

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 636

BY SENATORS WHITE AND CLAITOR

SCHOOLS. Provides relative to the organization and management of large school systems.  
(8/1/14)

1 AN ACT  
2 To enact Subpart D of Part II of Chapter 1 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of  
3 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 17:131 through 136, relative to school systems serving  
4 large populations; to provide for governance and administration of such systems; to  
5 provide for powers and duties of the school board and superintendent of such  
6 systems and of school principals; to provide for establishment of enrollment zones  
7 and an enrollment system; to provide for community school councils and community  
8 academic coordinators; to provide for effective and implementation dates; and to  
9 provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. Subpart D of Part II of Chapter 1 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised  
12 Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:131 through 136, is hereby enacted to read as  
13 follows:

14 **SUBPART D. ADMINISTRATION AND**  
15 **GOVERNANCE OF LARGE SCHOOL SYSTEMS**  
16 **§131. Legislative findings; statement of purpose; large school system defined;**  
17 **applicability**

1           A. The legislature finds that, within large school systems, the principals  
2           and educators within the local school are best able to administer the local  
3           school. The legislature further finds that large school systems create additional  
4           obstacles that prohibit local school principals and teachers from making  
5           administrative decisions that would further improve student achievement.

6           B. This Subpart is enacted to provide increased authority and  
7           decision-making power to school principals of schools within large school  
8           systems, to provide for significant parental involvement of those parents who  
9           have children attending schools in large school systems, and to provide strict  
10           accountability standards for local schools.

11           C. For purposes of this Subpart, a "large school system" means the  
12           largest school system, according to the most recent October student enrollment  
13           count as determined by the Department of Education, in a parish that is served  
14           by at least three public school systems and has a population of more than four  
15           hundred forty thousand persons, as established by the most recent federal  
16           decennial census.

17           D. The provisions of this Subpart shall supplement and be in addition  
18           to other provisions of law relative to parish school boards, superintendents, and  
19           public schools. The provisions of this Subpart shall be construed broadly to  
20           effect its purposes and shall supersede any provision of law, excluding R.S.  
21           17:158, in conflict with its provisions.

22           E. This Subpart shall apply only to large school systems as defined in  
23           Subsection C of this Section.

24           F. Unless otherwise provided in this Subpart, the provisions of this  
25           Subpart shall not apply to any charter school as defined in R.S. 17:3973.

26           §132. References and definitions

27           For purposes of this Subpart:

28           (1) Any reference to a "school system" shall be to a large school system  
29           as defined in R.S. 17:131, and any reference to "central office", "local school

1 board ", "school district", "superintendent", "school", "local school", and any  
2 other generally applicable terminology shall be to that of a large school system  
3 as defined in R.S. 17:131.

4 (2) "Council" means a community school council established as provided  
5 in R.S. 17:136.

6 (3) "Common enrollment system" means an enrollment process as  
7 provided in R.S.17:134(C), (D), and (E).

8 (4) "Enrollment zone" means a zone established as provided in R.S.  
9 17:134.

10 (5) "Excess Capacity" means the remaining capacity of a local school  
11 when the total number of students enrolled in a local school is less than the total  
12 capacity of the local school.

13 (6) "Excess Demand" means the additional capacity that would be  
14 required of a local school when the total number of students seeking enrollment  
15 in a local school is greater than the total capacity of the local school.

16 (7) "Retiree legacy costs" means post-employment health care  
17 obligations of the system.

18 §133. General powers of local school boards of large school systems;  
19 superintendent, powers, duties

20 A. The local school board shall have responsibility for examination and  
21 approval of the following duties of the superintendent:

22 (1) Financial operations and adoption of a budget for the school system,  
23 including but not limited to the development and adoption of a budget for the  
24 central office; however, the local school board shall have no responsibility for  
25 the development, adoption, or approval of a budget for any individual school  
26 within the school system.

27 (2) Collection and monitoring of all revenue for the school system.

28 (3) Allocation of funds for retiree legacy costs, construction,  
29 maintenance, and repair of immovable property, and bonded indebtedness, and

1 for school system costs, including operations. The superintendent, with school  
2 board approval, shall establish a dedicated account solely for the deposit and  
3 expenditure of funds for retiree legacy costs.

