

CHAPTER 125

TEACHERS

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125.01 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.01 DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this chapter, except for section 125.17, the teacher tenure act for cities of the first class, the words defined in section 120.02 have the same meaning.

History: *Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 1*

125.02 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.02 GENERAL CONTROL OF SCHOOLS.

The teacher shall have the general control and government of the school. When more than one teacher is employed in any district, one of the teachers may be designated by the board as principal and shall have the general control and supervision of the schools of the district, subject to the general supervisory control of the board and other officers.

History: *Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 2*

125.03 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.03 TEACHERS, SUPERVISORY AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL, DEFINITIONS, LICENSURE.

Subdivision 1. The term "teachers" for the purpose of licensure, means all persons

employed in a public school or education district or by an ECSU as members of the instructional, supervisory, and support staff including superintendents, principals, supervisors, secondary vocational and other classroom teachers, librarians, counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, school social workers, audio-visual directors and coordinators, recreation personnel, media generalists, media supervisors, and speech therapists.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1975 c 162 s 42]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1975 c 162 s 42]

Subd. 4. "Supervisory personnel" for the purpose of licensure means superintendents, principals, and professional employees who devote 50 percent or more of their time to administrative or supervisory duties over other personnel, and includes athletic coaches.

Subd. 5. [Repealed, 1992 c 499 art 8 s 35]

History: 1959 c 700 s 3-5; Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 3; 1975 c 162 s 31; 1976 c 222 s 10,208; 1980 c 345 s 1; 1Sp1985 c 12 art 8 s 18; 1987 c 398 art 7 s 28; 1989 c 251 s 1,2

125.031 LICENSURE EXEMPTION FOR TECHNICAL COLLEGE INSTRUCTORS TEACHING LESS THAN 61 HOURS A FISCAL YEAR.

Notwithstanding section 125.03, subdivision 1, a person who teaches in a part-time vocational technical education program not more than 61 hours per fiscal year is exempt from a license requirement.

History: 1980 c 609 art 5 s 18; 1984 c 654 art 4 s 10; 1985 c 122 s 2; 1987 c 258 s 12; 1989 c 246 s 2

125.032 LICENSURE; COMMUNITY EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS.

Subdivision 1. **Exemption.** Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary and except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who teaches in a community education program established pursuant to sections 121.85 to 121.88 is exempt from all licensure requirements.

Subd. 2. **Exceptions.** A person who teaches in a community education program which qualifies for aid pursuant to section 124.26 shall continue to meet licensure requirements as a teacher. A person who teaches in an early childhood and family education program which is offered through a community education program and which qualifies for community education aid pursuant to section 124.2713 or early childhood and family education aid pursuant to section 124.2711 shall continue to meet licensure requirements as a teacher. A person who teaches in a community education course which is offered for credit for graduation to persons under 18 years of age shall continue to meet licensure requirements as a teacher. A person who teaches a driver training course which is offered through a community education program to persons under 18 years of age shall be licensed by the board of teaching. A license which is required for an instructor in a community education program pursuant to this subdivision shall not be construed to bring an individual within the definition of a teacher for purposes of section 125.12, subdivision 1, or 125.17, subdivision 1, clause (a).

History: 1983 c 314 art 7 s 27; 1984 c 463 art 4 s 4; 1991 c 199 art 2 s 13

125.04 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.04 QUALIFIED TEACHER DEFINED.

A qualified teacher is one holding a valid license, as hereinafter provided, to perform the particular service for which employed in a public school.

History: Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 4; 1973 c 749 s 1; 1976 c 222 s 11,208; 1986 c 444

125.05 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.05 BOARD TO ISSUE LICENSES.

Subdivision 1. **Authority to license.** (a) The board of teaching shall license teachers, as defined in section 125.03, subdivision 1, except for supervisory personnel, as defined in section 125.03, subdivision 4.

(b) The state board of education shall license supervisory personnel as defined in section 125.03, subdivision 4.

(c) The state board of technical colleges, according to section 136C.04, shall license post-secondary vocational and adult vocational teachers, support personnel, and supervisory personnel in technical colleges.

(d) Licenses under the jurisdiction of the board of teaching and the state board of education must be issued through the licensing section of the department of education.

Subd. 1a. Teacher and support personnel qualifications. (a) The board of teaching shall issue licenses under its jurisdiction to persons the board finds to be qualified and competent for their respective positions.

(b) The board shall require a person to successfully complete an examination of skills in reading, writing, and mathematics before being admitted to a post-secondary teacher preparation program approved by the board if that person seeks to qualify for an initial teaching license to provide direct instruction to pupils in kindergarten, elementary, secondary, or special education programs.

(c) Before admission to a pilot internship program, the board shall require a person to successfully complete an examination of general pedagogical knowledge. Before granting a first continuing license to participants in the pilot projects, the board shall require a person to successfully complete a supervised and assessed internship in a professional development school and an examination of licensure-specific teaching skills. The board shall determine effective dates for the examination of general pedagogical knowledge, the internship, and examinations of licensure-specific skills.

Subd. 1b. Pilot projects. (a) The board of teaching shall develop pilot projects on restructuring teacher preparation and licensure in Minnesota. The pilot projects shall evaluate models that require, as a condition for licensure, a year long internship following completion of an approved teacher preparation program. The pilot projects shall require supervision and assessment of interns according to guidelines adopted by the board. The board shall, through an independent contractor selected in consultation with the advisory task force established in section 125.185, subdivision 4a, evaluate the effectiveness of the restructured licensure model in comparison to other models of preparing and licensing teachers, including models that provide internships within existing preparation programs.

(b) The board shall submit an appropriation request to the 1993 legislature to begin the pilot projects. The board shall, during the 1993-1995 biennium, identify sites for the pilot projects, create professional development schools, and prepare staff at the pilot sites. The board shall also assist colleges and universities participating in the pilot projects to redesign teacher education programs.

(c) The pilot projects shall be operational and begin admitting candidates for licensure in 1995.

(d) The board shall present an evaluation of the pilot projects and recommendations regarding statewide implementation of the restructured licensure model to the education committees of the legislature by January 15, 1998. The evaluation must be done by an independent contractor and must include the comments and recommendations of the advisory task force.

(e) It is the intent of the legislature that if the restructured licensure model proves effective, the model will be implemented statewide by the year 2000. The board shall not implement a statewide restructured licensure program without specific legislative authorization.

(f) The board shall, after consulting with the advisory task force, establish the qualifications for interns in the pilot projects and the requirements for an intern license.

Subd. 1c. **Supervisory and coach qualifications.** The state board of education shall issue licenses under its jurisdiction to persons the state board finds to be qualified and competent for their respective positions under the rules it adopts.

Subd. 2. **Expiration and renewal.** Each license issued through the licensing section of the department of education must bear the date of issue. Licenses must expire and be renewed in accordance with the respective rules adopted by the board of teaching or the state board of education. Requirements for renewal of a license must include production of satisfactory evidence of successful teaching experience for at least one school year during the period covered by the license in grades or subjects for which the license is valid or completion of such additional preparation as the board of teaching shall prescribe. Requirements for renewal of the licenses of supervisory personnel must be established by the state board of education.

Subd. 3. **Effective date.** Nothing contained herein shall be construed as affecting the validity of a permanent certificate or license issued prior to July 1, 1969.

Subd. 4. **Human relations.** The board of teaching and the state board of education shall accept training programs completed through Peace Corps, VISTA, or Teacher Corps in lieu of completion of the human relations component of the training program for purposes of issuing or renewing a license in education.

Subd. 5. [Repealed, 1Sp1985 c 12 art 7 s 33]

Subd. 6. **Limited provisional licenses.** The board of teaching may grant provisional licenses, which shall be valid for two years, in fields in which licenses were not issued previously or in fields in which a shortage of licensed teachers exists. A shortage shall be defined as a lack of or an inadequate supply of licensed personnel within a given licensure area in a school district that has notified the board of teaching of the shortage and has applied to the board of teaching for provisional licenses for that district's licensed staff.

Subd. 7. **Limit on fields of licensure.** (a) Unless the action of the board of teaching is approved by specific law, the board may not, after July 1, 1989:

- (1) develop additional fields of licensure;
- (2) divide existing fields of licensure; or
- (3) extend any licensure requirements to any duties that could be performed on March 15, 1989, without a license.

(b) The board may establish fields for provisional licensure, but shall submit each field to the legislature for approval. If approval by specific law is not obtained within one year after the provisional license is established, the board shall discontinue the field of provisional licensure.

(c) The board may study ways to reconfigure its licensure system to develop and propose flexibility within the existing licensure structure. The board may not proceed under chapter 14 until it reports the results of its study to the education committees of the legislature and obtains authorization by specific law, as required by this subdivision.

