



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB2981

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Rep. William "Will" Davis

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-17a  
105 ILCS 5/10-21.3b new  
30 ILCS 805/8.49 new

Amends the School Code. Provides that a school report card must include data related to: (1) the total student capacity for each school in the school district; (2) the number of student transfers enrolled in each receiving school in the receiving school district; (3) the number of requests for transfer received; and (4) the number of requests for transfer denied and the reasons supporting the denial of any request for transfer. Provides that on or before the first day of each semester, it shall be the duty of the superintendent of the receiving school district to file with the State Board of Education showing the total number of students granted transfers into or within the receiving school district, and their respective school sites and grade levels. Requires the State Board to submit an annual report available to the public, on or before July 1st, on their website that includes for each school district: (1) the number of students in the school year seeking admission to transfer to or within a school district; (2) the number of rejected transfer requests in the school year; (3) the reason or reasons why each rejected transfer request was rejected in the school year; and (4) the total number of students that into or within each district. Provides that each year the State Board shall randomly select 20 of the school districts in the State to conduct an audit of each district's approved and denied transfers based on the provisions of the policies adopted by the respective school district. Amends the State Mandates Act. Provides that no reimbursement by the State is required for the implementation of any mandate created by the amendatory Act.

LRB104 10325 LNS 20399 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 10-17a and by adding Section 10-21.3b as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-17a)

7 Sec. 10-17a. State, school district, and school report  
8 cards; Expanded High School Snapshot Report.

9 (1) By October 31, 2013 and October 31 of each subsequent  
10 school year, the State Board of Education, through the State  
11 Superintendent of Education, shall prepare a State report  
12 card, school district report cards, and school report cards,  
13 and shall by the most economical means provide to each school  
14 district in this State, including special charter districts  
15 and districts subject to the provisions of Article 34, the  
16 report cards for the school district and each of its schools.  
17 Because of the impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency  
18 during school year 2020-2021, the State Board of Education  
19 shall have until December 31, 2021 to prepare and provide the  
20 report cards that would otherwise be due by October 31, 2021.  
21 During a school year in which the Governor has declared a  
22 disaster due to a public health emergency pursuant to Section  
23 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, the report

1 cards for the school districts and each of its schools shall be  
2 prepared by December 31.

3 (2) In addition to any information required by federal  
4 law, the State Superintendent shall determine the indicators  
5 and presentation of the school report card, which must  
6 include, at a minimum, the most current data collected and  
7 maintained by the State Board of Education related to the  
8 following:

9 (A) school characteristics and student demographics,  
10 including average class size, average teaching experience,  
11 student racial/ethnic breakdown, and the percentage of  
12 students classified as low-income; the percentage of  
13 students classified as English learners, the number of  
14 students who graduate from a bilingual or English learner  
15 program, and the number of students who graduate from,  
16 transfer from, or otherwise leave bilingual programs; the  
17 percentage of students who have individualized education  
18 plans or 504 plans that provide for special education  
19 services; the number and the percentage of all students in  
20 grades kindergarten through 8, disaggregated by the  
21 student demographics described in this paragraph (A), in  
22 each of the following categories: (i) those who have been  
23 assessed for placement in a gifted education program or  
24 accelerated placement, (ii) those who have enrolled in a  
25 gifted education program or in accelerated placement, and  
26 (iii) for each of categories (i) and (ii), those who

1 received direct instruction from a teacher who holds a  
2 gifted education endorsement; the number and the  
3 percentage of all students in grades 9 through 12,  
4 disaggregated by the student demographics described in  
5 this paragraph (A), who have been enrolled in an advanced  
6 academic program; the percentage of students scoring at  
7 the "exceeds expectations" level on the assessments  
8 required under Section 2-3.64a-5 of this Code; the  
9 percentage of students who annually transferred in or out  
10 of the school district; average daily attendance; the  
11 per-pupil operating expenditure of the school district;  
12 and the per-pupil State average operating expenditure for  
13 the district type (elementary, high school, or unit);

14 (B) curriculum information, including, where  
15 applicable, Advanced Placement, International  
16 Baccalaureate or equivalent courses, dual credit courses,  
17 foreign language classes, computer science courses, school  
18 personnel resources (including Career Technical Education  
19 teachers), before and after school programs,  
20 extracurricular activities, subjects in which elective  
21 classes are offered, health and wellness initiatives  
22 (including the average number of days of Physical  
23 Education per week per student), approved programs of  
24 study, awards received, community partnerships, and  
25 special programs such as programming for the gifted and  
26 talented, students with disabilities, and work-study