4 (4) All funds available to the school system shall be allocated to  
5 individual schools on an equitable basis. Allocation of funds received via the  
6 Minimum Foundation Program shall be allocated on an equitable basis  
7 according to weights for special characteristics or needs as provided in the  
8 Minimum Foundation Program formula. All unrestricted funds shall be  
9 allocated on an equitable basis according to weights for special characteristics  
10 or needs. All funds subject to use restrictions shall be allocated on an equitable  
11 basis in such a way as to fulfill their restricted use. In determining what is  
12 equitable, consideration shall be given to funding the needs of student  
13 populations having special needs or characteristics, including but not limited to  
14 students with severe disabilities and at-risk students.

15 (5) Oversight of expenditures, excluding expenditures in an individual  
16 school budget.

17 (6) Construction of new schools and other appropriate facilities and  
18 maintenance of existing and future schools and facilities of the school system,  
19 except as provided in R.S. 17:134(B), including major repairs to the physical  
20 plant of any local school, including but not limited to electrical, plumbing,  
21 HVAC, and roofing repairs.

22 (7) Enrollment zones as established by the superintendent and as  
23 provided in R.S. 17:134.

24 (8) Preparation for and response to emergencies and disasters.

25 B. The school system shall annually retain revenue for payment of  
26 retiree legacy costs, construction, maintenance, and repair of immovable  
27 property, and bonded indebtedness, and, in addition, shall annually retain a  
28 maximum of four and one-half percent of the total per-pupil amount established  
29 for each student enrolled in the school system for expenditure for school system

1 costs as provided in Paragraph (A)(3) of this Section.

2 C. The local school board shall adopt policies and procedures for its own  
3 government, consistent with law and with the regulations of the State Board of  
4 Elementary and Secondary Education, as it may deem proper.

5 D. The local school board shall require the superintendent to:

6 (1) Enter into management contracts for independent operating  
7 management authority with the principal of each school as provided in R.S.  
8 17:134.

9 (2) Hire and review the performance of principals.

10 (3) Remove principals and reconstitute schools that do not meet state  
11 minimum benchmarks as provided by the state school and district  
12 accountability system and performance goals as provided in R.S. 17:135(B).

13 (4) Create and manage a common enrollment system.

14 (5) Establish enrollment zones, subject to the provisions of R.S. 17:134.

15 (6) Oversee personnel management of central office staff, including  
16 recruiting, hiring, reviewing, and removing of such personnel.

17 (7) Review local school budgets for fiscal accountability and compliance  
18 with governmental and accounting regulations and law.

19 (8) Create a plan to address excess capacity and demand.

20 (9) Identify, recruit, retain, and train the best principals.

21 (10) If requested by the principal of a local school, provide support  
22 services for the school pursuant to written agreements with the principal of the  
23 school for such services as school food services, financial and accounting  
24 services, student appraisal for special education services, student transportation  
25 services, special services for at-risk students, special education services other  
26 than gifted and talented, gifted and talented student services, custodial and  
27 maintenance services, media services, technology services, library services,  
28 health services, and health benefits for active employees. The local school shall  
29 reimburse the local school board for the actual cost of providing such services

1 unless an amount less than the actual cost is agreed to by both parties.

2 Annually, the superintendent shall prepare and submit to each local school a

3 written report detailing the actual cost of the services provided to the school and

4 shall prepare and submit a summary of this report to the local school board.

5 (11) Process and report data for purposes of the state school and  
6 accountability system.

7 (12) Provide legal representation for the school system.

8 (13) Provide communications and public relations for the school system.

9 (14) Work with principals and the community to strategically map  
10 programs in local schools to ensure adequate availability of special education  
11 programs.

12 §134. Schools; independent operating management; enrollment zones

13 A. The local school board shall require the superintendent to develop  
14 and implement criteria and procedures for independent operating management  
15 authority by means of management contracts with principals that establish and  
16 hold principals and schools responsible for performance goals established as  
17 provided in R.S. 17:135(B) in exchange for independent management authority.

