



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4926

by Rep. Marcus C. Evans, Jr.

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-22.24b

105 ILCS 5/34-18

105 ILCS 5/34-18.88 new

from Ch. 122, par. 34-18

Amends the School Code. Provides that a school district, other than the Chicago school district, shall employ a sufficient number of school counselors to maintain a student-counselor ratio of 150 to 1 (rather than allowing the school district to employ a sufficient number of school counselors to maintain the national and State recommended student-counselor ratio of 250 to 1). Requires the Chicago Board of Education to employ a sufficient number of licensed school counselors to maintain a student-counselor ratio of 100 to 1 (rather than encouraging the board to employ a sufficient number of licensed school counselors to maintain a student/counselor ratio of 250 to 1).

LRB104 16706 LNS 30111 b

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

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 Sections
5 10-22.24b and 34-18 and by adding Section 34-18.88 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-22.24b)

7 Sec. 10-22.24b. School counseling services. School
8 counseling services in public schools may be provided by
9 school counselors as defined in Section 10-22.24a of this Code
10 or by individuals who hold a Professional Educator License
11 with a school support personnel endorsement in the area of
12 school counseling under Section 21B-25 of this Code. School
13 counseling services provided under this Section shall address
14 the needs of all students, regardless of citizenship status.

15 School counseling services may include, but are not
16 limited to:

17 (1) designing and delivering a comprehensive school
18 counseling program through a standards-based,
19 data-informed program that promotes student achievement
20 and wellness;

21 (2) (blank);

22 (3) school counselors working as culturally skilled
23 professionals who act sensitively to promote social

- 1 justice and equity in a pluralistic society;
- 2 (4) providing individual and group counseling;
- 3 (5) providing a core counseling curriculum that serves
4 all students and addresses the knowledge and skills
5 appropriate to their developmental level through a
6 collaborative model of delivery involving the school
7 counselor, classroom teachers, and other appropriate
8 education professionals, and including prevention and
9 pre-referral activities;
- 10 (6) making referrals when necessary to appropriate
11 offices or outside agencies;
- 12 (7) providing college and career development
13 activities and counseling;
- 14 (8) developing individual career plans with students,
15 which includes planning for post-secondary education, as
16 appropriate, and engaging in related and relevant career
17 and technical education coursework in high school;
- 18 (9) assisting all students with a college or
19 post-secondary education plan, which must include a
20 discussion on all post-secondary education options,
21 including 4-year colleges or universities, community
22 colleges, and vocational schools, and includes planning
23 for post-secondary education, as appropriate, and engaging
24 in related and relevant career and technical education
25 coursework in high school;
- 26 (10) (blank);

1 (11) educating all students on scholarships, financial
2 aid, and preparation of the Federal Application for
3 Federal Student Aid;

4 (12) collaborating with institutions of higher
5 education and local community colleges so that students
6 understand post-secondary education options and are ready
7 to transition successfully;

8 (13) providing crisis intervention and contributing to
9 the development of a specific crisis plan within the
10 school setting in collaboration with multiple
11 stakeholders;

12 (14) providing educational opportunities for students,
13 teachers, and parents on mental health issues;

14 (15) providing counseling and other resources to
15 students who are in crisis;

16 (16) working to address barriers that prohibit or
17 limit access to mental health services;

18 (17) addressing bullying and conflict resolution with
19 all students;

20 (18) teaching communication skills and helping
21 students develop positive relationships;

22 (19) using culturally sensitive skills in working with
23 all students to promote wellness;

24 (20) working to address the needs of all students with
25 regard to citizenship status;

26 (21) (blank);

1 (22) providing academic, social-emotional, and college
2 and career supports to all students irrespective of
3 special education or Section 504 status;

4 (23) assisting students in goal setting and success
5 skills for classroom behavior, study skills, test
6 preparation, internal motivation, and intrinsic rewards;

7 (24) (blank);

8 (25) providing information for all students in the
9 selection of courses that will lead to post-secondary
10 education opportunities toward a successful career;

11 (26) interpreting achievement test results and guiding
12 students in appropriate directions;

13 (27) (blank);

