggregate amount
36 provided for the state-funded salaries for each certificated
37 instructional staff, paraeducator, and school-based administrator in
38 the school district for one full school day. School districts must be
39 required to expend the funds on professional learning activities but

1 the learning is not required to be accomplished in one full school
2 day and it may be organized in whatever time blocks the district
3 chooses so long as the total time equates to one full school day. The
4 learning improvement day must take place outside of the minimum one
5 hundred eighty-day school calendar.

6 (b) For the 2016-17 school year, the funds provided for a
7 professional learning day must be used for professional development
8 that addresses either the school district or individual building
9 goals.

10 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules to
11 implement this section.

12 (3) The funding provided under this section shall be deemed to be
13 part of the legislature's definition of basic education under Article
14 IX of the state Constitution.

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