18 Management contracts with principals may vary from principal to principal,  
19 provided the performance goals established as provided in R.S. 17:135(B) are  
20 addressed. Management contracts shall establish principals' salaries. The  
21 duration of each management contract shall be no more than two years, and  
22 management contracts may be terminated for failure to meet the performance  
23 goals specified in the contract and for willful neglect of duty, incompetency,  
24 dishonesty, or immorality. No principal shall suffer any disciplinary action for  
25 exercising any right or power or performing any duty or function granted or  
26 authorized for principals by this Subpart. For the 2014-2015 school year, only  
27 a principal who has been rated "highly effective" pursuant to the performance  
28 evaluation program as provided in R.S. 17:3881 through 3905 shall be eligible  
29 to enter into a management contract pursuant to this Section.

1           **B. The local school board shall require the superintendent to develop**  
2           **and implement policies to allow the local school to have the right to use its**  
3           **designated school building and all facilities and property otherwise part of the**  
4           **school and recognized as part of the facilities or assets of the school and to allow**  
5           **access to such additional facilities as are typically available to the school, its**  
6           **students, and faculty and staff. Such use shall be unrestricted, except that the**  
7           **local school shall be responsible for and obligated to provide for routine**  
8           **maintenance and repair such that the facilities and property are maintained in**  
9           **as good an order as when the principal's management contract term began.**  
10          **There shall be no requirement for the local school to provide for the type of**  
11          **extensive repair to buildings or facilities that would be considered to be a**  
12          **capital expense or as set forth in R.S. 17:133(A)(6). Such extensive repairs shall**  
13          **be provided by the school system or other public entity that is responsible for**  
14          **the facility.**

15           **C. The local school board shall require the superintendent to develop an**  
16           **enrollment system for enrollment of students in all public schools in the school**  
17           **system. It shall include at least five community-based enrollment zones**  
18           **approved by the local school board. The enrollment system shall include**  
19           **provisions for student choice, priority of schools for a student within the**  
20           **enrollment zone in which the student resides, access to schools across zones,**  
21           **including but not limited to access to magnet schools and programs, and special**  
22           **education schools, programs, and services.**

23           **D. The enrollment system shall include all public schools in all zones in**  
24           **which such schools are eligible to enroll students.**

25           **E. Charter schools located within the geographic boundaries of the large**  
26           **school system shall be included as an enrollment option in any enrollment zone**  
27           **from which they are eligible to enroll students.**

28           **F. If a student's parent or legal guardian fails to choose a school through**  
29           **the enrollment system, the large school system shall assign the student to a**

1 school with excess capacity. In no case shall a student be assigned to, or  
2 required to attend, a charter school, a school under the jurisdiction of the  
3 Recovery School District, or a school outside the jurisdiction of the large school  
4 system in which he resides.

5 G. The following information regarding the enrollment system shall be  
6 posted on the school system's website and updated as necessary to provide the  
7 most current information available:

8 (1) The geographic boundaries of each enrollment zone.

9 (2) A list of all schools located in each enrollment zone and the grade  
10 configuration of each school.

11 (3) The enrollment capacity of every school in each enrollment zone by  
12 grade level.

13 (4) The enrollment level and any excess capacity that exists at each grade  
14 level in every school in each enrollment zone.

15 §135. Principals

16 A. The principal of each local school shall be the school's chief executive  
17 officer. The local school board shall require that each principal shall have, as  
18 a minimum, responsibility for:

19 (1) Development of a school budget for submission to the  
20 superintendent.

21 (2) Personnel management, including recruiting, hiring, reviewing, and  
22 removing of personnel necessary for school operation and instruction. The  
23 principal shall make all employment-related decisions based upon performance,  
24 effectiveness, and qualifications. Effectiveness, as determined pursuant to R.S.  
25 17:3881 through 3905, shall be used as the primary criterion for making  
26 personnel decisions; however, in no case shall seniority or tenure be used as the  
27 primary criterion when making decisions regarding the hiring, assignment, or  
28 dismissal of teachers and other school employees.

29 (3) Student discipline.



