

ASSEMBLY, No. 4838

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 19, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

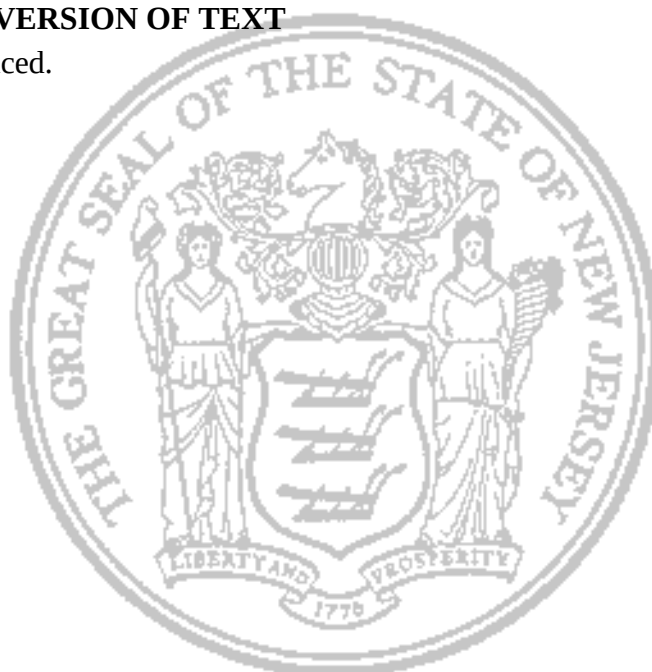
Assemblywoman Jasey

SYNOPSIS

Requires school report card to include information concerning number of mental health professionals and security personnel employed by each school district.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/9/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning the New Jersey School Report Card and
2 amending P.L.1995, c.235.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1995, c.235 (C.18A:7E-3) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 3. Report cards issued pursuant to section 2 of **[this act]**
10 P.L.1995, c.235 (C.18A:7E-2) shall include, but not be limited to, the
11 following information for:

12 a. the school district and for each school within the district, as
13 appropriate:

14 (1) results of the elementary assessment programs;

15 (2) results of the Early Warning Test;

16 (3) results of the High School Proficiency Test;

17 (4) daily attendance records for students and professional staff;

18 (5) student graduation and dropout rates;

19 (6) annual student scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test;

20 (7) total student enrollment, percentage of limited English
21 proficient students, percentage of students in advanced placement
22 courses, and any other school characteristics which the commissioner
23 deems appropriate;

24 (8) instructional resources including teacher/student ratio, average
25 class size and amount of instructional time per day, as calculated by
26 formulas specified by the commissioner;

27 (9) a written narrative by the school principal or a designee which
28 describes any special achievements, events, problems or initiatives of
29 the school or district;

30 (10) data identifying the number and nature of all reports of
31 harassment, intimidation, or bullying;

32 (11) indicators of student career readiness;

33 (12) the number and percentage of students who were chronically
34 absent, as defined in rules and regulations promulgated by the
35 Commissioner of Education within 90 days of the effective date of
36 P.L.2018, c.23 (C.18A:38-25.1 et al.), including the number and
37 percentage of students who were chronically absent disaggregated by
38 multiple student subgroups to be determined by the commissioner;

39 **[and]**

40 (13) the number and percentage of students who received a
41 disciplinary suspension;

42 (14) the number of school psychologists, school counselors, social
43 workers, student assistance coordinators, and other mental health
44 professionals employed by, or under contract with, the school district
45 to provide mental health services to students, and the ratio of students

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 to the total number of mental health professionals providing services in
2 the school and the district; and

3 (15) the number of school security personnel, including safe
4 schools resource officers, Class Three special law enforcement
5 officers, and any other security officers, respectively, and the ratio of
6 students to each category of school security personnel; and

7 b. the school district, as appropriate:

8 (1) per pupil expenditures and State aid ratio;

9 (2) percent of budget allocated for salaries and benefits of
10 administrative personnel;

11 (3) percent of budget allocated for salaries and benefits of
12 teachers;

13 (4) percentage increase over the previous year for salaries and
14 benefits of administrative and instructional personnel;

15 (5) the number of administrative personnel and the ratio of
16 administrative personnel to instructional personnel;

17 (6) a profile of the most recent graduating class concerning their
18 educational or employment plans following graduation; and

19 (7) any other information which the commissioner deems
20 appropriate.

21 For the purposes of this section, the Commissioner of Education
22 shall establish a uniform methodology for the reporting of the data
23 concerning administrative personnel on a full-time equivalent basis.

24 (cf: P.L.2018, c.23, s.1)

25
26 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
27 the school report card issued for the first full school year following
28 the date of enactment.

31 STATEMENT

32
33 This bill requires the annual school report card to include
34 information concerning the number of mental health professionals
35 and school security personnel employed by each school district.

36 Under current law, the Commissioner of Education is required to
37 administer the School Report Card Program, which provides for the
38 annual preparation and dissemination of school report cards for
39 parents and other interested parties within each district. As required
40 by law, the school report card contains information and data
41 concerning academic achievement, district spending, student
42 discipline, and various other items.

43 Under this bill, the annual report card submitted by a school
44 district would also be required to include the following information
45 for each school within the district: (1) the number of mental health
46 professionals, including school psychologists, guidance counselors,
47 social workers, student assistance coordinators, and other mental
48 health professionals, and the ratio of students to the total number of

1 mental health professionals; and (2) the number of school security
2 personnel, including safe schools resource officers, Class Three
3 special law enforcement officers, and any other security officers,
4 respectively, and the ratio of students to each category of school
5 security personnel.