14 (28) providing families with opportunities for
15 education and counseling as appropriate in relation to the
16 student's educational assessment;

17 (29) consulting and collaborating with teachers and
18 other school personnel regarding behavior management and
19 intervention plans and inclusion in support of students;

20 (30) teaming and partnering with staff, parents,
21 businesses, and community organizations to support student
22 achievement and social-emotional learning standards for
23 all students;

24 (31) developing and implementing school-based
25 prevention programs, including, but not limited to,
26 mediation and violence prevention, implementing social and

1 emotional education programs and services, and
2 establishing and implementing bullying prevention and
3 intervention programs;

4 (32) developing culturally sensitive assessment
5 instruments for measuring school counseling prevention and
6 intervention effectiveness and collecting, analyzing, and
7 interpreting data;

8 (33) participating on school and district committees
9 to advocate for student programs and resources, as well as
10 establishing a school counseling advisory council that
11 includes representatives of key stakeholders selected to
12 review and advise on the implementation of the school
13 counseling program;

14 (34) acting as a liaison between the public schools
15 and community resources and building relationships with
16 important stakeholders, such as families, administrators,
17 teachers, and board members;

18 (35) maintaining organized, clear, and useful records
19 in a confidential manner consistent with Section 5 of the
20 Illinois School Student Records Act, the Family
21 Educational Rights and Privacy Act, and the Health
22 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act;

23 (36) presenting an annual agreement to the
24 administration, including a formal discussion of the
25 alignment of school and school counseling program missions
26 and goals and detailing specific school counselor

1 responsibilities;

2 (37) identifying and implementing culturally sensitive
3 measures of success for student competencies in each of
4 the 3 domains of academic, social and emotional, and
5 college and career learning based on planned and periodic
6 assessment of the comprehensive developmental school
7 counseling program;

8 (38) collaborating as a team member in Multi-Tiered
9 Systems of Support and other school initiatives;

10 (39) conducting observations and participating in
11 recommendations or interventions regarding the placement
12 of children in educational programs or special education
13 classes;

14 (40) analyzing data and results of school counseling
15 program assessments, including curriculum, small-group,
16 and closing-the-gap results reports, and designing
17 strategies to continue to improve program effectiveness;

18 (41) analyzing data and results of school counselor
19 competency assessments;

20 (42) following American School Counselor Association
21 Ethical Standards for School Counselors to demonstrate
22 high standards of integrity, leadership, and
23 professionalism;

24 (43) using student competencies to assess student
25 growth and development to inform decisions regarding
26 strategies, activities, and services that help students

1 achieve the highest academic level possible;

2 (44) practicing as a culturally skilled school
3 counselor by infusing the multicultural competencies
4 within the role of the school counselor, including the
5 practice of culturally sensitive attitudes and beliefs,
6 knowledge, and skills;

7 (45) infusing the Social-Emotional Standards, as
8 presented in the State Board of Education standards,
9 across the curriculum and in the counselor's role in ways
10 that empower and enable students to achieve academic
11 success across all grade levels;

12 (46) providing services only in areas in which the
13 school counselor has appropriate training or expertise, as
14 well as only providing counseling or consulting services
15 within his or her employment to any student in the
16 district or districts which employ such school counselor,
17 in accordance with professional ethics;

18 (47) having adequate training in supervision knowledge
19 and skills in order to supervise school counseling interns
20 enrolled in graduate school counselor preparation programs
21 that meet the standards established by the State Board of
22 Education;

23 (48) being involved with State and national
24 professional associations;

25 (49) complete the required training as outlined in
26 Section 10-22.39;

1 (50) (blank);

2 (51) (blank);

3 (52) (blank);

4 (53) (blank);

5 (54) (blank); and

6 (55) promoting career and technical education by
7 assisting each student to determine an appropriate
8 postsecondary plan based upon the student's skills,
9 strengths, and goals and assisting the student to
10 implement the best practices that improve career or
11 workforce readiness after high school.

12 School districts shall ~~may~~ employ a sufficient number of
13 school counselors to maintain a ~~the national and State~~
14 ~~recommended~~ student-counselor ratio of 150 ~~250~~ to 1. School
15 districts may have school counselors spend at least 80% of
16 their ~~his or her~~ work time in direct contact with students.