1 students;

2 (C) student outcomes, including, where applicable, the  
3 percentage of students deemed proficient on assessments of  
4 State standards, the percentage of students in the eighth  
5 grade who pass Algebra, the percentage of students who  
6 participated in workplace learning experiences, the  
7 percentage of students enrolled in post-secondary  
8 institutions (including colleges, universities, community  
9 colleges, trade/vocational schools, and training programs  
10 leading to career certification within 2 semesters of high  
11 school graduation), the percentage of students graduating  
12 from high school who are college and career ready, the  
13 percentage of graduates enrolled in community colleges,  
14 colleges, and universities who are in one or more courses  
15 that the community college, college, or university  
16 identifies as a developmental course, and the percentage  
17 of students with disabilities under the federal  
18 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Article 14  
19 of this Code who have fulfilled the minimum State  
20 graduation requirements set forth in Section 27-22 of this  
21 Code and have been issued a regular high school diploma;

22 (D) student progress, including, where applicable, the  
23 percentage of students in the ninth grade who have earned  
24 5 credits or more without failing more than one core  
25 class, a measure of students entering kindergarten ready  
26 to learn, a measure of growth, and the percentage of

1 students who enter high school on track for college and  
2 career readiness;

3 (E) the school environment, including, where  
4 applicable, high school dropout rate by grade level, the  
5 percentage of students with less than 10 absences in a  
6 school year, the percentage of teachers with less than 10  
7 absences in a school year for reasons other than  
8 professional development, leaves taken pursuant to the  
9 federal Family Medical Leave Act of 1993, long-term  
10 disability, or parental leaves, the 3-year average of the  
11 percentage of teachers returning to the school from the  
12 previous year, the number of different principals at the  
13 school in the last 6 years, the number of teachers who hold  
14 a gifted education endorsement, the process and criteria  
15 used by the district to determine whether a student is  
16 eligible for participation in a gifted education program  
17 or advanced academic program and the manner in which  
18 parents and guardians are made aware of the process and  
19 criteria, the number of teachers who are National Board  
20 Certified Teachers, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, 2  
21 or more indicators from any school climate survey selected  
22 or approved by the State and administered pursuant to  
23 Section 2-3.153 of this Code, with the same or similar  
24 indicators included on school report cards for all surveys  
25 selected or approved by the State pursuant to Section  
26 2-3.153 of this Code, the combined percentage of teachers

1 rated as proficient or excellent in their most recent  
2 evaluation, and, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year,  
3 data on the number of incidents of violence that occurred  
4 on school grounds or during school-related activities and  
5 that resulted in an out-of-school suspension, expulsion,  
6 or removal to an alternative setting, as reported pursuant  
7 to Section 2-3.162;

8 (F) a school district's and its individual schools'  
9 balanced accountability measure, in accordance with  
10 Section 2-3.25a of this Code;

11 (G) the total and per pupil normal cost amount the  
12 State contributed to the Teachers' Retirement System of  
13 the State of Illinois in the prior fiscal year for the  
14 school's employees, which shall be reported to the State  
15 Board of Education by the Teachers' Retirement System of  
16 the State of Illinois;

17 (H) for a school district organized under Article 34  
18 of this Code only, State contributions to the Public  
19 School Teachers' Pension and Retirement Fund of Chicago  
20 and State contributions for health care for employees of  
21 that school district;

22 (I) a school district's Final Percent of Adequacy, as  
23 defined in paragraph (4) of subsection (f) of Section  
24 18-8.15 of this Code;

25 (J) a school district's Local Capacity Target, as  
26 defined in paragraph (2) of subsection (c) of Section

1 18-8.15 of this Code, displayed as a percentage amount;

2 (K) a school district's Real Receipts, as defined in  
3 paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of Section 18-8.15 of this  
4 Code, divided by a school district's Adequacy Target, as  
5 defined in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Section  
6 18-8.15 of this Code, displayed as a percentage amount;

7 (L) a school district's administrative costs;

8 (M) whether or not the school has participated in the  
9 Illinois Youth Survey. In this paragraph (M), "Illinois  
10 Youth Survey" means a self-report survey, administered in  
11 school settings every 2 years, designed to gather  
12 information about health and social indicators, including  
13 substance abuse patterns and the attitudes of students in  
14 grades 8, 10, and 12;

