

Amendment No. 738

Senate Amendment to Assembly Bill No. 487 First Reprint (BDR 34-780)

Proposed by: Senate Committee on Health and Education**Amends:** Summary: No Title: No Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: Yes

ASSEMBLY ACTION				Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION				Initial and Date
Adopted	☐	Lost	☐	_____	Adopted	☐	Lost	☐	_____
Concurred In	☐	Not	☐	_____	Concurred In	☐	Not	☐	_____
Receded	☐	Not	☐	_____	Receded	☐	Not	☐	_____

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) ***blue bold italics*** is new language in the original bill; (2) ***green bold italic underlining*** is new language proposed in this amendment; (3) ~~red strikethrough~~ is deleted language in the original bill; (4) ~~purple double strikethrough~~ is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) ~~orange double underlining~~ is deleted language in the original bill that is proposed to be retained in this amendment; and (6) ***green bold dashed underlining*** is newly added transitory language.

KCR



Date: 5/15/2009

A.B. No. 487—Revises provisions governing pupils enrolled in middle school and junior high school. (BDR 34-780)



ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 487—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MARCH 23, 2009

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing pupils enrolled in middle school and junior high school. (BDR 34-780)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in **bolded italics** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the development of an academic plan for pupils enrolling in their initial year at a middle school or junior high school; requiring small learning communities in certain larger middle schools and junior high schools; requiring a program of peer mentoring for pupils initially enrolling in middle school or junior high school; requiring the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a policy for pupils enrolled in middle school or junior high school to conduct a pupil-led conference on educational progress; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a policy for each public school in the school district in which ninth grade pupils are enrolled to develop a 4-year academic plan for each of those pupils. (NRS 388.205) **Section 2** of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a policy for each middle school and junior high school in the school district to develop an academic plan for each incoming middle school or junior high school pupil.

Existing law requires the board of trustees of each school district that includes at least one high school in which 1,200 pupils or more are enrolled and that includes ninth grade pupils to adopt a policy for each of those high schools to provide a program of small learning communities for the ninth grade pupils. (NRS 388.215) **Section 3** of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district that includes at least one middle school or junior high school in which 500 pupils or more are enrolled to adopt a policy for each of those middle schools and junior high schools to provide a program of small learning communities for the incoming middle school or junior high school pupils.

Section 5 of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a policy for peer mentoring, which may include a component of adult mentoring, for incoming middle school and junior high school pupils designed to increase the ability of those pupils to successfully make the transition from elementary school to middle school or junior high school.

Section 6 of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a policy for pupils enrolled in a middle school or junior high school to conduct, if required by the board of trustees, a pupil-led conference between the pupil, his parent or legal guardian and his teacher to review the educational development of the pupil.

~~Section 7 of this bill provides that the policies required by sections 2, 3, 5 and 6 of this bill must be adopted by each school district on or before January 1, 2011, for implementation beginning with the 2011-2012 School Year.~~

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

Sec. 2. 1. *The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a policy for each middle school and junior high school in the school district to develop an academic plan for each pupil enrolled in the grade level at which the middle school or junior high school initially enrolls pupils. The academic plan must set forth:*

(a) The specific educational goals that the pupil intends to achieve before promotion to high school;

(b) An identification of the courses required for promotion to high school;

(c) An identification of all honors courses, career and technical education courses and other educational programs, courses and pathways available to the pupil which will assist in the advancement of the education of the pupil; and

(d) A description of the expectations of the teachers of pupils who are enrolled in middle school or junior high school.

2. *The policy must require each pupil enrolled in his initial year at the middle school or junior high school and the pupil's parent or legal guardian to:*

(a) Have sufficient opportunities to work in consultation with a school counselor to develop an academic plan for the pupil;

(b) Review the academic plan; and

(c) Review the academic plan at least once each school year until the pupil is promoted to high school in consultation with the school counselor and revise the plan as necessary.

3. *If a pupil enrolls in a middle school or junior high school after the initial year of enrollment for that middle school or junior high school, an academic plan must be developed for that pupil with appropriate modifications for the grade level of the pupil.*

4. *An academic plan for a pupil must be used as a guide for the pupil and the pupil's parent or legal guardian to plan, monitor and manage the pupil's educational development and make determinations of the appropriate courses of study for the pupil. If the pupil does not satisfy all the educational goals set forth in the academic plan, the pupil is eligible for promotion to high school if he otherwise satisfies the requirements for promotion to high school.*

Sec. 3. 1. *The board of trustees of each school district which includes at least one middle school or junior high school with an enrollment of 500 pupils or more shall adopt a policy for each of those middle schools and junior high schools to provide a program of small learning communities for pupils enrolled in the grade level at which those middle schools or junior high schools initially enroll pupils. The policy must require:*