17 Nothing in this Section prohibits other qualified
18 professionals, including other endorsed school support
19 personnel, from providing the services listed in this Section.

20 (Source: P.A. 103-154, eff. 6-30-23; 103-542, eff. 7-1-24 (see
21 Section 905 of P.A. 103-563 for effective date of P.A.
22 103-542; 103-780, eff. 8-2-24; 104-353, eff. 8-15-25; 104-417,
23 eff. 8-15-25.)

24 (105 ILCS 5/34-18) (from Ch. 122, par. 34-18)

25 Sec. 34-18. Powers of the board. The board shall exercise

1 general supervision and jurisdiction over the public education
2 and the public school system of the city, and, except as
3 otherwise provided by this Article, shall have power:

4 1. To make suitable provision for the establishment
5 and maintenance throughout the year or for such portion
6 thereof as it may direct, not less than 9 months and in
7 compliance with Section 10-19.05, of schools of all grades
8 and kinds, including normal schools, high schools, night
9 schools, schools for defectives and delinquents, parental
10 and truant schools, schools for the blind, the deaf, and
11 persons with physical disabilities, schools or classes in
12 manual training, constructural and vocational teaching,
13 domestic arts, and physical culture, vocation and
14 extension schools and lecture courses, and all other
15 educational courses and facilities, including
16 establishing, equipping, maintaining and operating
17 playgrounds and recreational programs, when such programs
18 are conducted in, adjacent to, or connected with any
19 public school under the general supervision and
20 jurisdiction of the board; provided that the calendar for
21 the school term and any changes must be submitted to and
22 approved by the State Board of Education before the
23 calendar or changes may take effect, and provided that in
24 allocating funds from year to year for the operation of
25 all attendance centers within the district, the board
26 shall ensure that supplemental general State aid or

1 supplemental grant funds are allocated and applied in
2 accordance with Section 18-8, 18-8.05, or 18-8.15. To
3 admit to such schools without charge foreign exchange
4 students who are participants in an organized exchange
5 student program which is authorized by the board. The
6 board shall permit all students to enroll in
7 apprenticeship programs in trade schools operated by the
8 board, whether those programs are union-sponsored or not.
9 No student shall be refused admission into or be excluded
10 from any course of instruction offered in the common
11 schools by reason of that student's sex. No student shall
12 be denied equal access to physical education and
13 interscholastic athletic programs supported from school
14 district funds or denied participation in comparable
15 physical education and athletic programs solely by reason
16 of the student's sex. Equal access to programs supported
17 from school district funds and comparable programs will be
18 defined in rules promulgated by the State Board of
19 Education in consultation with the Illinois High School
20 Association. Notwithstanding any other provision of this
21 Article, neither the board of education nor any local
22 school council or other school official shall recommend
23 that children with disabilities be placed into regular
24 education classrooms unless those children with
25 disabilities are provided with supplementary services to
26 assist them so that they benefit from the regular

1 classroom instruction and are included on the teacher's
2 regular education class register;

3 2. To furnish lunches to pupils, to make a reasonable
4 charge therefor, and to use school funds for the payment
5 of such expenses as the board may determine are necessary
6 in conducting the school lunch program;

7 3. To co-operate with the circuit court;

8 4. To make arrangements with the public or
9 quasi-public libraries and museums for the use of their
10 facilities by teachers and pupils of the public schools;

11 5. To employ dentists and prescribe their duties for
12 the purpose of treating the pupils in the schools, but
13 accepting such treatment shall be optional with parents or
14 guardians;

15 6. To grant the use of assembly halls and classrooms
16 when not otherwise needed, including light, heat, and
17 attendants, for free public lectures, concerts, and other
18 educational and social interests, free of charge, under
19 such provisions and control as the principal of the
20 affected attendance center may prescribe;

21 7. To apportion the pupils to the several schools;
22 provided that no pupil shall be excluded from or
23 segregated in any such school on account of his color,
24 race, sex, or nationality. The board shall take into
25 consideration the prevention of segregation and the
26 elimination of separation of children in public schools