15 (N) whether the school offered its students career and  
16 technical education opportunities; ~~and~~

17 (O) beginning with the October 2024 report card, the  
18 total number of school counselors, school social workers,  
19 school nurses, and school psychologists by school,  
20 district, and State, the average number of students per  
21 school counselor in the school, district, and State, the  
22 average number of students per school social worker in the  
23 school, district, and State, the average number of  
24 students per school nurse in the school, district, and  
25 State, and the average number of students per school  
26 psychologist in the school, district, and State; and -

1           (P) beginning with the October 2026 report card and on  
2           or before every October 1st thereafter:

3           (1) the total student capacity for each school in  
4           the school district;

5           (2) the number of student transfers enrolled in  
6           each receiving school in the receiving school  
7           district;

8           (3) the number of requests for transfer received  
9           under Sections 10-21.3a and 10-22.5a; and

10           (4) the number of requests for transfer denied and  
11           the reasons supporting the denial of any request for  
12           transfer.

13           The school report card shall also provide information that  
14           allows for comparing the current outcome, progress, and  
15           environment data to the State average, to the school data from  
16           the past 5 years, and to the outcomes, progress, and  
17           environment of similar schools based on the type of school and  
18           enrollment of low-income students, special education students,  
19           and English learners.

20           As used in this subsection (2):

21           "Accelerated placement" has the meaning ascribed to that  
22           term in Section 14A-17 of this Code.

23           "Administrative costs" means costs associated with  
24           executive, administrative, or managerial functions within the  
25           school district that involve planning, organizing, managing,  
26           or directing the school district.

1 "Advanced academic program" means a course of study,  
2 including, but not limited to, accelerated placement, advanced  
3 placement coursework, International Baccalaureate coursework,  
4 dual credit, or any course designated as enriched or honors,  
5 that a student is enrolled in based on advanced cognitive  
6 ability or advanced academic achievement compared to local age  
7 peers and in which the curriculum is substantially  
8 differentiated from the general curriculum to provide  
9 appropriate challenge and pace.

10 "Computer science" means the study of computers and  
11 algorithms, including their principles, their hardware and  
12 software designs, their implementation, and their impact on  
13 society. "Computer science" does not include the study of  
14 everyday uses of computers and computer applications, such as  
15 keyboarding or accessing the Internet.

16 "Gifted education" means educational services, including  
17 differentiated curricula and instructional methods, designed  
18 to meet the needs of gifted children as defined in Article 14A  
19 of this Code.

20 For the purposes of paragraph (A) of this subsection (2),  
21 "average daily attendance" means the average of the actual  
22 number of attendance days during the previous school year for  
23 any enrolled student who is subject to compulsory attendance  
24 by Section 26-1 of this Code at each school and charter school.

25 (2.5) For any school report card prepared after July 1,  
26 2025, for all high school graduation completion rates that are

1 reported on the school report card as required under this  
2 Section or by any other State or federal law, the State  
3 Superintendent of Education shall also report the percentage  
4 of students who did not meet the requirements of high school  
5 graduation completion for any reason and, of those students,  
6 the percentage that are classified as students who fulfill the  
7 requirements of Section 14-16 of this Code.

8 The State Superintendent shall ensure that for the  
9 2023-2024 school year there is a specific code for districts  
10 to report students who fulfill the requirements of Section  
11 14-16 of this Code to ensure accurate reporting under this  
12 Section.

13 All reporting requirements under this subsection (2.5)  
14 shall be included on the school report card where high school  
15 graduation completion rates are reported, along with a brief  
16 explanation of how fulfilling the requirements of Section  
17 14-16 of this Code is different from receiving a regular high  
18 school diploma.

19 (3) At the discretion of the State Superintendent, the  
20 school district report card shall include a subset of the  
21 information identified in paragraphs (A) through (E) of  
22 subsection (2) of this Section, as well as information  
23 relating to the operating expense per pupil and other finances  
24 of the school district, and the State report card shall  
25 include a subset of the information identified in paragraphs  
26 (A) through (E) and paragraph (N) of subsection (2) of this

1 Section. The school district report card shall include the  
2 average daily attendance, as that term is defined in  
3 subsection (2) of this Section, of students who have  
4 individualized education programs and students who have 504  
5 plans that provide for special education services within the  
6 school district.

7 (4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this  
8 Section, in consultation with key education stakeholders, the  
9 State Superintendent shall at any time have the discretion to  
10 amend or update any and all metrics on the school, district, or  
11 State report card.