- 1                   **(4) Student health and safety.**
- 2                   **(5) Ensuring a safe workplace environment for teachers and other**
- 3 **school personnel.**
- 4                   **(6) Preparation and maintenance of a daily school schedule.**
- 5                   **(7) Development of the school curriculum and provision of related**
- 6 **training.**
- 7                   **(8) Instruction methods, instruction materials, and instructional**
- 8 **support.**
- 9                   **(9) Examinations and assessments not required by state law.**
- 10                  **(10) School operations, including but not limited to resource**
- 11 **management and procurement.**
- 12                  **(11) Professional development.**
- 13                  **(12) Compliance with district enrollment policies.**
- 14                  **B. Each principal shall be accountable for achieving performance goals**
- 15 **established in management contracts as provided for in R.S. 17:134(A),**
- 16 **including but not limited to goals in each of the following areas:**
- 17                  **(1) Student performance on state examinations, end-of-course tests, and**
- 18 **other examinations, such as the ACT and Advanced Placement.**
- 19                  **(2) Additional student achievement benchmarks as determined by the**
- 20 **superintendent.**
- 21                  **(3) Health and safety.**
- 22                  **(4) Attendance.**
- 23                  **(5) Retention.**
- 24                  **(6) Promotion.**
- 25                  **(7) Course and examination passage rates.**
- 26                  **(8) Graduation rates, at the high school level.**
- 27                  **(9) College acceptance rates, at the high school level.**
- 28                  **(10) Sound financial operation.**
- 29                  **(11) School governance, leadership, and management.**

1           **§136. Community school councils; community academic coordinator**

2           **A. This Section shall not be applicable to or include charter schools.**

3           **B. The principals of all schools within an enrollment zone, except**  
4 **charter schools, shall establish one community school council for the enrollment**  
5 **zone. Councils shall be advisory only. A council shall have an advisory role,**  
6 **supporting principals by acting as an advocate for schools and engaging**  
7 **surrounding communities.**

8           **C. A council's responsibilities shall include the following:**

9           **(1) Actively engaging the community in which the local schools are**  
10 **located, driving support for the schools, and cultivating a sense of community**  
11 **ownership.**

12           **(2) Developing a written parent and guardian involvement policy for the**  
13 **local schools in the enrollment zone that outlines the roles of parents and**  
14 **guardians.**

15           **(3) Developing a school compact for parents, guardians, and students of**  
16 **the local schools in the zone that outlines each school's goals, academic focus,**  
17 **and behavioral and disciplinary expectations.**

18           **D. Each council shall have at least five members but no more than**  
19 **eleven members. At least sixty percent of the council membership shall be**  
20 **comprised of parents or guardians of students currently attending a school**  
21 **within the enrollment zone. At least forty percent of the council membership**  
22 **shall include community and business members whose residence or place of**  
23 **business is located within the enrollment zone. No member of a council shall be**  
24 **employed by the school system within the enrollment zone of the council. No**  
25 **current local school board member shall serve on a council. Council members**  
26 **shall serve terms of two years, but no council member shall serve for more than**  
27 **six successive years. Service on a council shall be uncompensated.**

28           **E. Each council may be assisted by a community academic coordinator,**  
29 **who shall be responsible for assisting the council in carrying out the duties**

1            **described in this Section. The community academic coordinator shall be hired**  
 2            **by and report to the principals leading schools within the enrollment zone**  
 3            **served by the council. The principals in each enrollment zone shall be**  
 4            **collectively and equally responsible for the salary, benefits, and related costs of**  
 5            **employing the community academic coordinator.**

6            Section 2. The local school board of a large school system subject to the provisions  
 7            of this Act shall require the superintendent of the school system to prepare for  
 8            implementation of the provisions of this Act by July 1, 2017. The local school board shall  
 9            require the superintendent to complete a plan for implementation of this Act and file a copy  
 10           of the plan with the school board not later than August 1, 2015. The plan shall include  
 11           provisions for implementation of all requirements of this Act and shall also include  
 12           provisions for training for principals relative to principal empowerment. The plan may  
 13           include provisions for implementation phases for particular provisions of the Act. Upon  
 14           filing of the plan with the school board, the superintendent shall begin implementation.