1 because of color, race, sex, or nationality. Except that
2 children may be committed to or attend parental and social
3 adjustment schools established and maintained either for
4 boys or girls only. All records pertaining to the
5 creation, alteration or revision of attendance areas shall
6 be open to the public. Nothing herein shall limit the
7 board's authority to establish multi-area attendance
8 centers or other student assignment systems for
9 desegregation purposes or otherwise, and to apportion the
10 pupils to the several schools. Furthermore, beginning in
11 school year 1994-95, pursuant to a board plan adopted by
12 October 1, 1993, the board shall offer, commencing on a
13 phased-in basis, the opportunity for families within the
14 school district to apply for enrollment of their children
15 in any attendance center within the school district which
16 does not have selective admission requirements approved by
17 the board. The appropriate geographical area in which such
18 open enrollment may be exercised shall be determined by
19 the board of education. Such children may be admitted to
20 any such attendance center on a space available basis
21 after all children residing within such attendance
22 center's area have been accommodated. If the number of
23 applicants from outside the attendance area exceed the
24 space available, then successful applicants shall be
25 selected by lottery. The board of education's open
26 enrollment plan must include provisions that allow

1 low-income students to have access to transportation
2 needed to exercise school choice. Open enrollment shall be
3 in compliance with the provisions of the Consent Decree
4 and Desegregation Plan cited in Section 34-1.01;

5 8. To approve programs and policies for providing
6 transportation services to students. Nothing herein shall
7 be construed to permit or empower the State Board of
8 Education to order, mandate, or require busing or other
9 transportation of pupils for the purpose of achieving
10 racial balance in any school;

11 9. Subject to the limitations in this Article, to
12 establish and approve system-wide curriculum objectives
13 and standards, including graduation standards, which
14 reflect the multi-cultural diversity in the city and are
15 consistent with State law, provided that for all purposes
16 of this Article courses or proficiency in American Sign
17 Language shall be deemed to constitute courses or
18 proficiency in a foreign language; and to employ
19 principals and teachers, appointed as provided in this
20 Article, and fix their compensation. The board shall
21 prepare such reports related to minimal competency testing
22 as may be requested by the State Board of Education and, in
23 addition, shall monitor and approve special education and
24 bilingual education programs and policies within the
25 district to ensure that appropriate services are provided
26 in accordance with applicable State and federal laws to

1 children requiring services and education in those areas;

2 10. To employ non-teaching personnel or utilize
3 volunteer personnel for: (i) non-teaching duties not
4 requiring instructional judgment or evaluation of pupils,
5 including library duties; and (ii) supervising study
6 halls, long distance teaching reception areas used
7 incident to instructional programs transmitted by
8 electronic media such as computers, video, and audio,
9 detention and discipline areas, and school-sponsored
10 extracurricular activities. The board may further utilize
11 volunteer nonlicensed personnel or employ nonlicensed
12 personnel to assist in the instruction of pupils under the
13 immediate supervision of a teacher holding a valid
14 educator license, directly engaged in teaching subject
15 matter or conducting activities; provided that the teacher
16 shall be continuously aware of the nonlicensed persons'
17 activities and shall be able to control or modify them.
18 The general superintendent shall determine qualifications
19 of such personnel and shall prescribe rules for
20 determining the duties and activities to be assigned to
21 such personnel;

22 10.5. To utilize volunteer personnel from a regional
23 School Crisis Assistance Team (S.C.A.T.), created as part
24 of the Safe to Learn Program established pursuant to
25 Section 25 of the Illinois Violence Prevention Act of
26 1995, to provide assistance to schools in times of

1 violence or other traumatic incidents within a school
2 community by providing crisis intervention services to
3 lessen the effects of emotional trauma on individuals and
4 the community; the School Crisis Assistance Team Steering
5 Committee shall determine the qualifications for
6 volunteers;

7 11. To provide television studio facilities in not to
8 exceed one school building and to provide programs for
9 educational purposes, provided, however, that the board
10 shall not construct, acquire, operate, or maintain a
11 television transmitter; to grant the use of its studio
12 facilities to a licensed television station located in the
13 school district; and to maintain and operate not to exceed
14 one school radio transmitting station and provide programs
15 for educational purposes;