12 (5) Annually, no more than 30 calendar days after receipt  
13 of the school district and school report cards from the State  
14 Superintendent of Education, each school district, including  
15 special charter districts and districts subject to the  
16 provisions of Article 34, shall present such report cards at a  
17 regular school board meeting subject to applicable notice  
18 requirements, post the report cards on the school district's  
19 Internet web site, if the district maintains an Internet web  
20 site, make the report cards available to a newspaper of  
21 general circulation serving the district, and, upon request,  
22 send the report cards home to a parent (unless the district  
23 does not maintain an Internet web site, in which case the  
24 report card shall be sent home to parents without request). If  
25 the district posts the report card on its Internet web site,  
26 the district shall send a written notice home to parents

1 stating (i) that the report card is available on the web site,  
2 (ii) the address of the web site, (iii) that a printed copy of  
3 the report card will be sent to parents upon request, and (iv)  
4 the telephone number that parents may call to request a  
5 printed copy of the report card.

6 (6) Nothing contained in Public Act 98-648 repeals,  
7 supersedes, invalidates, or nullifies final decisions in  
8 lawsuits pending on July 1, 2014 (the effective date of Public  
9 Act 98-648) in Illinois courts involving the interpretation of  
10 Public Act 97-8.

11 (7) As used in this subsection (7):

12 "Advanced coursework or programs" means any high school  
13 courses, sequence of courses, or class or grouping of students  
14 organized to provide more rigorous, enriched, advanced,  
15 accelerated, gifted, or above grade-level instruction. This  
16 may include, but is not limited to, Advanced Placement  
17 courses, International Baccalaureate courses, honors,  
18 weighted, advanced, or enriched courses, or gifted or  
19 accelerated programs, classrooms, or courses.

20 "Course" means any high school class or course offered by  
21 a school that is assigned a school course code by the State  
22 Board of Education.

23 "High school" means a school that maintains any of grades  
24 9 through 12.

25 "Standard coursework or programs" means any high school  
26 courses or classes other than advanced coursework or programs.

1 By December 31, 2027 and by December 31 of each subsequent  
2 year, the State Board of Education, through the State  
3 Superintendent of Education, shall prepare a stand-alone  
4 report covering all public high schools in this State, to be  
5 referred to as the Expanded High School Coursework Snapshot  
6 Report. The State Board shall post the Report on the State  
7 Board's Internet website. Each school district with high  
8 school enrollment for the reporting year shall include on the  
9 school district's Internet website, if the district maintains  
10 an Internet website, a hyperlink to the Report on the State  
11 Board's Internet website titled "Expanded High School  
12 Coursework Snapshot Report". Hyperlinks under this subsection  
13 (7) shall be displayed in a manner that is easily accessible to  
14 the public.

15 The Expanded High School Coursework Snapshot Report shall  
16 include:

17 (A) a listing of all standard coursework or programs  
18 that have high school student enrollment;

19 (B) a listing of all advanced coursework or programs  
20 that have high school student enrollment;

21 (C) a listing of all coursework or programs that have  
22 high school student enrollment by English learners;

23 (D) a listing of all coursework or programs that have  
24 high school student enrollment by students with  
25 disabilities;

26 (E) data tables and graphs comparing advanced

1 coursework or programs enrollment with standard coursework  
2 or programs enrollment according to the following  
3 parameters:

4 (i) the average years of experience of all  
5 teachers in a high school who are assigned to teach  
6 advanced coursework or programs compared with the  
7 average years of experience of all teachers in the  
8 high school who are assigned to teach standard  
9 coursework or programs;

10 (ii) the average years of experience of all  
11 teachers in a high school who are assigned to teach  
12 coursework or programs that have high school  
13 enrollment by students with disabilities compared with  
14 the average years of experience of all teachers in the  
15 high school who are not assigned to teach coursework  
16 or programs that have high school student enrollment  
17 by students with disabilities;

18 (iii) the average years of experience of all  
19 teachers in a high school who are assigned to teach  
20 coursework or programs that have high school student  
21 enrollment by English learners compared with the  
22 average years of experience of all teachers in the  
23 high school who are not assigned to teach coursework  
24 or programs that have high school student enrollment  
25 by English learners;

26 (iv) the number of high school teachers who

1 possess bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, or  
2 higher degrees and who are assigned to teach advanced  
3 coursework or programs compared with the number of  
4 teachers who possess bachelor's degrees, master's  
5 degrees, or higher degrees and who are assigned to  
6 teach standard coursework or programs;