History: *Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 5; 1969 c 435 s 1,3; 1973 c 749 s 2,3; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1976 c 222 s 12,27,208; 1977 c 347 s 20; 1978 c 706 s 37; 1980 c 345 s 2,3; 1982 c 448 s 1; 1983 c 314 art 7 s 28; 1Sp1985 c 12 art 7 s 21; art 8 s 19; 1987 c 398 art 7 s 29; 1989 c 246 s 2; 1989 c 251 s 3-5; 1990 c 375 s 3; 1992 c 499 art 8 s 8-12*

125.055 [Repealed, 1985 c 122 s 11]

125.06 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.06 APPLICANTS TRAINED IN OTHER STATES.

When a license to teach is authorized to be issued to any holder of a diploma or a degree of a Minnesota state university, or of the University of Minnesota, or of a liberal arts university, or a technical training institution, such license may also, in the discretion of the board of teaching or the state board of education, whichever has

jurisdiction, be issued to any holder of a diploma or a degree of a teacher training institution of equivalent rank and standing of any other state, granted by virtue of the completion of a course in teacher preparation essentially equivalent in content to that required by such Minnesota state university or the University of Minnesota or a liberal arts university in Minnesota or a technical training institution as preliminary to the granting of a diploma or a degree of the same rank and class.

History: *Ex*1959 c 71 art 6 s 6; 1965 c 196 s 1; 1973 c 749 s 4; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1975 c 321 s 2; 1976 c 222 s 13,27,208; 1980 c 345 s 4

- 125.061** MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]
125.062 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]
125.065 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]
125.066 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]
125.07 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]
125.07 MS 1967 [Repealed, 1969 c 435 s 2]
125.071 [Expired]
125.08 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.08 TEACHERS' AND ADMINISTRATORS' LICENSES, FEES.

Each application for the issuance, renewal, or extension of a license to teach must be accompanied by a processing fee in an amount set by the board of teaching by rule. Each application for the issuance, renewal, or extension of a license as supervisory personnel must be accompanied by a processing fee in an amount set by the state board of education by rule. The processing fee for a teacher's license must be paid to the executive secretary of the board of teaching. The processing fee for the licenses of supervisory personnel must be paid to the commissioner. The executive secretary of the board of teaching and the commissioner shall deposit the fees with the state treasurer, as provided by law, and report each month to the commissioner of finance the amount of fees collected. The fees as set by the boards are nonrefundable for applicants not qualifying for a license. However, a fee must be refunded by the state treasurer in any case in which the applicant already holds a valid unexpired license. The boards may waive or reduce fees for applicants who apply at the same time for more than one license, even if the licenses are under the jurisdiction of different boards.

History: *Ex*1959 c 71 art 6 s 8; 1967 c 217 s 1; 1973 c 492 s 14; 1973 c 749 s 5; 1974 c 488 s 1; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1976 c 163 s 7; 1976 c 222 s 14,27,208; 1977 c 444 s 7; 1977 c 447 art 7 s 20; 1980 c 345 s 5; 1989 c 251 s 6

- 125.09** MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.09 SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES.

Subdivision 1. **Grounds for revocation.** The board of teaching or the state board of education, whichever has jurisdiction over a teacher's licensure, may, on the written complaint of the board employing a teacher, or of a teacher organization, or of any other interested person, which complaint shall specify the nature and character of the charges, suspend or revoke such teacher's license to teach for any of the following causes:

- (1) Immoral character or conduct;
- (2) Failure, without justifiable cause, to teach for the term of the teacher's contract;
- (3) Gross inefficiency or willful neglect of duty; or
- (4) Failure to meet licensure requirements; or
- (5) Fraud or misrepresentation in obtaining a license.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1976 c 222 s 209]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1976 c 222 s 209]

Subd. 4. Mandatory reporting. A school board shall report to the board of teaching, the state board of education, or the state board of technical colleges, whichever has jurisdiction over the teacher's license, when its teacher is discharged or resigns from employment after a charge is filed with the school board under section 125.17, subdivisions 4, clauses (1), (2), and (3), and 5, or after charges are filed that are ground for discharge under section 125.12, subdivision 8, clauses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e), or when a teacher is suspended or resigns while an investigation is pending under section 125.12, subdivision 8, clauses (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e); 125.17, subdivisions 4, clauses (1), (2), and (3), and 5; or 626.556. The report must be made to the board within ten days after the discharge, suspension, or resignation has occurred. The board to which the report is made shall investigate the report for violation of subdivision 1 and the reporting school board shall cooperate in the investigation. Notwithstanding any provision in chapter 13 or any law to the contrary, upon written request from the licensing board having jurisdiction over the teacher's license, a school board or school superintendent shall provide the licensing board with information about the teacher from the school district's files, any termination or disciplinary proceeding, any settlement or compromise, or any investigative file. Upon written request from the appropriate licensing board, a school board or school superintendent may, at the discretion of the school board or school superintendent, solicit the written consent of a student and the student's parent to provide the licensing board with information that may aid the licensing board in its investigation and license proceedings. The licensing board's request need not identify a student or parent by name. The consent of the student and the student's parent must meet the requirements of chapter 13 and Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, section 99.30. The licensing board may provide a consent form to the school district. Any data transmitted to any board under this section shall be private data under section 13.02, subdivision 12, notwithstanding any other classification of the data when it was in the possession of any other agency.

The board to which a report is made shall transmit to the attorney general's office any record or data it receives under this subdivision for the sole purpose of having the attorney general's office assist that board in its investigation. When the attorney general's office has informed an employee of the appropriate licensing board in writing that grounds exist to suspend or revoke a teacher's license to teach, that licensing board must consider suspending or revoking or decline to suspend or revoke the teacher's license within 45 days of receiving a stipulation executed by the teacher under investigation or a recommendation from an administrative law judge that disciplinary action be taken.

Subd. 5. Immunity from liability. A school board, its members in their official capacity, and employees of the school district run by the board are immune from civil or criminal liability for reporting or cooperating as required under subdivision 4, if their actions required under subdivision 4 are done in good faith and with due care.

History: *Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 9; Ex1967 c 25 s 6; 1969 c 869 s 1; 1971 c 155 s 1; 1973 c 749 s 6; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1976 c 222 s 15,27,208; 1980 c 345 s 6; 1986 c 444; 1989 c 97 s 1,2; 1990 c 375 s 3; 1991 c 265 art 9 s 44*

125.091	MS 1957	[Renumbered 129.01]
125.095	MS 1957	[Renumbered 129.02]
125.096	MS 1957	[Renumbered 129.03]
125.097	MS 1957	[Renumbered 129.04]
125.098	MS 1957	[Renumbered 129.05]
125.10	MS 1953	[Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.10 OUTSTANDING CERTIFICATES NOT IMPAIRED.

No provision or rule adopted by the state board shall affect the validity of certificates or licenses to teach in force on May 1, 1949, or the rights and privileges of the holders by virtue thereof, save that any such certificate or license may be suspended or revoked for any of the causes and by the procedures specified by law.

History: *Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 10; 1985 c 248 s 70*

125.11 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.11 RECORDING OF LICENSES; DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT.

No person shall be accounted a qualified teacher until such person has filed for record with the district superintendent where such person intends to teach a license, or certified copy thereof, authorizing such person to teach school in such district school system.

History: Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 11; 1975 c 162 s 32; 1976 c 222 s 16,208

125.12 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.12 EMPLOYMENT; CONTRACTS, TERMINATION.

Subdivision 1. Teacher defined. A principal, supervisor, and classroom teacher and any other professional employee required to hold a license from the state department shall be deemed to be a "teacher" within the meaning of this section. A superintendent is a "teacher" only for purposes of subdivisions 2 and 14.

Subd. 1a. Nonprovisional license defined. For purposes of this section, "nonprovisional license" shall mean an entrance, continuing, or life license.

Subd. 2. Hiring, dismissing. School boards shall hire or dismiss teachers at duly called meetings. Where a husband and wife, brother and sister, or two brothers or sisters, constitute a quorum, no contract employing a teacher shall be made or authorized except upon the unanimous vote of the full board. No teacher related by blood or marriage, within the fourth degree, computed by the civil law, to a board member shall be employed except by a unanimous vote of the full board. The initial employment of the teacher in the district shall be by written contract, signed by the teacher and by the chair and clerk. All subsequent employment of the teacher in the district shall be by written contract, signed by the teacher and by the chair and clerk, except where there is a master agreement covering the employment of the teacher. Contracts for teaching or supervision of teaching can be made only with qualified teachers. No teacher shall be required to reside within the employing school district as a condition to teaching employment or continued teaching employment.

Subd. 2a. Employment in supervisory positions. Notwithstanding other law, a teacher, as defined in section 179A.03, does not have a right to employment in a district as an assistant superintendent, as a principal defined in section 179A.03, as a confidential or supervisory employee defined in section 179A.03, or in a position that is a promotion from the position currently held, based on seniority, seniority date, or order of employment by the district; provided that this provision shall not alter the reinstatement rights of an individual who is placed on leave from an assistant superintendent, principal or assistant principal, or supervisory or confidential employee position pursuant to this chapter.