15           Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall become effective on August 1, 2014. The  
 16           provisions of this Act shall be fully implemented not later than July 1, 2017.

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The original instrument was prepared by Jeanne Johnston. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Cathy R. Wells.

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#### DIGEST

White (SB 636)

Proposed law provides for the governance and administration of large school systems as follows:

- (1)(a) Defines a large school system as the largest school system, according to the most recent Oct. student enrollment count as determined by the Dept. of Education, in a parish that is served by at least three public school systems and has a population of more than 440,000 persons, as established by the most recent federal decennial census.
- (b) Defines retiree legacy costs as post-employment health care obligations of the system.
- (2) Provides that proposed law is enacted to provide increased authority and decision-making power to school principals, to provide for significant parental involvement, and to provide strict accountability standards for schools. Provides that it applies only to large school systems and does not apply to charter schools except as specifically provided.

- (3) Specifies that proposed law is supplemental and in addition to present law relative to parish school boards, superintendents, and public schools, that it should be construed broadly to effect its purposes, and that it supersedes any law in conflict, excluding provisions in present law relative to transportation of students.
- (4) Provides that the school board for the system shall be responsible for examination and approval of the following duties of the superintendent:
- (a) Financial operations and adoption of a school system budget, including development and adoption of a central office budget. Specifies that the school board shall have no responsibility for the development, adoption, or approval of a budget for any individual school.
  - (b) Collection and monitoring of all school system revenue.
  - (c) Allocation of funds for retiree legacy costs, construction, maintenance, and repair of immovable property, bonded indebtedness, and for school system costs, including operations. Requires the superintendent, with board approval, to establish a dedicated account solely for the deposit and expenditure of funds for retiree legacy costs.
  - (d) Allocation of all funds available to the school system to individual schools on a per-pupil basis. Allocation of funds received via the Minimum Foundation Program shall be allocated per-pupil according to weights for special characteristics or needs as provided in the Minimum Foundation Program formula. All unrestricted funds shall be allocated per-pupil according to weights for special characteristics or needs as determined to be equitable by the local school board. All funds subject to use restrictions shall be allocated per-pupil in such a way as to fulfill their restricted use, as deemed equitable by the local school board. In determining per-pupil allocations, the local school board shall give due consideration to funding the needs of student populations having special needs or characteristics, including but not limited to students with severe disabilities and at-risk students.
  - (e) Oversight of expenditures, excluding expenditures in an individual school budget.
  - (f) Construction of new schools and other appropriate facilities and maintenance of existing and future schools and facilities, except routine maintenance, but including major repairs to the physical plant of any local school, including electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and roofing repairs.
  - (g) Enrollment zones as established by the superintendent. (See 8(c)below)
  - (h) Preparation for and response to emergencies and disasters.
- (5) Requires the school system annually to retain revenue for payment of certain expenses and annually to retain up to four and one-half percent of the total per pupil amount established for each student in the system for expenditure for school system costs.
- (6) Requires the school board to adopt policies and procedures for its own government, consistent with law and with State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education regulations, as it deems proper.
- (7) Requires the school board to require the superintendent to:
- (a) Enter into contracts for independent operating management authority with the principal of each school (See 8 below).
  - (b) Hire and review performance of principals.
  - (c) Remove principals and reconstitute schools that do not meet state minimum accountability system benchmarks and performance goals established for principals (See 10 below).
  - (d) Create and manage a common enrollment system.