7 (v) the number of high school teachers who possess  
8 bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, or higher  
9 degrees and who are assigned to teach coursework or  
10 programs that have high school student enrollment by  
11 students with disabilities compared with the number of  
12 teachers who possess bachelor's degrees, master's  
13 degrees, or higher degrees and who are not assigned to  
14 teach coursework or programs that have high school  
15 student enrollment by students with disabilities;

16 (vi) the number of high school teachers who  
17 possess bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, or  
18 higher degrees and who are assigned to teach  
19 coursework or programs that have high school student  
20 enrollment by English learners compared with the  
21 number of teachers who possess bachelor's degrees,  
22 master's degrees, or higher degrees and who are not  
23 assigned to teach coursework or programs that have  
24 high school student enrollment by English learners;

25 (vii) the average student enrollment of advanced  
26 coursework or programs offered in a high school

1 compared with the average student enrollment of  
2 standard coursework or programs;

3 (viii) the percentages of high school students, by  
4 race, gender, and program student group, who are  
5 enrolled in advanced coursework or programs;

6 (ix) (blank);

7 (x) (blank);

8 (xi) (blank);

9 (xii) (blank);

10 (xiii) (blank);

11 (xiv) the percentage of high school students, by  
12 race, gender, and program student group, who earn the  
13 equivalent of a C grade or higher on a grade A through  
14 F scale in one or more advanced coursework or programs  
15 compared with the percentage of high school students,  
16 by race, gender, and program student group, who earn  
17 the equivalent of a C grade or higher on a grade A  
18 through F scale in one or more standard coursework or  
19 programs;

20 (xv) (blank);

21 (xvi) (blank); and

22 (F) data tables and graphs for each race and ethnicity  
23 category and gender category describing:

24 (i) the total student number and student  
25 percentage for Advanced Placement courses taken by  
26 race and ethnicity category and gender category;

1 (ii) the total student number and student  
2 percentage for International Baccalaureate courses  
3 taken by race and ethnicity category and gender  
4 category;

5 (iii) (blank);

6 (iv) (blank); and

7 (v) the total student number and student  
8 percentage of high school students who earn a score of  
9 3 or higher on the Advanced Placement exam associated  
10 with an Advanced Placement course.

11 For data on teacher experience and education under this  
12 subsection (7), a teacher who teaches a combination of courses  
13 designated as advanced coursework or programs, courses or  
14 programs that have high school student enrollment by English  
15 learners, or standard coursework or programs shall be included  
16 in all relevant categories and the teacher's level of  
17 experience shall be added to the categories.

18 (Source: P.A. 102-16, eff. 6-17-21; 102-294, eff. 1-1-22;  
19 102-539, eff. 8-20-21; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21; 102-594, eff.  
20 7-1-22; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22; 103-116, eff. 6-30-23; 103-263,  
21 eff. 6-30-23; 103-413, eff, 1-1-24; 103-503, eff. 1-1-24;  
22 103-605, eff. 7-1-24; 103-780, eff. 8-2-24.)

23 (105 ILCS 5/10-21.3b new)

24 Sec. 10-21.3b. Transfer report.

25 (a) On or before the first day of each semester, it shall

1 be the duty of the superintendent of the receiving school  
2 district to file with the State Board of Education showing the  
3 total number of students granted transfers into or within the  
4 receiving school district, and their respective school sites  
5 and grade levels.

6 (b) The State Board of Education shall submit an annual  
7 report available to the public, on or before July 1st, on their  
8 website that includes for each school district:

9 (1) the number of students in the school year seeking  
10 admission to transfer to or within a school district;

11 (2) the number of rejected transfer requests in the  
12 school year;

13 (3) the reason or reasons why each rejected transfer  
14 request was rejected in the school year; and

15 (4) the total number of students that into or within  
16 each district.

17 (c) Each year the State Board of Education shall randomly  
18 select 20 of the school districts in the State to conduct an  
19 audit of each district's approved and denied transfers based  
20 on the provisions of the policies adopted by the respective  
21 school district. If the State Board of Education finds  
22 inaccurate reporting of capacity levels in a school district,  
23 the State Board of Education shall set the capacity for the  
24 school district.

25 Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding

1 Section 8.49 as follows:

2 (30 ILCS 805/8.49 new)

3 Sec. 8.49. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and  
4 8 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for  
5 the implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory  
6 Act of the 104th General Assembly.