Subd. 3. Probationary period. The first three consecutive years of a teacher's first teaching experience in Minnesota in a single school district shall be deemed to be a probationary period of employment, and after completion thereof, the probationary period in each school district in which the teacher is thereafter employed shall be one year. The school site management team, or the school board if there is no school site management team, shall adopt a plan for written evaluation of teachers during the probationary period according to subdivision 3a or 3b. Evaluation by the peer review committee charged with evaluating probationary teachers under subdivision 3a shall occur at least three times each year for a teacher performing services on 120 or more school days, at least two times each year for a teacher performing services on 60 to 119 school days, and at least one time each year for a teacher performing services on fewer than 60 school days. Days devoted to parent-teacher conferences, teachers' workshops, and other staff development opportunities and days on which a teacher is absent from school shall not be included in determining the number of school days on which a teacher performs services. During the probationary period any annual contract with any teacher may or may not be renewed as the school board, after consulting with the

peer review committee charged with evaluating probationary teachers under subdivision 3a, shall see fit; provided, however, that the school board shall give any such teacher whose contract it declines to renew for the following school year written notice to that effect before June 1. If the teacher requests reasons for any nonrenewal of a teaching contract, the school board shall give the teacher its reason in writing, including a statement that appropriate supervision was furnished describing the nature and the extent of such supervision furnished the teacher during the employment by the board, within ten days after receiving such request. The school board may, after a hearing held upon due notice, discharge a teacher during the probationary period for cause, effective immediately, under section 123.35, subdivision 5.

Subd. 3a. Peer review for probationary teachers. A school must have a peer review committee charged with evaluating each probationary teacher at least three times each year for a period of three years as required under subdivision 3. The purpose of the evaluation procedure is to improve the probationary teacher's instructional effectiveness. The school site management team, or the school board if there is no school site management team, after consulting with a representative of the peer review committee and the school principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school, shall adopt a procedure for written evaluations of probationary teachers. The evaluation procedure must be structured as a continuing and cooperative process between the probationary teacher, the peer review committee, and the school principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school. The school site management team, or the school board if there is no school site management team, shall make available a written description of the evaluation procedure, including evaluation policies and criteria, to each newly hired teacher and to each probationary teacher. As part of the evaluation procedure, the school and the school district shall provide the necessary resources to assist a probationary teacher to improve those areas of instruction identified by the teacher, the peer review committee, or the principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school as in need of improvement. The school and the school district also shall provide to each probationary teacher opportunities for professional growth experiences, including in-service training.

Subd. 3b. Applicability. Subdivision 3a does not apply to a school district that has formally adopted a probationary teacher review process that has been mutually agreed upon by the exclusive representative of the teachers in the district and the school board.

Subd. 4. Termination of contract after probationary period. A teacher who has completed a probationary period in any school district, and who has not been discharged or advised of a refusal to renew the teacher's contract pursuant to subdivision 3, shall have a continuing contract with such district. Thereafter, the teacher's contract shall remain in full force and effect, except as modified by mutual consent of the board and the teacher, until terminated by a majority roll call vote of the full membership of the board prior to April 1 upon one of the grounds specified in subdivision 6 or prior to June 1 upon one of the grounds specified in subdivision 6a or 6b, or until the teacher is discharged pursuant to subdivision 8, or by the written resignation of the teacher submitted prior to April 1; provided, however, that if an agreement as to the terms and conditions of employment for the succeeding school year has not been adopted pursuant to the provisions of sections 179A.01 to 179A.25 prior to March 1, the teacher's right of resignation shall be extended to the 30th calendar day following the adoption of said contract in compliance with section 179A.20, subdivision 5. Such written resignation by the teacher shall be effective as of June 30 if submitted prior to that date and the teachers' right of resignation for the school year then beginning shall cease on July 15. Before a teacher's contract is terminated by the board, the board shall notify the teacher in writing and state its ground for the proposed termination in reasonable detail together with a statement that the teacher may make a written request for a hearing before the board within 14 days after receipt of such notification. If the grounds are those specified in subdivision 6 or 8, the notice must also state a teacher may request arbitration under subdivision 9a. Within 14 days after receipt of this notification the teacher may make a written request for a hearing before the board or an arbitrator and it shall be granted upon reasonable notice to the teacher of the date set for hearing,

before final action is taken. If no hearing is requested within such period, it shall be deemed acquiescence by the teacher to the board's action. Such termination shall take effect at the close of the school year in which the contract is terminated in the manner aforesaid. Such contract may be terminated at any time by mutual consent of the board and the teacher and this section shall not affect the powers of a board to suspend, discharge, or demote a teacher under and pursuant to other provisions of law.

Subd. 4a. Peer review for continuing contract teachers. A school must have a peer review committee for continuing contract teachers to provide the teachers with the opportunity for positive interaction and professional growth to help students learn more effectively. The peer review committee must not judge teacher competency nor determine whether to suspend or terminate a teacher. Members of the peer review committee must be selected by the school site management team, or by the exclusive bargaining representative if there is no school site management team. The selecting body shall establish an equitable process for selecting members of the peer review committee and an orderly cycle for rotating members. Only teachers with continuing contracts shall serve as members of the peer review committee. The peer review committee shall review once each school year each teacher with a continuing contract performing services on 120 or more school days. The review process must allow experienced teachers to improve instructional effectiveness through professional learning and development opportunities that include exchanging and internalizing ideas about the components of competent teaching. An in-service training session must be held at the beginning of each school year to train members of the peer review committee to facilitate teachers' reflections about the assumptions, beliefs, and practices underlying teaching. The selecting body shall design the training sessions and give the members of the peer review committee the necessary time off from their classroom responsibilities to perform the duties listed in this subdivision.

Subd. 4b. Applicability. Subdivision 4a does not apply to a school district that has formally adopted a review process for continuing contract teachers that has been mutually agreed upon by the exclusive representative of the teachers in the district and the school board.

Subd. 5. [Repealed, 1987 c 284 art 2 s 9]

Subd. 6. Grounds for termination. A continuing contract may be terminated, effective at the close of the school year, upon any of the following grounds:

- (a) Inefficiency;
- (b) Neglect of duty, or persistent violation of school laws, rules, regulations, or directives;
- (c) Conduct unbecoming a teacher which materially impairs the teacher's educational effectiveness;
- (d) Other good and sufficient grounds rendering the teacher unfit to perform the teacher's duties.

A contract shall not be terminated upon one of the grounds specified in clause (a), (b), (c), or (d), unless the teacher shall have failed to correct the deficiency after being given written notice of the specific items of complaint and reasonable time within which to remedy them.

Subd. 6a. Negotiated unrequested leave of absence. The school board and the exclusive bargaining representative of the teachers may negotiate a plan providing for unrequested leave of absence without pay or fringe benefits for as many teachers as may be necessary because of discontinuance of position, lack of pupils, financial limitations, or merger of classes caused by consolidation of districts. Failing to successfully negotiate such a plan, the provisions of subdivision 6b shall apply. The negotiated plan shall not include provisions which would result in the exercise of seniority by a teacher holding a provisional license, other than a vocational education license, contrary to the provisions of subdivision 6b, clause (c), or the reinstatement of a teacher holding a provisional license, other than a vocational education license, contrary to the provisions of subdivision 6b, clause (e). The provisions of section 179A.16 shall not apply for the purposes of this subdivision.

Subd. 6b. **Unrequested leave of absence.** The school board may place on unrequested leave of absence, without pay or fringe benefits, as many teachers as may be necessary because of discontinuance of position, lack of pupils, financial limitations, or merger of classes caused by consolidation of districts. The unrequested leave shall be effective at the close of the school year. In placing teachers on unrequested leave, the board shall be governed by the following provisions:

(a) The board may place probationary teachers on unrequested leave first in the inverse order of their employment. No teacher who has acquired continuing contract rights shall be placed on unrequested leave of absence while probationary teachers are retained in positions for which the teacher who has acquired continuing contract rights is licensed;

(b) Teachers who have acquired continuing contract rights shall be placed on unrequested leave of absence in fields in which they are licensed in the inverse order in which they were employed by the school district. In the case of equal seniority, the order in which teachers who have acquired continuing contract rights shall be placed on unrequested leave of absence in fields in which they are licensed shall be negotiable;

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of clause (b), no teacher shall be entitled to exercise any seniority when that exercise results in that teacher being retained by the district in a field for which the teacher holds only a provisional license, as defined by the board of teaching, unless that exercise of seniority results in the placement on unrequested leave of absence of another teacher who also holds a provisional license in the same field. The provisions of this clause shall not apply to vocational education licenses;

(d) Notwithstanding clauses (a), (b) and (c), if the placing of a probationary teacher on unrequested leave before a teacher who has acquired continuing rights, the placing of a teacher who has acquired continuing contract rights on unrequested leave before another teacher who has acquired continuing contract rights but who has greater seniority, or the restriction imposed by the provisions of clause (c) would place the district in violation of its affirmative action program, the district may retain the probationary teacher, the teacher with less seniority, or the provisionally licensed teacher;