16 12. To offer, if deemed appropriate, outdoor education
17 courses, including field trips within the State of
18 Illinois, or adjacent states, and to use school
19 educational funds for the expense of the said outdoor
20 educational programs, whether within the school district
21 or not;

22 13. During that period of the calendar year not
23 embraced within the regular school term, to provide and
24 conduct courses in subject matters normally embraced in
25 the program of the schools during the regular school term
26 and to give regular school credit for satisfactory

1 completion by the student of such courses as may be
2 approved for credit by the State Board of Education;

3 14. To insure against any loss or liability of the
4 board, the former School Board Nominating Commission,
5 Local School Councils, the Chicago Schools Academic
6 Accountability Council, or the former Subdistrict Councils
7 or of any member, officer, agent, or employee thereof,
8 resulting from alleged violations of civil rights arising
9 from incidents occurring on or after September 5, 1967 or
10 from the wrongful or negligent act or omission of any such
11 person whether occurring within or without the school
12 premises, provided the officer, agent, or employee was, at
13 the time of the alleged violation of civil rights or
14 wrongful act or omission, acting within the scope of his
15 or her employment or under direction of the board, the
16 former School Board Nominating Commission, the Chicago
17 Schools Academic Accountability Council, Local School
18 Councils, or the former Subdistrict Councils; and to
19 provide for or participate in insurance plans for its
20 officers and employees, including, but not limited to,
21 retirement annuities, medical, surgical and
22 hospitalization benefits in such types and amounts as may
23 be determined by the board; provided, however, that the
24 board shall contract for such insurance only with an
25 insurance company authorized to do business in this State.
26 Such insurance may include provision for employees who

1 rely on treatment by prayer or spiritual means alone for
2 healing, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a
3 recognized religious denomination;

4 15. To contract with the corporate authorities of any
5 municipality or the county board of any county, as the
6 case may be, to provide for the regulation of traffic in
7 parking areas of property used for school purposes, in
8 such manner as is provided by Section 11-209 of the
9 Illinois Vehicle Code;

10 16. In this paragraph 16:

11 "Direct admissions information" means a student's
12 name, home address, birth date, telephone number, email
13 address, cumulative grade point average, and high school.

14 "Directory information" means a high school student's
15 name, home address, birth date, and telephone number.

16 "Public institution of higher education" has the
17 meaning given to that term in the Board of Higher
18 Education Act.

19 (a) To provide, on an equal basis and consistent with
20 the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of
21 1974 and the Illinois School Student Records Act, access
22 to a high school campus and student directory information
23 to the official recruiting representatives of the armed
24 forces of Illinois and the United States, to the Illinois
25 Student Assistance Commission, and to public institutions
26 of higher education for the purposes of informing students

1 of educational and career opportunities if the board has
2 provided such access to persons or groups whose purpose is
3 to acquaint students with educational or occupational
4 opportunities available to them. The board is not required
5 to give greater notice regarding the right of access to
6 recruiting representatives than is given to other persons
7 and groups.

8 (a-5) To provide, on an equal basis and consistent
9 with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
10 of 1974 and the Illinois School Student Records Act,
11 access to student direct admissions information to the
12 Illinois Student Assistance Commission for the purpose of
13 the direct admission program.

14 (b) If a student or his or her parent or guardian
15 submits a signed, written request to the high school
16 before the end of the student's sophomore year (or if the
17 student is a transfer student, by another time set by the
18 high school) that indicates that the student or his or her
19 parent or guardian does not want the student's directory
20 information to be provided to official recruiting
21 representatives, to the Illinois Student Assistance
22 Commission, and to public institutions of higher education
23 under subparagraph (a) of this paragraph 16, the high
24 school may not provide access to the student's directory
25 information to these recruiting representatives, the
26 Illinois Student Assistance Commission, and public

1 institutions of higher education. The high school shall
2 notify its students and their parents or guardians of the
3 provisions of this subparagraph (b).

