

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 2-3.53a and 21-7.10 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.53a)

7 Sec. 2-3.53a. New principal mentoring program.

8 (a) Beginning on July 1, 2007, and subject to an annual
9 appropriation by the General Assembly, to establish a new
10 principal mentoring program for new principals. Any individual
11 who is hired as a principal in the State of Illinois on or
12 after July 1, 2007 and before July 1, 2008 shall participate in
13 a new principal mentoring program for the duration of his or
14 her first year as a principal and must complete the program in
15 accordance with the requirements established by the State Board
16 of Education by rule or, for a school district created by
17 Article 34 of this Code, in accordance with the provisions of
18 Section 34-18.27 of this Code. School districts created by
19 Article 34 are not subject to the requirements of subsection
20 (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), or (g) of this Section. Principals
21 hired on or after July 1, 2007 and before July 1, 2008 may
22 participate in a second year of mentoring if it is determined
23 by the State Superintendent of Education that sufficient

1 funding exists for such participation. Beginning on July 1,
2 2008, and subject to an annual appropriation by the General
3 Assembly, any individual who is first hired as a principal in
4 the State of Illinois on or after July 1, 2008 shall
5 participate in a new principal mentoring program for the
6 duration of his or her first year and second year as a
7 principal and must complete the program in accordance with
8 requirements herein. The new principal mentoring program shall
9 match an experienced principal who meets the requirements of
10 subsection (b) of this Section with each new principal ~~in his~~
11 ~~or her first year in that position~~ in order to assist the new
12 principal in the development of his or her professional growth
13 and to provide guidance ~~during the new principal's first year~~
14 ~~of service.~~

15 (b) Any individual who has been a principal in Illinois for
16 3 or more years and who has demonstrated success as an
17 instructional leader, as determined by the State Board by rule,
18 is eligible to apply to be a mentor under a new principal
19 mentoring program. Mentors shall complete mentoring training
20 by entities approved by the State Board and meet any other
21 requirements set forth by the State Board and by the school
22 district employing the mentor.

23 (c) The State Board shall certify an entity or entities
24 approved to provide training of mentors.

25 (d) A mentor shall be assigned to a new principal based on
26 (i) similarity of grade level or type of school, (ii) learning

1 needs of the new principal, and (iii) geographical proximity of
2 the mentor to the new principal. The principal, in
3 collaboration with the mentor, shall identify areas for
4 improvement of the new principal's professional growth,
5 including, but not limited to, each of the following:

6 (1) Analyzing data and applying it to practice.

7 (2) Aligning professional development and
8 instructional programs.

9 (3) Building a professional learning community.

10 (4) Observing classroom practices and providing
11 feedback.

12 (5) Facilitating effective meetings.

13 (6) Developing distributive leadership practices.

14 (7) Facilitating organizational change.

15 The mentor shall not be required to provide an evaluation of
16 the new principal on the basis of the mentoring relationship.

17 (e) On or after January 1, 2008 and on or after January 1
18 of each year thereafter, each mentor and each new principal
19 shall complete a survey of progress on a form developed by
20 their respective school districts. On or before July 1, 2008
21 and on or after July 1 of each year thereafter, the State Board
22 shall facilitate a review and evaluate the mentoring training
23 program in collaboration with the approved providers. Each new
24 principal and his or her mentor must complete a verification
25 form developed by the State Board in order to certify their
26 completion of a new principal mentoring program.

1 (f) The requirements of this Section do not apply to any
2 individual who has previously served as an assistant principal
3 in Illinois acting under an administrative certificate for 5 or
4 more years and who is hired, on or after July 1, 2007, as a
5 principal by the school district in which the individual last
6 served as an assistant principal, although such an individual
7 may choose to participate in this program or shall be required
8 to participate by the school district.

9 (g) The State Board may adopt any rules necessary for the
10 implementation of this Section.

11 (h) On an annual basis, the State Superintendent of
12 Education shall determine whether appropriations are likely to
13 be sufficient to require operation of the mentoring program for
14 the coming year. In doing so, the State Superintendent shall
15 first determine whether it is likely that funds will be
16 sufficient to require operation of the mentoring program for
17 individuals in their first year as principal and shall then
18 determine whether it is likely that funds will be sufficient to
19 require operation of the mentoring program for individuals in
20 their second year as principal. If it is likely that funds will
21 be sufficient to require operation of the mentoring program for
22 individuals in their first year as principal, but not for
23 individuals in their second year as principal, the State
24 Superintendent shall have the discretion to determine that the
25 mentoring program for that year will only operate as to
26 individuals in their first year as principal.