(e) Teachers placed on unrequested leave of absence shall be reinstated to the positions from which they have been given leaves of absence or, if not available, to other available positions in the school district in fields in which they are licensed. Reinstatement shall be in the inverse order of placement on leave of absence. No teacher shall be reinstated to a position in a field in which the teacher holds only a provisional license, other than a vocational education license, while another teacher who holds a nonprovisional license in the same field remains on unrequested leave. The order of reinstatement of teachers who have equal seniority and who are placed on unrequested leave in the same school year shall be negotiable;

(f) No appointment of a new teacher shall be made while there is available, on unrequested leave, a teacher who is properly licensed to fill such vacancy, unless the teacher fails to advise the school board within 30 days of the date of notification that a position is available to that teacher who may return to employment and assume the duties of the position to which appointed on a future date determined by the board;

(g) A teacher placed on unrequested leave of absence may engage in teaching or any other occupation during the period of this leave;

(h) The unrequested leave of absence shall not impair the continuing contract rights of a teacher or result in a loss of credit for previous years of service;

(i) The unrequested leave of absence of a teacher who is placed on unrequested leave of absence and who is not reinstated shall continue for a period of five years, after which the right to reinstatement shall terminate; provided the teacher's right to reinstatement shall also terminate if the teacher fails to file with the board by April 1 of any year a written statement requesting reinstatement;

(j) The same provisions applicable to terminations of probationary or continuing contracts in subdivisions 3 and 4 shall apply to placement on unrequested leave of absence;

(k) Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to impair the rights of teachers placed on unrequested leave of absence to receive unemployment compensation if otherwise eligible.

Subd. 7. Suspension and leave of absence for health reasons. Affliction with active tuberculosis or other communicable disease, mental illness, drug or alcoholic addiction, or other serious incapacity shall be grounds for temporary suspension and leave of absence while the teacher is suffering from such disability. Unless the teacher consents, such action shall be taken only upon evidence that suspension is required from a physician who has examined the teacher. The physician shall be competent in the field involved and shall be selected by the teacher from a list of three provided by the school board, and the examination shall be at the expense of the school district. A copy of the report of the physician shall be furnished the teacher upon request. If the teacher fails to submit to the examination within the prescribed time, the board may discharge the teacher, effective immediately. In the event of mental illness, if the teacher submits to such an examination and the examining physician's or psychiatrist's statement is unacceptable to the teacher or the board, a panel of three physicians or psychiatrists shall be selected to examine the teacher at the board's expense. The board and the teacher shall each select a member of this panel, and these two members shall select a third member. The panel shall examine the teacher and submit a statement of its findings and conclusions to the board. Upon receipt and consideration of the statement from the panel the board may suspend the teacher. The board shall notify the teacher in writing of such suspension and the reasons therefor. During the leave of absence the teacher shall be paid sick leave benefits by the district up to the amount of unused accumulated sick leave, and after it is exhausted, the district may in its discretion pay additional benefits. The teacher shall be reinstated to the teacher's position upon evidence from such a physician of sufficient recovery to be capable of resuming performance of duties in a proper manner. In the event that the teacher does not qualify for reinstatement within 12 months after the date of suspension, the continuing disability may be a ground for discharge under subdivision 8.

Subd. 8. Immediate discharge. A school board may discharge a continuing-contract teacher, effective immediately, upon any of the following grounds:

- (a) Immoral conduct, insubordination, or conviction of a felony;
- (b) Conduct unbecoming a teacher which requires the immediate removal of the teacher from classroom or other duties;
- (c) Failure without justifiable cause to teach without first securing the written release of the school board;
- (d) Gross inefficiency which the teacher has failed to correct after reasonable written notice;
- (e) Willful neglect of duty; or
- (f) Continuing physical or mental disability subsequent to a 12 months leave of absence and inability to qualify for reinstatement in accordance with subdivision 7.

For purposes of this subdivision, conduct unbecoming a teacher includes an unfair discriminatory practice described in section 363.03, subdivision 5.

Prior to discharging a teacher the board shall notify the teacher in writing and state its ground for the proposed discharge in reasonable detail. Within ten days after receipt of this notification the teacher may make a written request for a hearing before the board and it shall be granted before final action is taken. The board may, however, suspend a teacher with pay pending the conclusion of such hearing and determination of the issues raised therein after charges have been filed which constitute ground for discharge.

Subd. 9. Hearing procedures. Any hearing held pursuant to this section shall be held upon appropriate and timely notice to the teacher, and any hearing held pursuant to subdivision 6 or 8 shall be private or public at the discretion of the teacher. A hearing held pursuant to subdivision 6b shall be public and may be consolidated by the school board. At the hearing, the board and the teacher may each be represented by counsel

at each party's own expense, and such counsel may examine and cross-examine witnesses and present arguments. The board shall first present evidence to sustain the grounds for termination or discharge and then receive evidence presented by the teacher. Each party may then present rebuttal evidence. Dismissal of the teacher shall be based upon substantial and competent evidence in the record. All witnesses shall be sworn upon oath administered by the presiding officer of the board. The clerk of the board shall issue subpoenas for witnesses or the production of records pertinent to the grounds upon the request of either the board or the teacher. The board shall employ a court reporter to record the proceedings at the hearing, and either party may obtain a transcript thereof at its own expense.

Subd. 9a. Hearing and determination by arbitrator. A teacher whose termination is proposed under subdivision 4 on grounds specified in subdivision 6, or whose discharge is proposed under subdivision 8, may elect a hearing before an arbitrator instead of the school board. The hearing is governed by this subdivision.

(a) The teacher must make a written request for a hearing before an arbitrator within 14 days after receiving notification of proposed termination on grounds specified in subdivision 6 or within ten days of receiving notification of proposed discharge under subdivision 8. If a request for a hearing does not specify that the hearing be before an arbitrator, it shall be considered to be a request for a hearing before the school board.

(b) If the teacher and the school board are unable to mutually agree on an arbitrator, the school board shall request from the bureau of mediation services a list of five persons to serve as an arbitrator. If the matter to be heard is a proposed termination on grounds specified in subdivision 6, arbitrators on the list must be available to hear the matter and make a decision within a time frame that will allow the school board to comply with all statutory timelines relating to termination. If the teacher and the school board are unable to mutually agree on an arbitrator from the list provided, the parties shall alternately strike names from the list until the name of one arbitrator remains. The person remaining after the striking procedure shall be the arbitrator. If the parties are unable to agree on who shall strike the first name, the question must be decided by a flip of a coin. The teacher and the school board shall share equally the costs and fees of the arbitrator.

(c) The arbitrator shall determine, by a preponderance of the evidence, whether the grounds for termination or discharge specified in subdivision 6 or 8 exist to support the proposed termination or discharge. A lesser penalty than termination or discharge may be imposed by the arbitrator only to the extent that either party proposes such lesser penalty in the proceeding. In making the determination, the arbitration proceeding is governed by sections 572.11 to 572.17 and by the collective bargaining agreement applicable to the teacher.

(d) An arbitration hearing conducted under this subdivision is a meeting for preliminary consideration of allegations or charges within the meaning of section 471.705, subdivision 1d, clause (c), and shall be closed, unless the teacher requests it to be open.

(e) The arbitrator's award is final and binding on the parties, subject to sections 572.18 to 572.26.

Subd. 10. Decision. After the hearing, the board shall issue a written decision and order. If the board orders termination of a continuing contract or discharge of a teacher, its decision shall include findings of fact based upon competent evidence in the record and shall be served on the teacher, accompanied by an order of termination or discharge, prior to April 1 in the case of a contract termination for grounds specified in subdivision 6, prior to June 1 for grounds specified in subdivision 6a or 6b, or within ten days after conclusion of the hearing in the case of a discharge. If the decision of the board or of a reviewing court is favorable to the teacher, the proceedings shall be dismissed and the decision entered in the board minutes, and all references to such proceedings shall be excluded from the teacher's record file.

Subd. 11. Judicial review. The pendency of judicial proceedings shall not be ground for postponement of the effective date of the school board's order, but if judicial

review eventuates in reinstatement of the teacher, the board shall pay the teacher all compensation withheld as a result of the termination or dismissal order.

Subd. 13. Exception. This section shall not apply to any district in a city of the first class.

Subd. 14. Records relating to individual teacher; access; expungement. All evaluations and files generated within a school district relating to each individual teacher shall be available to each individual teacher upon written request. Effective January 1, 1976, all evaluations and files, wherever generated, relating to each individual teacher shall be available to each individual teacher upon written request. The teacher shall have the right to reproduce any of the contents of the files at the teacher's expense and to submit for inclusion in the file written information in response to any material contained therein.

