

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1386  
(Representatives Timmons, Bosch, Jonas, Mock, Murphy, Pyle, Richter, Sanford)  
(Senators Conley, Lemm, Meyer)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-18.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to local boards of school districts' discretion to designate educational professional development content areas; and to amend and reenact section 15.1-07-34 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to youth behavioral health professional development.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-07-34 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**15.1-07-34. Youth behavioral health training to teachers, administrators, and ancillary staff.**

1. Every two years, each school district ~~shall~~may provide a minimum of eight hours of professional development on youth behavioral health to elementary, middle, and high school teachers, and administrators. Each school district ~~shall~~may encourage ancillary and support staff to participate in the professional development. Based on the annual needs assessment of the school district, these hours ~~must~~may be designated from the following categories:
  - a. Trauma;
  - b. Social and emotional learning, including resiliency;
  - c. Suicide prevention;
  - d. Bullying;
  - e. Understanding of the prevalence and impact of youth behavioral health wellness on family structure, education, juvenile services, law enforcement, and health care and treatment providers;
  - f. Knowledge of behavioral health symptoms, and risks;
  - g. Awareness of referral sources and evidence-based strategies for appropriate interventions;
  - h. Other evidence-based strategies to reduce risk factors for students; or
  - i. Current or new evidence-based behavior prevention or mitigation techniques.
2. ~~Each school district shall report the professional development hours required under subsection 1 to the department of public instruction.~~
3. Each school within a district shall designate an individual as a behavioral health resource coordinator.
- 4.~~3~~. The superintendent of public instruction shall collaborate with regional education associations to disseminate information, training and instructional materials, and notice of training opportunities to school districts and nonpublic schools. This training must qualify for continuing education credits that count towards license renewal.

5.4. The superintendent of public instruction shall maintain the contact information of the behavioral health resource coordinator in each school.

**SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**Professional development - Discretionary.**

A school administrator shall recommend professional development content areas appropriate for a public school or school district to the board of a school district. The board of a school district may designate professional development for a school district. Professional development may include content areas, including behavioral, physical, or mental health. Professional development must include the professional development training required under section 15.1-21-12.1.

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Speaker of the House

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President of the Senate

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Chief Clerk of the House

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Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1386.

House Vote:    Yeas 90            Nays 0            Absent 4

Senate Vote:    Yeas 46            Nays 0            Absent 1

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Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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Secretary of State