- (e) Establish enrollment zones (See 8(c) below).
  - (f) Oversee personnel management of central office staff, including recruiting, hiring, reviewing, and removing personnel.
  - (g) Review local school budgets for fiscal accountability and compliance with governmental and accounting regulations and law.
  - (h) Create a plan to address school excess capacity and excess demand for schools.
  - (i) Identify, recruit, retain, and train the best principals.
  - (j) If requested by a principal, provide support services for the school pursuant to written agreements with the principal for such services as school food services, financial and accounting services, student appraisal for special education services, student transportation services, special services for at-risk students, special education services other than gifted and talented, gifted and talented student services, custodial and maintenance services, media services, technology services, library services, health services, and health benefits for active employees. Requires the school to reimburse the school board for the actual cost of such services unless an amount less than the actual cost is agreed to by both parties. Requires the superintendent to prepare and submit annually to each local school a written report of actual cost of services provided to the school and to prepare and submit a summary of this report to the local school board.
  - (k) Process and report data for state accountability system purposes.
  - (l) Provide legal representation for the school system.
  - (m) Provide communications and public relations for the school system.
  - (n) Work with principals and the community to strategically map programs in local schools to ensure adequate availability of special education programs.
- (8) Requires the school board to require the superintendent to:
- (a) Develop and implement criteria and procedures for independent operating management authority by means of management contracts with principals that establish and hold principals and schools responsible for performance goals (See 10 below) in exchange for independent management authority, which contracts may vary from principal to principal, provided the performance goals are addressed. Provides that the principal's salary be established in the management contract. The duration of each management contract shall be no more than two years, and management contracts may be terminated for failure to meet the performance goals specified in the contract and for willful neglect of duty, incompetency, dishonesty, or immorality. No principal shall suffer any disciplinary action for exercising any right or power or performing any duty or function granted or authorized for principals by proposed law. For the 2014-2015 school year, only a principal who has been rated "highly effective" pursuant to the performance evaluation program as provided in proposed law shall be eligible to enter into a management contract pursuant to proposed law.
  - (b) Develop and implement policies to allow a school to have the right to use its designated school building and related facilities and property and to allow access to such additional facilities as are typically available to the school, its students, faculty, and staff. Provides that use be unrestricted, except makes the school responsible for routine maintenance and repair. Provides that extensive repair to buildings or facilities that would be considered a capital expense or as provided in (4)(f) above be provided by the school system or other public entity which is responsible for the facility.
  - (c) Develop an enrollment system for enrollment of students in all public schools in the school system. Requires that the enrollment system include at least five community-based enrollment zones approved by the school board and provisions for student choice, priority of schools for a student within the enrollment zone in which the student resides, access to schools across zones,

- including but not limited to access to magnet schools and programs and special education schools, programs, and services.
- (d) Requires that the enrollment system include all public schools in all zones in which such schools are eligible to enroll students.
  - (e) Requires charter schools located within the geographic boundaries of the large school system be included as an enrollment option in any enrollment zone from which they are eligible to enroll students.
  - (f) Provides that if a student's parent or legal guardian fails to choose a school through the enrollment system, the large school system shall assign the student to a school with excess capacity. Provides that in no case shall a student be assigned to, or required to attend, a charter school, a school under the jurisdiction of the Recovery School District, or a school outside the jurisdiction of the large school system in which he resides.
  - (g) Requires certain information regarding the enrollment system be posted on the school system's website.
- (9) Provides that the principal of each school is the school's chief executive officer and that requires that the school board require each principal to have, as a minimum, responsibility for:
- (a) Development of a school budget for submission to the superintendent.
  - (b) Personnel management, including recruiting, hiring, reviewing, and removing of personnel necessary for school operation and instruction. Requires the principal to make all employment-related decisions based upon performance, effectiveness, and qualifications. Provides that effectiveness, as determined pursuant to state law relative to evaluation of school personnel shall be the primary criterion for personnel decisions and that seniority or tenure shall not be the primary criterion in decisions regarding the hiring, assignment, or dismissal of teachers and other school employees.
  - (c) Student discipline.
  - (d) Student health and safety.
  - (e) Ensuring a safe workplace environment for teachers and other school personnel.
  - (f) Preparation and maintenance of a daily school schedule.
  - (g) Development of the school curriculum and provision of related training.
  - (h) Instruction methods, instruction materials, and instructional support.
  - (i) Examinations and assessments not required by state law.
  - (j) School operations, including resource management and procurement.
  - (k) Professional development.
  - (l) Compliance with district enrollment policies.
- (10) Provides that each principal is accountable for achieving performance goals established in management contracts (See 8(a) above) including but not limited to goals in each of the following areas:
- (a) Student performance on state examinations, end-of-course tests, and other examinations such as the ACT and Advanced Placement.
  - (b) Additional student achievement benchmarks determined by the superintendent.
  - (c) Health and safety.
  - (d) Attendance.
  - (e) Retention.
  - (f) Promotion.
  - (g) Course and examination passage rates.
  - (h) Graduation rates, at the high school level.
  - (i) College acceptance rates, at the high school level.
  - (j) Sound financial operation.
  - (k) School governance, leadership, and management.