A school district may destroy the files as provided by law and shall expunge from the teacher's file any material found to be false or substantially inaccurate through the grievance procedure required pursuant to section 179A.20, subdivision 4; provided, the grievance procedure promulgated by the director of the bureau of mediation services, pursuant to section 179A.04, subdivision 3, clause (h), shall apply to those principals and supervisory employees not included in an appropriate unit as defined in section 179A.03. Expungement proceedings shall be commenced within the time period provided in the collective bargaining agreement for the commencement of a grievance. If no time period is provided in the bargaining agreement, the expungement proceedings shall commence within 15 days after the teacher has knowledge of the inclusion in the teacher's file of the material the teacher seeks to have expunged.

History: *Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 12; 1963 c 450 s 1; 1967 c 890 s 1; 1969 c 781 s 1; 1971 c 253 s 1; 1971 c 743 s 1; 1973 c 128 s 1; 1974 c 458 s 1-4; 1975 c 151 s 1; 1975 c 177 s 1; 1975 c 432 s 70; 1976 c 222 s 17,208; 1977 c 447 art 7 s 21-23; 1978 c 632 s 1,2; 1978 c 706 s 38,39; 1978 c 764 s 75,76; 1979 c 40 s 2; 1979 c 139 s 1; 1980 c 509 s 35; 1980 c 609 art 6 s 24,25; 1982 c 424 s 33; 1983 c 314 art 7 s 29-31; 1984 c 462 s 27; 1984 c 463 art 7 s 13; 1984 c 525 s 1; 1Sp1985 c 12 art 7 s 22; 1986 c 444; 1988 c 718 art 7 s 35; 1989 c 152 s 1; 1990 c 562 art 8 s 29; 1991 c 130 s 26; 1991 c 196 s 1,2; 1991 c 265 art 9 s 45-48; 1992 c 499 art 8 s 13*

NOTE: Subdivisions 3, 3a, 3b, and 4a, are effective July 1, 1994, notwithstanding Laws 1991, chapter 265. See Laws 1992, chapter 499, article 8, section 30.

125.121 COACHES, TERMINATION OF DUTIES.

Subdivision 1. Before a district terminates the coaching duties of an employee who is required to hold a license as an athletic coach from the state board of education, the district shall notify the employee in writing and state its reason for the proposed termination. Within 14 days of receiving this notification, the employee may request in writing a hearing on the termination before the board. If a hearing is requested, the board shall hold a hearing within 25 days according to the hearing procedures specified in section 125.12, subdivision 9, and the termination shall not be final except upon the order of the board after the hearing.

Subd. 2. Within ten days after the hearing, the board shall issue a written decision regarding the termination. If the board decides to terminate the employee's coaching duties, the decision shall state the reason on which it is based and include findings of fact based upon competent evidence in the record. The board may terminate the employee's duties or not, as it sees fit, for any reason which is found to be true based on substantial and competent evidence in the record.

Subd. 3. This section shall not apply to the termination of coaching duties pursuant to a district transfer policy or as a result of the nonrenewal or termination of the employee's contract or the employee's discharge, demotion or suspension pursuant to section 125.12 or 125.17. This section shall not apply to the termination of an employee's coaching duties prior to completion of the probationary period of employment.

History: *1978 c 550 s 1; 1980 c 345 s 7; 1986 c 444*

125.13 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.13 EXCHANGE TEACHERS.

Subdivision 1. A person holding a license and contract to teach in a Minnesota public school and assigned by the employing district to teach elsewhere is an exchange teacher.

Subd. 2. Any district is authorized to assign a teacher for service elsewhere than in the employing district in exchange for a teacher with qualifications satisfactory to the commissioner.

Subd. 3. The exchange teacher shall retain all rights in the employing district as though teaching in that district.

History: *Ex 1959 c 71 art 6 s 13; 1976 c 222 s 19,208*

125.135 STAFF EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A staff exchange program is established to allow local school districts to arrange temporary and voluntary exchanges among members of their kindergarten through grade 12 instructional and administrative staffs. The purpose of the program is to provide participants with an understanding of the educational concerns of other local school districts, including concerns of class organization, curriculum development, instructional practices, and characteristics of the student population.

The educational needs and interests of the host school district and the training, experience, and interests of the participants must determine the assignments of the participants in the host district. Participants may teach courses, provide counseling and tutorial services, work with teachers to better prepare students for future educational experiences, serve an underserved population in the district, or assist with administrative functions. The assignments participants perform for the host district must be comparable to the assignments the participants perform for the district employing the participants. Participation in the exchange program need not be limited to one school or one school district and may involve other education organizations including education districts and ECSUs.

Subd. 2. **Program requirements.** All staff exchanges made under this section are subject to the requirements in this subdivision.

(a) A school district employing a participating staff member must not adversely affect the staff member's salary, seniority, or other employment benefits, or otherwise penalize the staff member for participating in the program.

(b) Upon completion or termination of an exchange, a school district employing a participating staff member must permit the staff member to return to the same assignment the staff member performed in the district before the exchange, if available, or, if not, a similar assignment.

(c) A school district employing a participating staff member must continue to provide the staff member's salary and other employment benefits during the period of the exchange.

(d) A participant must be licensed and tenured.

(e) Participation in the program must be voluntary.

(f) The length of participation in the program must be no less than one-half of a school year and no more than one school year, and any premature termination of participation must be upon the mutual agreement of the participant and the participating school district.

(g) A participant is responsible for transportation to and from the host school district.

(h) This subdivision does not abrogate or change rights of staff members participating in the staff exchange program or the terms of an agreement between the exclusive representative of the school district employees and the school district.

(i) Participating school districts may enter into supplementary agreements with the exclusive representative of the school district employees to accomplish the purpose of this section.

Subd. 3. Application procedures. The school board of a school district must decide by resolution to participate in the staff exchange program. A staff member wishing to participate in the exchange program must submit an application to the school district employing the staff member. The district must, in a timely and appropriate manner, provide to the exclusive bargaining representatives of teachers in the state the number and names of prospective participants within the district, the assignments available within the district, and the length of time for each exchange. The exclusive bargaining representatives are requested to cooperatively participate in the coordination of exchanges to facilitate exchanges across all geographical regions of the state. Prospective participants must contact teachers and districts with whom they are interested in making an exchange. The prospective participants must make all arrangements to accomplish their exchange and the superintendents of the participating districts must approve the arrangements for the exchange in writing.

History: 1991 c 265 art 9 s 49

125.138 FACULTY EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. Establishment. A program of faculty exchange is established to allow school districts and post-secondary institutions to arrange temporary exchanges between members of their instructional staffs. These arrangements must be made on a voluntary cooperative basis between a school district and post-secondary institution, or between post-secondary institutions. Exchanges between post-secondary institutions may occur among campuses in the same system or in different systems.

Subd. 2. Uses of program. Each participating school district and post-secondary institution may determine the way in which the instructional staff member's time is to be used, but it must be in a way that promotes understanding of the needs of each educational system or institution. For example, a public school teacher may teach courses, provide counseling and tutorial services, assist with the preparation of future teachers, or take professional development courses. A post-secondary teacher might teach advanced placement courses or other classes to aid an underserved population at the school district, counsel students about future educational plans, or work with teachers to better prepare students for post-secondary education. Participation need not be limited to one school or institution and may involve other groups including educational cooperative service units.

Subd. 3. Salaries; benefits; certification. Exchanges made under the program must not have a negative effect on participants' salaries, seniority, or other benefits. Notwithstanding sections 123.35, subdivision 6, and 125.04, a member of the instructional staff of a post-secondary institution may teach in an elementary or secondary school or perform a service, agreed upon according to this section, for which a license would otherwise be required without holding the applicable license. In addition, a licensed teacher employed by a school district may teach or perform a service, agreed upon according to this section, at a post-secondary institution without meeting the applicable qualifications of the post-secondary institution. A school district is not subject to section 124.19, subdivision 3, as a result of entering into an agreement according to this section that enables a post-secondary instructional staff member to teach or provide services in the district. All arrangements and details regarding the exchange must be mutually agreed to by each participating school district and post-secondary institution before implementation.

History: 1991 c 265 art 9 s 50

125.1385 EXCHANGES BETWEEN EDUCATION FACULTY.

Subdivision 1. Authority; limits. The state university board and the board of regents of the University of Minnesota may develop programs to exchange faculty

between colleges or schools of education and school districts, subject to section 125.138.

The programs must be used to assist in improving teacher education by involving current teachers in education courses and placing post-secondary faculty in elementary and secondary classrooms. Programs must include exchanges that extend beyond the immediate service area of the institution to address the needs of different types of schools, students, and teachers.

Subd. 2. Compensation. State money for faculty exchange programs is to compensate for expenses that are unavoidable and beyond the normal living expenses exchange participants would incur if they were not involved in this exchange. The state university board, the board of regents, or the University of Minnesota, and their respective campuses, in conjunction with the participating school districts, must control costs for all participants as much as possible, through means such as arranging housing exchanges, providing campus housing, and providing university, state, or school district cars for transportation. The boards and campuses may seek other sources of funding to supplement these appropriations, if necessary.