(a) Where practicable, the designation of a separate area geographically within the middle school or junior high school where the pupils enrolled in their initial year at the middle school or junior high school attend classes;

(b) The collection and maintenance of information relating to pupils enrolled in their initial year at the middle school or junior high school, including,

1 without limitation, credits earned, attendance, truancy and indicators that a pupil
2 may be at risk of dropping out of middle school or junior high school;

3 (c) Based upon the information collected pursuant to paragraph (b), the
4 timely identification of any special needs of a pupil enrolled in his initial year at
5 the middle school or junior high school, including, without limitation, any need
6 for programs of remedial study for a particular subject area and appropriate
7 counseling;

8 (d) Methods to increase the involvement of parents and legal guardians of
9 pupils enrolled in their initial year in a middle school or junior high school in the
10 education of their children; and

11 (e) The assignment of:

12 (1) Guidance counselors;

13 (2) At least one licensed school administrator or his designee; and

14 (3) Appropriate adult mentors,

15 specifically for the pupils enrolled in their initial year at the middle school or
16 junior high school.

17 2. The principal of each middle school or junior high school in which 500
18 pupils or more are enrolled shall:

19 (a) Carry out a program of small learning communities in accordance with
20 the policy prescribed by the board of trustees pursuant to subsection 1; and

21 (b) Submit an annual report, on a date prescribed by the board of trustees,
22 that sets forth the specific strategies, programs and methods which are used to
23 focus on the pupils enrolled in their initial year at the middle school or junior
24 high school, including, without limitation, the program of mentoring provided
25 pursuant to section 5 of this act.

26 Sec. 4. Chapter 392 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the
27 provisions set forth as sections 5 and 6 of this act.

28 Sec. 5. 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a policy
29 for each middle school and junior high school in the school district to provide a
30 program of peer mentoring, which may include a component of adult mentoring,
31 for pupils enrolled in the grade level at which the middle school or junior high
32 school initially enrolls pupils. The policy must be designed to increase the ability
33 of those pupils to successfully make the transition from elementary school to
34 middle school or junior high school.

35 2. The principal of each middle school or junior high school shall:

36 (a) Carry out a program of mentoring in accordance with the policy adopted
37 by the board of trustees pursuant to subsection 1; and

38 (b) Submit an annual report to the board of trustees on:

39 (1) The specific activities of the program of mentoring; and

40 (2) The effectiveness of the program of mentoring in increasing the
41 ability of pupils to successfully make the transition to middle school or junior
42 high school.

43 3. This section does not prohibit a middle school or junior high school from
44 continuing any other similar program of mentoring that the middle school or
45 junior high school currently provides in a manner that is consistent with the
46 policy prescribed by the board of trustees.

47 Sec. 6. 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a policy
48 which allows the board of trustees to require a pupil enrolled in a middle school
49 or junior high school in the school district to conduct a pupil-led conference
50 between the pupil, his parent or legal guardian and his teacher to review the
51 educational development of the pupil at least once during the enrollment of the
52 pupil in the middle school or junior high school. The policy must include, without
53 limitation:

1 (a) Guidelines for preparing the pupil to conduct the conference, including,
2 without limitation, the appropriate structure of a conference and topics of
3 discussion for the conference; and

4 (b) A method for the pupil, his parent or legal guardian and the teacher to
5 provide an evaluation of the conference.

6 2. If a pupil is required to conduct a pupil-led conference, the conference
7 must be used as a guide for the pupil and the parent or legal guardian of the
8 pupil to monitor the pupil's educational development. If the pupil does not
9 conduct a pupil-led conference or if the parent or legal guardian of the pupil does
10 not attend a pupil-led conference, the pupil is eligible for promotion to high
11 school if he otherwise satisfies the requirements for promotion to high school.

12 Sec. 7. 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt the
13 policies required by sections 2, 3, 5 and 6 of this act not later than January 1,
14 2011, for implementation beginning with the 2011-2012 School Year.

15 2. On or before June 1, 2010, the board of trustees of each school district
16 shall provide a report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction on the status
17 of the adoption of the policies required by sections 2, 3, 5 and 6 of this act,
18 including, without limitation, a plan for implementation of those policies
19 beginning with the 2011-2012 School Year. On or before July 1, 2010, the
20 Superintendent of Public Instruction shall compile the reports and provide a
21 report of the compilation to the Legislative Committee on Education.

22 ~~{Sec. 7}~~ Sec. 8. 1. ~~This {act becomes}~~ section and section 7 of this act
23 become effective on July 1, 2009.

24 2. Sections 2 to 6, inclusive, of this act become effective on July 1, 2009,
25 for the purpose of adopting the policies required by sections 2, 3, 5 and 6 of
26 this act and on July 1, 2011, for all other purposes.