4 (b-5) If a student who is 18 years of age or older or
5 the parent or guardian of a student under 18 years of age
6 submits a signed, written or electronic consent that
7 indicates that the student or his or her parent or
8 guardian does permit the student's direct admissions
9 information to be provided, the high school shall provide
10 the student's direct admissions information to the
11 Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

12 The Illinois Student Assistance Commission shall
13 provide template opt-in language to those school districts
14 maintaining grades 10 through 12, which shall be made
15 available on the Commission's website no later than June
16 30, 2025. The template opt-in language shall specify that
17 if the student or the student's parent or guardian
18 provides consent, the student's direct admissions
19 information will be sent to the Illinois Student
20 Assistance Commission and the direct admissions
21 information may, as needed for the administration of the
22 direct admission program under the Public University
23 Direct Admission Program Act, be redisclosed to the Board
24 of Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board,
25 public universities for which the student qualifies under
26 the direct admission program, the University of Illinois

1 at Urbana-Champaign and the University of Illinois at
2 Chicago if the student qualifies under Section 20 of the
3 Public University Direct Admission Program Act, the
4 community college district where the student resides, and,
5 if applicable, a third party that operates a statewide
6 student application portal. The template opt-in language
7 shall also specify that direct admissions information may
8 not be redisclosed to any other individual or entity
9 unless the opt-in language notifies the student or the
10 student's parent or guardian of such redisclosure and the
11 student or the student's parent or guardian consents to
12 the redisclosure.

13 The high school shall notify its students and their
14 parents or guardians of the provisions of this
15 subparagraph (b-5) and, at the time of school registration
16 or at other appropriate times prior to the end of a
17 student's junior year, give its students and their parents
18 or guardians the option for the student information to be
19 shared for the purpose of the direct admission program.

20 (c) A high school may require official recruiting
21 representatives of the armed forces of Illinois and the
22 United States to pay a fee for copying and mailing a
23 student's directory information in an amount that is not
24 more than the actual costs incurred by the high school.

25 (d) Information received by an official under this
26 Section may be used only to provide information to

1 students concerning educational and career opportunities.
2 Information may not be released to a person who is not
3 involved in recruiting students for the armed forces of
4 Illinois or the United States or providing educational
5 opportunity information for the Board of Higher Education,
6 the Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois Student
7 Assistance Commission, or public institutions of higher
8 education.

9 (e) By July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter, the
10 school district shall make student directory information
11 electronically accessible for official recruiting
12 representatives of the armed forces of Illinois or the
13 United States, to the Illinois Student Assistance
14 Commission, and to public institutions of higher
15 education;

16 (f) By July 1, 2026 and each July 1 thereafter, the
17 school district shall make student direct admissions
18 information electronically accessible through a secure,
19 centralized data system to the Illinois Student Assistance
20 Commission for the purpose of the direct admission
21 program.

22 (g) The Board of Higher Education, the Illinois
23 Community College Board, the Illinois Student Assistance
24 Commission, and the State Board of Education may adopt any
25 rules necessary to administer this paragraph 16.

26 17. (a) To sell or market any computer program

1 developed by an employee of the school district, provided
2 that such employee developed the computer program as a
3 direct result of his or her duties with the school
4 district or through the utilization of school district
5 resources or facilities. The employee who developed the
6 computer program shall be entitled to share in the
7 proceeds of such sale or marketing of the computer
8 program. The distribution of such proceeds between the
9 employee and the school district shall be as agreed upon
10 by the employee and the school district, except that
11 neither the employee nor the school district may receive
12 more than 90% of such proceeds. The negotiation for an
13 employee who is represented by an exclusive bargaining
14 representative may be conducted by such bargaining
15 representative at the employee's request.

16 (b) For the purpose of this paragraph 17:

17 (1) "Computer" means an internally programmed, general
18 purpose digital device capable of automatically accepting
19 data, processing data and supplying the results of the
20 operation.

21 (2) "Computer program" means a series of coded
22 instructions or statements in a form acceptable to a
23 computer, which causes the computer to process data in
24 order to achieve a certain result.