History: 1991 c 265 art 9 s 51

125.14 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.14 SUMMER SCHOOLS; TEACHERS' CONTRACTS.

In order to encourage further preparation and education of its teachers, the board of an independent school district may stipulate in a teacher's contract the amount the teacher may receive conditioned upon attending summer school.

History: Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 14; 1986 c 444

125.15 MS 1941 [Repealed, 1945 c 373 s 2]

125.15 KEEPING OF REGISTERS.

Each teacher shall keep a register, furnished by the clerk, showing the daily attendance of each pupil, and such other matters as may be required in such register. Each teacher shall also keep such record of deportment and scholarship as may be required by the board. The register shall show the names and ages of all pupils, the names and number of days' attendance of all pupils between the ages of five and eight years, between eight and 15 years, and between 15 and 21 years, and the names of all paying tuition. The teacher shall return such register, properly kept, to the clerk within ten days after the close of the school year.

History: Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 15; 1975 c 162 s 33; 1986 c 444

125.16 MS 1941 [Repealed, 1945 c 373 s 2]

125.16 TEACHERS' REPORTS.

No order shall be issued for the payment of the wages of any teacher while the teacher is in default in making reports or in returning the teacher's register. The teachers, principals, and superintendents shall make such reports as may be required by law or the rules of the state or local board under like penalty.

History: Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 16; 1975 c 162 s 34; 1986 c 444

125.165 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.17 MS 1941 [Repealed, 1945 c 373 s 2]

125.17 TEACHER TENURE ACT; CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS; DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. Words, terms, and phrases. Unless the language or context clearly indicates that a different meaning is intended, the following words, terms, and phrases, for the purposes of the following subdivisions in this section shall be defined as follows:

(a) **Teachers.** The term “teacher” includes every person regularly employed, as a principal, or to give instruction in a classroom, or to superintend or supervise classroom instruction, or as placement teacher and visiting teacher. Persons regularly employed as counselors and school librarians shall be covered by these sections as teachers if licensed as teachers or as school librarians.

(b) **School board.** The term “school board” includes a majority in membership of any and all boards or official bodies having the care, management, or control over public schools.

(c) **Demote.** The word “demote” means to reduce in rank or to transfer to a lower branch of the service or to a position carrying a lower salary or compensation.

(d) **Nonprovisional license.** For purposes of this section, “nonprovisional license” shall mean an entrance, continuing, or life license.

Subd. 2. Probationary period; discharge or demotion. All teachers in the public schools in cities of the first class during the first three years of consecutive employment shall be deemed to be in a probationary period of employment during which period any annual contract with any teacher may, or may not, be renewed as the school board, after consulting with the peer review committee charged with evaluating the probationary teachers under subdivision 2a or 2b, shall see fit. The school site management team or the school board if there is no school site management team, shall adopt a plan for a written evaluation of teachers during the probationary period according to subdivision 2a. Evaluation by the peer review committee charged with evaluating probationary teachers under subdivision 2a shall occur at least three times each year for a teacher performing services on 120 or more school days, at least two times each year for a teacher performing services on 60 to 119 school days, and at least one time each year for a teacher performing services on fewer than 60 school days. Days devoted to parent-teacher conferences, teachers’ workshops, and other staff development opportunities and days on which a teacher is absent from school shall not be included in determining the number of school days on which a teacher performs services. The school board may, during such probationary period, discharge or demote a teacher for any of the causes as specified in this code. A written statement of the cause of such discharge or demotion shall be given to the teacher by the school board at least 30 days before such removal or demotion shall become effective, and the teacher so notified shall have no right of appeal therefrom.

Subd. 2a. Peer review for probationary teachers. A school must have a peer review committee charged with evaluating each probationary teacher at least three times each year for a period of three years as required under subdivision 3. The purpose of the evaluation procedure is to improve the probationary teacher’s instructional effectiveness. The school site management team, or the school board if there is no school site management team, after consulting with a representative of the peer review committee and the school principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school, shall adopt a procedure for written evaluations of probationary teachers. The evaluation procedure must be structured as a continuing and cooperative process between the probationary teacher, the peer review committee, and the school principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school. The school site management team, or the school board if there is no school site management team, shall make available a written description of the evaluation procedure, including evaluation policies and criteria, to each newly hired teacher and to each probationary teacher. As part of the evaluation procedure, the school and the school district shall provide the necessary resources to assist a probationary teacher to improve those areas of instruction identified by the teacher, the peer review committee, or the principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school as in need of improvement. The school and the school district also shall provide to each probationary teacher opportunities for professional growth experiences, including in-service training.

Subd. 2b. Applicability. Subdivision 2a does not apply to a school district that has formally adopted a probationary teacher review process that has been mutually agreed upon by the exclusive representative of the teachers in the district and the school board.

Subd. 3. Period of service after probationary period; discharge or demotion. After the completion of such probationary period, without discharge, such teachers as are thereupon reemployed shall continue in service and hold their respective position during good behavior and efficient and competent service and shall not be discharged or demoted except for cause after a hearing.

Any probationary teacher shall be deemed to have been reemployed for the ensuing school year, unless the school board in charge of such school shall give such teacher notice in writing before June 1 of the termination of such employment. In event of such notice the employment shall terminate at the close of the school sessions of the current school year.

Subd. 3a. Peer review for nonprobationary teachers. A peer review committee for nonprobationary teachers shall exist in each school to provide nonprobationary teachers with the opportunity for positive interaction and professional growth to help students learn more effectively. The peer review committee must not judge teacher competency nor determine whether to discharge or demote a teacher. Members of the peer review committee must be selected by the school site management team, or by the exclusive bargaining representative if there is no school site management team. The selecting body shall establish an equitable process for selecting members of the peer review committee and an orderly cycle for rotating members. Only nonprobationary teachers shall serve as members of the peer review committee. The peer review committee shall review once each school year each nonprobationary teacher performing services on 120 or more school days. The review process must allow experienced teachers to improve instructional effectiveness through professional learning and development opportunities that include exchanging and internalizing ideas about the components of competent teaching. An in-service training session must be held at the beginning of each school year to train members of the peer review committee to facilitate teachers' reflections about the assumptions, beliefs, and practices underlying teaching. The selecting body shall design the training session and give the members of the peer review committee the necessary time off from the classroom responsibilities to perform the duties listed in this subdivision.

Subd. 3b. Applicability. Subdivision 3a does not apply to a school district that has formally adopted a review process for nonprobationary teachers that has been mutually agreed upon by the exclusive representative of the teachers in the district and the school board.

Subd. 4. Grounds for discharge or demotion. Causes for the discharge or demotion of a teacher either during or after the probationary period shall be:

- (1) Immoral character, conduct unbecoming a teacher, or insubordination;
- (2) Failure without justifiable cause to teach without first securing the written release of the school board having the care, management, or control of the school in which the teacher is employed;
- (3) Inefficiency in teaching or in the management of a school;
- (4) Affliction with active tuberculosis or other communicable disease shall be considered as cause for removal or suspension while the teacher is suffering from such disability; or
- (5) Discontinuance of position or lack of pupils.

For purposes of this subdivision, conduct unbecoming a teacher includes an unfair discriminatory practice described in section 363.03, subdivision 5.

Subd. 5. Hearing of charges against teacher. The charges against a teacher shall be in writing and signed by the person making the same and then filed with the secretary or clerk of the school board having charge of the school in which the teacher is employed. Such school board before discharging or demoting a teacher shall then accord the teacher against whom such charges have been filed a full hearing and give to the teacher at least ten days' notice in writing of the time and place of such hearing; such notice may be served personally or sent by certified mail addressed to such teacher at the teacher's last known post office address; provided, that if the charge be made by

any person not in connection with the school system the charge may be disregarded by such school board. If the grounds are those specified in subdivision 4, clause (1), (2), (3), or (4), the notice must also state a teacher may request arbitration under subdivision 10a. Upon such hearing being held such school board or an arbitrator shall hear all evidence that may be adduced in support of the charges and for the teacher's defense thereto. Either party shall have the right to have a written record of the hearing at the expense of the board and to have witnesses subpoenaed and all witnesses so subpoenaed shall be examined under oath. Any member of the school board conducting such a hearing shall have authority to issue subpoenas and to administer oaths to witnesses.

Subd. 6. Counsel; examination of witnesses. Each party appearing before the school board shall have the right to be represented by counsel, and such counsel may examine and cross-examine witnesses and present arguments.

Subd. 7. Hearings. All hearings before the school board shall be private or may be public at the decision of the teacher against whom such charges have been filed.

Subd. 8. Decision, when rendered. Such hearing must be concluded and a decision in writing, stating the grounds on which it is based, rendered within 25 days after giving of such notice. Where the hearing is before a school board the teacher may be discharged or demoted upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the school board. If the charges, or any of such, are found to be true, the school board conducting the hearing shall discharge, demote, or suspend the teacher, as seems to be for the best interest of the school. No teacher shall be discharged for either of the causes specified in subdivision 4, clause (3), except during the school year, and then only upon charges filed at least four months before the close of the school sessions of such school year.