1 (i) Notwithstanding any other rulemaking authority that
2 may exist, neither the Governor nor any agency or agency head
3 under the jurisdiction of the Governor has any authority to
4 make or promulgate rules to implement or enforce the provisions
5 of this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly. If,
6 however, the Governor believes that rules are necessary to
7 implement or enforce the provisions of this amendatory Act of
8 the 95th General Assembly, the Governor may suggest rules to
9 the General Assembly by filing them with the Clerk of the House
10 and the Secretary of the Senate and by requesting that the
11 General Assembly authorize such rulemaking by law, enact those
12 suggested rules into law, or take any other appropriate action
13 in the General Assembly's discretion. Nothing contained in this
14 amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly shall be
15 interpreted to grant rulemaking authority under any other
16 Illinois statute where such authority is not otherwise
17 explicitly given. For the purposes of this amendatory Act of
18 the 95th General Assembly, "rules" is given the meaning
19 contained in Section 1-70 of the Illinois Administrative
20 Procedure Act, and "agency" and "agency head" are given the
21 meanings contained in Sections 1-20 and 1-25 of the Illinois
22 Administrative Procedure Act to the extent that such
23 definitions apply to agencies or agency heads under the
24 jurisdiction of the Governor.

25 (Source: P.A. 94-1039, eff. 7-20-06.)

1 (105 ILCS 5/21-7.10)

2 Sec. 21-7.10. Master principal designation program.

3 (a) The General Assembly recognizes the important role a
4 principal serves as a school's instructional leader and
5 believes it is in the best interest of the State to establish a
6 mechanism for training, mentoring, and recognizing master
7 level principals.

8 (b) The State Board of Education shall certify statewide
9 organizations representing principals, institutions of higher
10 education, and regional offices of education and one school
11 district or organization representing principals in a school
12 district organized under Article 34 of this Code to establish a
13 master principal designation program if these entities meet the
14 criteria established by the State Board. These entities shall
15 work with a statewide design team made up of institutions of
16 higher education, regional offices of education, statewide
17 organizations, and other appropriate entities, as determined
18 by the State Board, to conceptualize the master principal
19 designation program. The State Board shall adopt rules, in
20 consultation with the State Teacher Certification Board, for
21 entities seeking to provide a program under this Section,
22 including an approval process and other criteria. A master
23 principal designation program aligned with the Illinois
24 Professional Leadership Standards shall include at least the
25 following components:

26 (1) Expansion of the principal's knowledge base and

1 leadership.

2 (2) Application of strategies and collection of
3 evidence of student learning and school processes.

4 (3) Demonstration of the ability and skills necessary
5 to lead sustained academic improvement in a school or
6 district.

7 (c) An individual serving as a principal for at least 3
8 years is eligible for participation in a master principal
9 designation program. Each year, those entities approved to
10 offer a master principal designation program must submit to the
11 State Board a report indicating the number of individuals
12 enrolled in the program, the progress of candidates,
13 anticipated changes to the program, and any other relevant
14 information requested by the State Board. All substantive
15 changes to an entity's master principal designation program
16 shall require prior written approval from the State Board. An
17 entity that fails to meet the requirements of this Section or
18 any other criteria established by the State Board by rule shall
19 have its authority to offer a master principal designation
20 program revoked pursuant to procedures established by rule by
21 the State Board.

22 (d) The State, through the State Board, shall appropriate
23 funds for the master principal designation program, with the
24 State Superintendent of Education having the exclusive
25 authority to determine (i) the number of statewide
26 organizations to be approved as providers of the program and

1 (ii) the amount of funding needed by the one or more approved
2 statewide organizations to provide the program.

3 (e) In this Section, "master principal designation
4 program" shall also be known as the Illinois Distinguished
5 Principal Leadership Institute.

6 (f) Notwithstanding any other rulemaking authority that
7 may exist, neither the Governor nor any agency or agency head
8 under the jurisdiction of the Governor has any authority to
9 make or promulgate rules to implement or enforce the provisions
10 of this amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly. If,
11 however, the Governor believes that rules are necessary to
12 implement or enforce the provisions of this amendatory Act of
13 the 95th General Assembly, the Governor may suggest rules to
14 the General Assembly by filing them with the Clerk of the House
15 and the Secretary of the Senate and by requesting that the
16 General Assembly authorize such rulemaking by law, enact those
17 suggested rules into law, or take any other appropriate action
18 in the General Assembly's discretion. Nothing contained in this
19 amendatory Act of the 95th General Assembly shall be
20 interpreted to grant rulemaking authority under any other
21 Illinois statute where such authority is not otherwise
22 explicitly given. For the purposes of this amendatory Act of
23 the 95th General Assembly, "rules" is given the meaning
24 contained in Section 1-70 of the Illinois Administrative
25 Procedure Act, and "agency" and "agency head" are given the
26 meanings contained in Sections 1-20 and 1-25 of the Illinois

1 Administrative Procedure Act to the extent that such
2 definitions apply to agencies or agency heads under the
3 jurisdiction of the Governor.

4 (Source: P.A. 94-1039, eff. 7-20-06.)