25 (3) "Proceeds" means profits derived from the
26 marketing or sale of a product after deducting the

1 expenses of developing and marketing such product;

2 18. To delegate to the general superintendent of
3 schools, by resolution, the authority to approve contracts
4 and expenditures in amounts of \$35,000 or less;

5 19. Upon the written request of an employee, to
6 withhold from the compensation of that employee any dues,
7 payments, or contributions payable by such employee to any
8 labor organization as defined in the Illinois Educational
9 Labor Relations Act. Under such arrangement, an amount
10 shall be withheld from each regular payroll period which
11 is equal to the pro rata share of the annual dues plus any
12 payments or contributions, and the board shall transmit
13 such withholdings to the specified labor organization
14 within 10 working days from the time of the withholding;

15 19a. Upon receipt of notice from the comptroller of a
16 municipality with a population of 500,000 or more, a
17 county with a population of 3,000,000 or more, the Cook
18 County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park
19 District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the
20 Chicago Transit Authority, or a housing authority of a
21 municipality with a population of 500,000 or more that a
22 debt is due and owing the municipality, the county, the
23 Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park
24 District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the
25 Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing authority by an
26 employee of the Chicago Board of Education, to withhold,

1 from the compensation of that employee, the amount of the
2 debt that is due and owing and pay the amount withheld to
3 the municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest
4 Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the
5 Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago
6 Transit Authority, or the housing authority; provided,
7 however, that the amount deducted from any one salary or
8 wage payment shall not exceed 25% of the net amount of the
9 payment. Before the Board deducts any amount from any
10 salary or wage of an employee under this paragraph, the
11 municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve
12 District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan
13 Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority,
14 or the housing authority shall certify that (i) the
15 employee has been afforded an opportunity for a hearing to
16 dispute the debt that is due and owing the municipality,
17 the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the
18 Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation
19 District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing
20 authority and (ii) the employee has received notice of a
21 wage deduction order and has been afforded an opportunity
22 for a hearing to object to the order. For purposes of this
23 paragraph, "net amount" means that part of the salary or
24 wage payment remaining after the deduction of any amounts
25 required by law to be deducted and "debt due and owing"
26 means (i) a specified sum of money owed to the

1 municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve
2 District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan
3 Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority,
4 or the housing authority for services, work, or goods,
5 after the period granted for payment has expired, or (ii)
6 a specified sum of money owed to the municipality, the
7 county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the
8 Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation
9 District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing
10 authority pursuant to a court order or order of an
11 administrative hearing officer after the exhaustion of, or
12 the failure to exhaust, judicial review;

13 20. (Blank); ~~The board is encouraged to employ a~~
14 ~~sufficient number of licensed school counselors to~~
15 ~~maintain a student/counselor ratio of 250 to 1. Each~~
16 ~~counselor shall spend at least 75% of his work time in~~
17 ~~direct contact with students and shall maintain a record~~
18 ~~of such time;~~

19 21. To make available to students vocational and
20 career counseling and to establish 5 special career
21 counseling days for students and parents. On these days
22 representatives of local businesses and industries shall
23 be invited to the school campus and shall inform students
24 of career opportunities available to them in the various
25 businesses and industries. Special consideration shall be
26 given to counseling minority students as to career

1 opportunities available to them in various fields. For the
2 purposes of this paragraph, minority student means a
3 person who is any of the following:

4 (a) American Indian or Alaska Native (a person having
5 origins in any of the original peoples of North and South
6 America, including Central America, and who maintains
7 tribal affiliation or community attachment).

8 (b) Asian (a person having origins in any of the
9 original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the
10 Indian subcontinent, including, but not limited to,
11 Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan,
12 the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam).

13 (c) Black or African American (a person having origins
14 in any of the black racial groups of Africa).

15 (d) Hispanic or Latino (a person of Cuban, Mexican,
16 Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish
17 culture or origin, regardless of race).

18 (e) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (a
19 person having origins in any of the original peoples of
20 Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands).

