

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

1 such participation. The new principal mentoring program shall  
2 match an experienced principal who meets the requirements of  
3 subsection (b) of this Section with each new principal ~~in his~~  
4 ~~or her first year in that position~~ in order to assist the new  
5 principal in the development of his or her professional growth  
6 and to provide guidance ~~during the new principal's first year~~  
7 ~~of service.~~

8 (b) Any individual who has been a principal in Illinois for  
9 3 or more years and who has demonstrated success as an  
10 instructional leader, as determined by the State Board by rule,  
11 is eligible to apply to be a mentor under a new principal  
12 mentoring program. Mentors shall complete mentoring training  
13 by entities approved by the State Board and meet any other  
14 requirements set forth by the State Board and by the school  
15 district employing the mentor.

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

18 (d) A mentor shall be assigned to a new principal based on  
19 (i) similarity of grade level or type of school, (ii) learning  
20 needs of the new principal, and (iii) geographical proximity of  
21 the mentor to the new principal. The principal, in  
22 collaboration with the mentor, shall identify areas for  
23 improvement of the new principal's professional growth,  
24 including, but not limited to, each of the following:

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

26 (2) Aligning professional development and

1 instructional programs.

2 (3) Building a professional learning community.

3 (4) Observing classroom practices and providing  
4 feedback.

5 (5) Facilitating effective meetings.

6 (6) Developing distributive leadership practices.

7 (7) Facilitating organizational change.

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

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

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

1 to participate by the school district.

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

4 (h) On an annual basis, the State Superintendent of  
5 Education shall determine whether appropriations are likely to  
6 be sufficient to require operation of the mentoring program for  
7 the coming year. In doing so, the State Superintendent of  
8 Education shall first determine whether it is likely that funds  
9 will be sufficient to require operation of the mentoring  
10 program for individuals in their first year as principal and  
11 shall then determine whether it is likely that funds will be  
12 sufficient to require operation of the mentoring program for  
13 individuals in their second year as principal.

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

15 (105 ILCS 5/21-7.10)

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

17 (a) The General Assembly recognizes the important role a  
18 principal serves as a school's instructional leader and  
19 believes it is in the best interest of the State to establish a  
20 mechanism for training, mentoring, and recognizing master  
21 level principals.

22 (b) The State Board of Education shall certify statewide  
23 organizations representing principals, institutions of higher  
24 education, and regional offices of education and one school  
25 district or organization representing principals in a school

1 district organized under Article 34 of this Code to establish a  
2 master principal designation program if these entities meet the  
3 criteria established by the State Board. These entities shall  
4 work with a statewide design team made up of institutions of  
5 higher education, regional offices of education, statewide  
6 organizations, and other appropriate entities, as determined  
7 by the State Board, to conceptualize the master principal  
8 designation program. The State Board shall select, through a  
9 competitive application process, a statewide entity or  
10 entities to receive funds appropriated for the purpose of  
11 providing a program under this Section. ~~The State Board shall~~  
12 ~~adopt rules, in consultation with the State Teacher~~  
13 ~~Certification Board, for entities seeking to provide a program~~  
14 ~~under this Section, including an approval process and other~~  
15 ~~criteria.~~ A master principal designation program aligned with  
16 the Illinois Professional Leadership Standards shall include  
17 at least the following components:

18 (1) Expansion of the principal's knowledge base and  
19 leadership.

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

22 (3) Demonstration of the ability and skills necessary  
23 to lead sustained academic improvement in a school or  
24 district.

25 (c) An individual serving as a principal for at least 3  
26 years is eligible for participation in a master principal

1 designation program. Each year, those entities approved to  
2 offer a master principal designation program must submit to the  
3 State Board a report indicating the number of individuals  
4 enrolled in the program, the progress of candidates,  
5 anticipated changes to the program, and any other relevant  
6 information requested by the State Board. All substantive  
7 changes to an entity's master principal designation program  
8 shall require prior written approval from the State Board. An  
9 entity that fails to meet the requirements of this Section or  
10 any other criteria established by the State Board by rule shall  
11 have its authority to offer a master principal designation  
12 program revoked pursuant to procedures established by rule by  
13 the State Board.

14 (d) In this Section, "master principal designation  
15 program" shall also be known as the Illinois Distinguished  
16 Principal Leadership Institute.

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

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
19 becoming law.