

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 1446

Short Title: Amend Law Re: School Improvement Plans. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Glazier, Parmon, Cotham (Primary Sponsors); Harrison, Lucas, and Rapp.

Referred to: Education.

April 13, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-47(38) reads as rewritten:

5 "**§ 115C-47. Powers and duties generally.**

6 In addition to the powers and duties designated in G.S. 115C-36, local boards of education
7 shall have the power or duty:

8 ...

9 (38) To Establish School Improvement Teams. – Local boards shall adopt a
10 policy to ensure that each principal has established a school improvement
11 team under G.S. 115C-105.27 and in accordance with ~~G.S. 115C-288(l).~~
12 G.S. 115C-288(l) and that the composition of the team complies with
13 G.S. 115C-105.27(a). Local boards shall direct the superintendent or the
14 superintendent's designee to provide appropriate guidance to principals to
15 ensure that these teams are established and that the principals work together
16 with these teams to develop, review, and amend school improvement plans
17 for their schools."

18 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-105.27 reads as rewritten:

19 "**§ 115C-105.27. Development and approval of school improvement plans.**

20 (a) In order to improve student performance, each school shall develop a school
21 improvement plan that takes into consideration the annual performance goal for that school that
22 is set by the State Board under ~~G.S. 115C-105.35.~~ G.S. 115C-1-5.35 and the goals set out in the
23 mission statement for the public schools adopted by the State Board of Education. The
24 principal of each school, representatives of the assistant principals, instructional personnel,
25 instructional support personnel, and teacher assistants assigned to the school building, and
26 parents of children enrolled in the school shall constitute a school improvement team to
27 develop a school improvement plan to improve student performance. Representatives of the
28 assistant principals, instructional personnel, instructional support personnel, and teacher
29 assistants shall be elected by their respective groups by secret ballot. Unless the local board of
30 education has adopted an election policy, parents shall be elected by parents of children
31 enrolled in the school in an election conducted by the parent and teacher organization of the
32 school or, if none exists, by the largest organization of parents formed for this purpose. Parents
33 serving on school improvement teams shall reflect the racial and socioeconomic composition of
34 the students enrolled in that school and shall not be members of the building-level staff.
35 Parental involvement is a critical component of school success and positive student
36 achievement; therefore, it is the intent of the General Assembly that parents, along with



1 teachers, have a substantial role in developing school improvement plans. To this end, school
2 improvement team meetings shall be held at a convenient time to assure substantial parent
3 participation.

4 All school improvement plans shall be, to the greatest extent possible, data-driven. School
5 improvement teams shall analyze student data to identify root causes for problems and to
6 determine actions to address them. School improvement plans shall contain clear, unambiguous
7 targets, explicit indicators and actual measures, and speedy time frames for meeting the
8 measurement standards.

9 ...

10 (e) A school improvement plan shall remain in effect for no more than ~~three~~ two years;
11 however, the school improvement team may amend the plan as often as is necessary or
12 appropriate. If, at any time, any part of a school improvement plan becomes unlawful or the
13 local board finds that a school improvement plan is impeding student performance at a school,
14 the local board may vacate the relevant portion of the plan and may direct the school to revise
15 that portion. The procedures set out in this subsection shall apply to amendments and revisions
16 to school improvement plans."

17 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 115C-105.37A(a) reads as rewritten:

18 "(a) Definition of Continually Low-Performing Schools. – A continually low-performing
19 school is a school that has received State-mandated assistance and has been designated by the
20 State Board as low performing for at least two of three consecutive years. If the State Board
21 identifies a school as continually ~~low performing, the low performing:~~

22 (1) The school improvement team at that school shall review its school
23 improvement plan to ensure consistency with the plan adopted pursuant to
24 G.S. 115C-105.38(3).G.S. 115C-105.38(3), and

25 (2) The plan must be reviewed and approved by the State Board of Education."

26 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
27 the 2009-2010 school year.