21 Counseling days shall not be in lieu of regular school
22 days;

23 22. To report to the State Board of Education the
24 annual student dropout rate and number of students who
25 graduate from, transfer from, or otherwise leave bilingual
26 programs;

1 23. Except as otherwise provided in the Abused and
2 Neglected Child Reporting Act or other applicable State or
3 federal law, to permit school officials to withhold, from
4 any person, information on the whereabouts of any child
5 removed from school premises when the child has been taken
6 into protective custody as a victim of suspected child
7 abuse. School officials shall direct such person to the
8 Department of Children and Family Services or to the local
9 law enforcement agency, if appropriate;

10 24. To develop a policy, based on the current state of
11 existing school facilities, projected enrollment, and
12 efficient utilization of available resources, for capital
13 improvement of schools and school buildings within the
14 district, addressing in that policy both the relative
15 priority for major repairs, renovations, and additions to
16 school facilities and the advisability or necessity of
17 building new school facilities or closing existing schools
18 to meet current or projected demographic patterns within
19 the district;

20 25. To make available to the students in every high
21 school attendance center the ability to take all courses
22 necessary to comply with the Board of Higher Education's
23 college entrance criteria effective in 1993;

24 26. To encourage mid-career changes into the teaching
25 profession, whereby qualified professionals become
26 licensed teachers, by allowing credit for professional

1 employment in related fields when determining point of
2 entry on the teacher pay scale;

3 27. To provide or contract out training programs for
4 administrative personnel and principals with revised or
5 expanded duties pursuant to this Code in order to ensure
6 they have the knowledge and skills to perform their
7 duties;

8 28. To establish a fund for the prioritized special
9 needs programs, and to allocate such funds and other lump
10 sum amounts to each attendance center in a manner
11 consistent with the provisions of part 4 of Section
12 34-2.3. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to
13 require any additional appropriations of State funds for
14 this purpose;

15 29. (Blank);

16 30. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or
17 any other law to the contrary, to contract with third
18 parties for services otherwise performed by employees,
19 including those in a bargaining unit, and to lay off those
20 employees upon 14 days' written notice to the affected
21 employees. Those contracts may be for a period not to
22 exceed 5 years and may be awarded on a system-wide basis.
23 The board may not operate more than 30 contract schools,
24 provided that the board may operate an additional 5
25 contract turnaround schools pursuant to item (5.5) of
26 subsection (d) of Section 34-8.3 of this Code, and the

1 governing bodies of contract schools are subject to the
2 Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act;

3 31. To promulgate rules establishing procedures
4 governing the layoff or reduction in force of employees
5 and the recall of such employees, including, but not
6 limited to, criteria for such layoffs, reductions in force
7 or recall rights of such employees and the weight to be
8 given to any particular criterion. Such criteria shall
9 take into account factors, including, but not limited to,
10 qualifications, certifications, experience, performance
11 ratings or evaluations, and any other factors relating to
12 an employee's job performance;

13 32. To develop a policy to prevent nepotism in the
14 hiring of personnel or the selection of contractors;

15 33. (Blank); and

16 34. To establish a Labor Management Council to the
17 board comprised of representatives of the board, the chief
18 executive officer, and those labor organizations that are
19 the exclusive representatives of employees of the board
20 and to promulgate policies and procedures for the
21 operation of the Council.

22 The specifications of the powers herein granted are not to
23 be construed as exclusive, but the board shall also exercise
24 all other powers that may be requisite or proper for the
25 maintenance and the development of a public school system, not
26 inconsistent with the other provisions of this Article or

1 provisions of this Code which apply to all school districts.

2 In addition to the powers herein granted and authorized to
3 be exercised by the board, it shall be the duty of the board to
4 review or to direct independent reviews of special education
5 expenditures and services. The board shall file a report of
6 such review with the General Assembly on or before May 1, 1990.
7 (Source: P.A. 103-8, eff. 1-1-24; 104-15, eff. 6-30-25;
8 104-417, eff. 8-15-25.)

9 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.88 new)

10 Sec. 34-18.88. School counselors. The board shall employ a
11 sufficient number of licensed school counselors to maintain a
12 student-counselor ratio of 100 to 1. Each counselor shall
13 spend at least 75% of his or her work time in direct contact
14 with students and shall maintain a record of such time.