Subd. 9. Charges expunged from records. In all cases where the final decision is in favor of the teacher the charge or charges shall be physically expunged from the records.

Subd. 10. Suspension pending hearing; salary. Upon the filing of charges against a teacher, the school board may suspend the teacher from regular duty. If, upon final decision, the teacher is suspended or removed, the school board may in its discretion determine the teacher's salary or compensation as of the time of filing the charges. If the final decision is favorable to the teacher there shall be no abatement of salary or compensation.

Subd. 10a. Hearing and determination by arbitrator. A teacher against whom charges have been filed alleging any cause for discharge or demotion specified in subdivision 4, clause (1), (2), (3), or (4), may elect a hearing before an arbitrator instead of the school board. The hearing is governed by this subdivision.

(a) The teacher must make a written request for a hearing before an arbitrator within ten days after receiving a written notice of the filing of charges required by subdivision 5. Failure to request a hearing before an arbitrator during this period is considered acquiescence to a hearing before the board.

(b) If the teacher and the school board are unable to mutually agree on an arbitrator, the school board shall request from the bureau of mediation services a list of five persons to serve as an arbitrator. If the teacher and the school board are unable to mutually agree on an arbitrator from the list provided, the parties shall alternately strike names from the list until the name of one arbitrator remains. The person remaining after the striking procedure shall be the arbitrator. If the parties are unable to agree on who shall strike the first name, the question must be decided by a flip of a coin. The teacher and the school board shall share equally the costs and fees of the arbitrator.

(c) The arbitrator shall determine, by a preponderance of the evidence, whether the causes specified in subdivision 4, clause (1), (2), (3), or (4), exist to support the proposed discharge or demotion. A lesser penalty than discharge or demotion may be imposed by the arbitrator only to the extent that either party proposes such lesser penalty in the proceeding. In making the determination, the arbitration proceeding is governed by sections 572.11 to 572.17 and by the collective bargaining agreement applicable to the teacher.

(d) An arbitration hearing conducted under this subdivision is a meeting for preliminary consideration of allegations or charges within the meaning of section 471.705, subdivision 1d, clause (c), and shall be closed, unless the teacher requests it to be open.

(e) The arbitrator's decision is final and binding on the parties, subject to sections 572.18 to 572.26.

Subd. 11. Services terminated by discontinuance or lack of pupils; preference given.

(a) Any teacher whose services are terminated on account of discontinuance of position or lack of pupils shall receive first consideration for other positions in the district for which that teacher is qualified. In the event it becomes necessary to discontinue one or more positions, in making such discontinuance, teachers shall be discontinued in any department in the inverse order in which they were employed.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of clause (a), no teacher shall be entitled to exercise any seniority when that exercise results in that teacher being retained by the district in a field for which the teacher holds only a provisional license, as defined by the board of teaching, unless that exercise of seniority results in the termination of services, on account of discontinuance of position or lack of pupils, of another teacher who also holds a provisional license in the same field. The provisions of this clause shall not apply to vocational education licenses.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of clause (a), no teacher shall be reinstated to a position in a field in which the teacher holds only a provisional license, other than a vocational education license, while another teacher who holds a nonprovisional license in the same field is available for reinstatement.

Subd. 12. Records relating to individual teacher; access; expungement. All evaluations and files generated within a school district relating to each individual teacher shall be available to each individual teacher upon the teacher's written request. Effective January 1, 1976, all evaluations and files, wherever generated, relating to each individual teacher shall be available to each individual teacher upon the teacher's written request. The teacher shall have the right to reproduce any of the contents of the files at the teacher's expense and to submit for inclusion in the file written information in response to any material contained therein.

A school district may destroy the files as provided by law and shall expunge from the teacher's file any material found to be false or substantially inaccurate through the grievance procedure required pursuant to section 179A.20, subdivision 4; provided, the grievance procedure promulgated by the director of the bureau of mediation services, pursuant to section 179A.04, subdivision 3, clause (h), shall apply to those principals and supervisory employees not included in an appropriate unit as defined in section 179A.03. Expungement proceedings shall be commenced within the time period provided in the collective bargaining agreement for the commencement of a grievance. If no time period is provided in the bargaining agreement, the expungement proceedings shall commence within 15 days after the teacher has knowledge of the inclusion in the teacher's file of the material the teacher seeks to have expunged.

History: *Ex 1959 c 71 art 6 s 17; 1961 c 720 s 1; 1971 c 667 s 1; 1975 c 177 s 2; 1976 c 222 s 19,208; 1977 c 447 art 7 s 24; 1978 c 632 s 3; 1978 c 674 s 60; 1979 c 139 s 2; 1983 c 314 art 7 s 32,33; 1984 c 462 s 27; 1984 c 463 art 7 s 14; 1986 c 444; 1988 c 718 art 7 s 36; 1989 c 152 s 2; 1991 c 196 s 3,4; 1991 c 265 art 9 s 52-55; 1992 c 499 art 8 s 14*

NOTE: Subdivisions 2, 2a, 2b, and 3a, are effective July 1, 1994, notwithstanding Laws 1991, chapter 265. See Laws 1992, chapter 499, article 8, section 30.

125.18 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.18 SABBATICAL LEAVE FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Subdivision 1. A teacher who holds a license, according to this chapter or chapter 136C, and a contract for employment by a school district or other organization providing public education may be granted a sabbatical leave by the board employing the teacher under rules promulgated by the board.

Subd. 2. Any teacher who makes application for and accepts sabbatical leave shall agree that, upon the conclusion of said sabbatical leave, the teacher shall return to the teacher's position for a period determined by the board before the leave is granted, or repay the district the portion of salary received while on sabbatical leave.

Subd. 3. Any teacher who has been granted a sabbatical leave shall retain all rights in the employing district as though teaching in that district.

Subd. 4. The term sabbatical leave, as used in this section, shall mean compensated leaves of absence granted for purposes of professional improvement or service.

History: *Ex1959 c 71 art 6 s 18; 1976 c 222 s 208; 1986 c 444; 1992 c 499 art 12 s 19*

125.181 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.181 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES; INTENT.

The purpose of sections 125.181 to 125.185, is to develop standards of ethical conduct for the guidance and improvement of the teaching profession and to provide measures through which the observance of such standards by the members of the profession may be promoted and enforced.

History: *Ex1967 c 25 s 1; 1973 c 749 s 7*

125.182 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.182 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. For the purpose of sections 125.181 to 125.185, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them, unless another meaning is clearly indicated.

Subd. 2. "Teacher" means a classroom teacher or other similar professional employee required to hold a license from the board of teaching.

Subd. 3. "Board" means the board of teaching.

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1980 c 345 s 18]

History: *Ex1967 c 25 s 2; 1973 c 749 s 8; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1976 c 222 s 20,21,27,208; 1980 c 345 s 8; 1980 c 609 art 6 s 26; 1Sp1985 c 12 art 8 s 20*

125.183 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.183 MEMBERSHIP.

Subdivision 1. The board of teaching consists of 11 members appointed by the governor. Membership terms, compensation of members, removal of members, the filling of membership vacancies, and fiscal year and reporting requirements shall be as provided in sections 214.07 to 214.09. No member may be reappointed for more than one additional term.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1975 c 136 s 77]

Subd. 3. **Membership.** Except for the representatives of higher education and the public, to be eligible for appointment to the board of teaching a person must be fully licensed for the position held and have at least five years teaching experience in Minnesota, including the two years immediately preceding nomination and appointment. Each nominee, other than a public nominee, must be selected on the basis of professional experience and knowledge of teacher education, accreditation, and licensure. The board must be composed of:

- (1) six classroom teachers;
- (2) one higher education representative, who must be a faculty member preparing teachers;
- (3) one school administrator; and
- (4) three members of the public, two of whom must be present or former members of school boards.

Subd. 4. The position of a member who leaves Minnesota or whose employment status changes to a category different from that from which appointed shall be deemed vacant.

Subd. 5. The provision of staff, administrative services and office space; the review and processing of complaints; the setting of fees; the selection and duties of an executive secretary to serve the board; and other provisions relating to board operations shall be as provided in chapter 214. Membership terms, compensation of members, removal of members, the filling of membership vacancies, and fiscal year and reporting requirements shall be as provided in sections 214.07 to 214.09.

Subd. 6. The board may reimburse local school districts for the costs of substitute teachers employed when regular teachers are providing professional assistance to the state by serving on the board or on a committee or task force appointed by the board and charged to make recommendations concerning standards for teacher licensure in this state.

History: *Ex1967 c 25 s 3; 1973 c 749 s 9; 1975 c 136 s 1,2; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1976 c 149 s 27; 1976 c 222 s 22,23,27,208; 1978 c 706 s 40; 1978 c 793 s 62; 1980 c 345 s 9,10; 1986 c 444; 1989 c 251 s 7,8*

125.184 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.184 MEETINGS.