- (11) Provides for community school councils as follows:
- (a) Provides that these provisions don't apply to or include charter schools.
  - (b) Requires the principals of all schools within an enrollment zone to establish one community school council for the enrollment zone. Provides that councils will be advisory only, and support school principals, by acting as an advocate for schools, and engage surrounding communities.
  - (c) Provides that a council's responsibilities shall include:
    - (I) Actively engaging the community where the schools are located, driving support for the schools, and cultivating a sense of community ownership.
    - (II) Developing a written parent involvement policy for the schools in the enrollment zone that outlines the roles of parents and guardians.
    - (III) Developing a school compact for parents, guardians, and students of schools in the zone that outlines each school's goals, academic focus, and behavioral and disciplinary expectations.
  - (d) Requires that each council have at least five members but no more than eleven members, and that at least 60% of the membership be comprised of parents or guardians of students currently attending a school within the enrollment zone and at least 40% include community and business members whose residence or place of business is located within the enrollment zone. Prohibits employment of a council member by the school system within the council's enrollment zone. Prohibits a current local school board member from serving on a council. Provides that council members serve two-year terms but prohibits service for more than six successive years. Provides that council service shall be uncompensated.
- (12) Permits each council to be assisted by a community academic coordinator, who is responsible for assisting the council in carrying out its duties. Provides that the coordinator be hired by and report to the principals of schools within the enrollment zone served by the council and that the principals be collectively and equally responsible for the salary, benefits, and related costs of employing the community academic coordinator.

Requires the local school board to require the superintendent to complete a plan for implementation of proposed law and file a copy of the plan with the school board not later than Aug. 1, 2015. Further requires the plan include provisions for implementation of all requirements of proposed law and to include provisions for training for principals relative to principal empowerment. Authorizes the plan to include provisions for implementation phases for particular provisions of the proposed law.

Requires the superintendent to begin implementation upon filing of the plan with the school board and requires full implementation of proposed law no later than July 1, 2017.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Adds R.S. 17:131-136)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by SenateCommittee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Makes technical corrections.
2. Specifies that proposed law does not supersede present law provisions relative to student transportation.
3. Provides for a dedicated account, instead of a trust fund, for funds to be deposited and expended for legacy costs.
4. Specifies that the school system may retain up to three percent of the total per pupil amount established for each student, instead of the per pupil amount established in the MFP formula.
5. Requires for the creation of an implementation plan by December 31, 2014, which includes provision of principal training.
6. Provides for the duration and provisions of management contracts, including grounds for termination.
7. Clarifies which charter schools will be included as an enrollment option in a given enrollment zone.
8. Provides for school assignments for students whose parents fail to choose a school through the enrollment system.
9. Provides that the school principal is responsible for ensuring a safe workplace environment.
10. Requires all public schools, including charter schools, that enroll students residing within the school system to pay the system an amount for legacy costs as determined by an independent third-party expert.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Changes definition of "large school system".
2. Changes certain responsibilities of the local school board relative to allocation of funds.
3. Changes definition of "retiree legacy costs".
4. Changes the amount the school system is annually required to retain of the total per pupil amount established for each student in the system for expenditure for school system costs.
5. Provides certain requirements for management contract.
6. Requires community school councils to act in an advisory capacity.
7. Changes the council membership of parents or guardians of students attending the school from 50% to 60%.
8. Deletes provisions which required all public schools eligible to enroll students who reside within the geographic boundaries of the large school system to pay



the large school system a per-pupil amount for reimbursement of legacy costs from proposed law.

9. Requires affected superintendent to complete a plan for implementation of proposed law and file such with the school board no later than Aug. 1, 2015.
10. Requires full implementation of proposed law no later than July 1, 2017.
11. Requires certain information regarding the enrollment system be posted online.