

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE BILL 1446  
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/13/09  
Senate Education/Higher Education Committee Substitute Adopted 6/17/09

Short Title: Amend Law Re: School Improvement Plans.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

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-105.35 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



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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 expeditious 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(b)(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.