Subdivision 1. The board of teaching shall meet regularly at such times and places as the board shall determine. Meetings shall be called by the chair or at the written request of any eight members.

Subd. 2. The board of teaching shall have an executive secretary who shall be in the unclassified civil service and who shall not be a member of the board.

History: *Ex1967 c 25 s 4; 1973 c 749 s 10; 1975 c 136 s 3; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1976 c 222 s 24,27; 1986 c 444*

125.185 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.185 DUTIES.

Subdivision 1. The board of teaching shall develop by rule a code of ethics covering standards of professional teaching practices, including areas of ethical conduct and professional performance and methods of enforcement.

Subd. 2. The board shall act in an advisory capacity to members of the profession in matters of interpretation of the code of ethics.

Subd. 3. The board shall elect a chair and such other officers as it may deem necessary.

Subd. 4. **License and rules.** (a) The board shall adopt rules to license public school teachers and interns subject to chapter 14.

(b) The board shall adopt rules requiring successful completion of an examination of skills in reading, writing, and mathematics before being admitted to a teacher preparation program.

(c) The board shall adopt rules to approve teacher preparation programs.

(d) The board shall provide the leadership and shall adopt rules for the redesign of teacher education programs to implement a research based, results-oriented curriculum that focuses on the skills teachers need in order to be effective. The board shall implement new systems of teacher preparation program evaluation to assure program effectiveness based on proficiency of graduates in demonstrating attainment of program outcomes.

(e) The board shall adopt rules requiring successful completion of an examination of general pedagogical knowledge and examinations of licensure-specific teaching skills. The rules shall be effective on the dates determined by the board, but not later than July 1, 1999.

(f) Until July 1, 1998, the board may select schools to be pilot professional development schools according to initial criteria adopted by the board. Initial criteria are not subject to chapter 14. Upon specific legislative authorization to implement a statewide restructured licensure program, the board shall adopt rules to approve or disapprove professional development schools.

(g) The board shall adopt rules requiring teacher educators to work directly with elementary or secondary school teachers in elementary or secondary schools to obtain periodic exposure to the elementary or secondary teaching environment.

(h) The board shall grant licenses to interns and to candidates for initial licenses.

(i) The board shall design and implement an assessment system which requires a candidate for an initial license and first continuing license to demonstrate the abilities necessary to perform selected, representative teaching tasks at appropriate levels.

(j) The board shall receive recommendations from local committees as established by the board for the renewal of teaching licenses.

(k) The board shall grant life licenses to those who qualify according to requirements established by the board, and suspend or revoke licenses pursuant to sections 125.09 and 214.10. The board shall not establish any expiration date for application for life licenses.

(l) With regard to post-secondary vocational education teachers the board of teaching shall adopt and maintain as its rules the rules of the state board of technical colleges.

Subd. 4a. The board of teaching, in cooperation with the state board of education and the higher education coordinating board, shall develop policies and corresponding goals for making teacher preparation curriculum more consistent with the purpose of state public education. The revised teacher preparation curriculum must be consistent with the board of teaching rules required under subdivision 4 for redesigning teacher preparation programs to implement a research-based, results-oriented curriculum. The revised teacher preparation curriculum shall include, upon specific legislative authorization to implement a statewide restructured licensure program, a requirement that teacher preparation programs contain a one-year supervised and assessed internship in a professional development school approved by the board. The internship program must provide the interns with elementary or secondary teaching experience and appropriate professional support and evaluation from licensed classroom teachers. The board of teaching shall adopt rules under chapter 14 that are consistent with the guidelines, strategies, and programs provided to the legislature in 1992, including amending board rules governing the issuing, expiring, and renewing of teacher licenses. The board shall not implement a statewide restructured licensure program without specific legislative authorization.

The board of teaching shall appoint an advisory task force to advise the board on implementing the restructured teacher preparation and licensure system. The task force shall consist of 25 members. Each of the following organizations shall select a member to serve on the task force: inter-faculty organization, University of Minnesota, Minnesota private college council, Minnesota association of colleges for teacher education, Minnesota education association, Minnesota federation of teachers, Minnesota association of teacher educators, Minnesota association of school administrators, Minnesota association of secondary school principals, Minnesota association of elementary school principals, Minnesota vocational association, Minnesota congress of parents, teachers, and students, Minnesota school boards association, education cooperative service units, the state university system, the Minnesota state university student association, the Minnesota association of private college students, the University of Minnesota student senate, and the Minnesota business partnership. In addition, the board shall appoint one member of the board of teaching to the task force. The task force shall include three ex officio members representing the commissioner of education, the state board of education, and the higher education coordinating board. Expenses incurred by task force members shall be reimbursed by the organizations they represent.

During the pilot period of the plan, the advisory task force shall meet at least six times each year and advise the board on restructuring the teacher preparation and licensure system.

The board of teaching shall, after consulting with the advisory task force, submit a progress report on implementing the restructured teacher preparation and licensure system to the education committees of the legislature by January 1 of each year. Before fully implementing the restructured system, the board of teaching shall include a report on the pilot period.

The task force shall continuously monitor the progress of the pilot projects developed under section 125.05, subdivision 1b, and assist the board in addressing policy questions implicated in restructuring the teacher preparation and licensure system, including:

- (1) what impact the restructured system has on low-income or place-bound persons;
- (2) how the restructured system ensures the ethnic and cultural diversity of the teaching force;
- (3) what the cost implications of the restructured system are for students, public and private teacher preparation institutions, and the state;
- (4) what the status of teacher interns under the restructured system is with respect to licensure, tenure, and retirement and other employment benefits;
- (5) what the relationship is between teacher preparation institutions and internship programs under the restructured system; and
- (6) what the comparative costs and benefits are of a restructured program and existing teacher preparation programs with an internship component.

The higher education coordinating board shall assist teacher preparation institutions in developing teacher preparation curriculum for their students that is consistent with the guidelines, programs, and strategies approved by the legislature.

The board of teaching shall disapprove a teacher preparation institution that has not implemented the revised teacher preparation curriculum by the 1996-1997 academic year.

Subd. 4b. Prior to the adoption by the board of teaching of any rule which must be submitted to public hearing, a representative of the commissioner shall appear before the board of teaching and at the hearing required pursuant to section 14.14, subdivision 1, to comment on the cost and educational implications of that proposed rule.

Subd. 5. The executive secretary of the board of teaching shall keep a record of the proceedings of and a register of all persons licensed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. The register shall show the name, address, license number and the renewal thereof. The board shall on July 1, of each year or as soon thereafter as is practicable, compile a list of such duly licensed teachers and transmit a copy thereof to the board. A copy of the register shall be available during business hours at the office of the board to any interested person.

Subd. 6. The state board of education shall provide all necessary materials and assistance for the transaction of the business of the board of teaching and all moneys received by the board of teaching shall be paid into the state treasury as provided by law. The expenses of administering sections 125.01 to 125.187 which are incurred by the board of teaching shall be paid for from appropriations made to the board of teaching.

Subd. 7. Any person who shall in any manner claim to be a licensed teacher without a valid existing license issued by the board or any person who employs fraud or deception in applying for or securing a license shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Subd. 8. [Repealed, 1976 c 271 s 98]

Subd. 9. The board of teaching may adopt rules subject to the provisions of chapter 14 to implement sections 125.04 to 125.09 and 125.181 to 125.187.

Subd. 10. **Variances.** Notwithstanding subdivision 9 and section 14.05, subdivi-

sion 4, the board of teaching may grant a variance to its rules upon application by a school district for purposes of implementing experimental programs in learning or management.

History: *Ex*1967 c 25 s 5; 1973 c 749 s 11; 1975 c 136 s 4; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1976 c 222 s 25,27,208; 1976 c 271 s 65; 1977 c 444 s 8; 1978 c 706 s 41; 1978 c 764 s 77,78; 1980 c 345 s 11-14; 1982 c 424 s 130; 1984 c 463 art 7 s 16; 1Sp1985 c 12 art 8 s 21; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 398 art 8 s 11; 1990 c 375 s 3; 1990 c 562 art 8 s 30; 1991 c 265 art 7 s 17,18; 1992 c 499 art 8 s 15,16

125.186 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.187 VALIDITY OF CERTIFICATES OR LICENSES.

No rule adopted by the board of teaching shall affect the validity of certificates or licenses to teach in effect on July 1, 1974, or the rights and privileges of the holders thereof, except that any such certificate or license may be suspended or revoked for any of the causes and by the procedures specified by law.

History: 1973 c 749 s 12; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1976 c 222 s 26,27

125.188 ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION LICENSING.

Subdivision 1. Requirements. (a) A preparation program that is an alternative to the post-secondary teacher preparation program as a means to acquire an entrance license is established. The program may be offered in any instructional field.

(b) To participate in the alternative preparation program, the candidate must:

- (1) have a bachelor's degree;
- (2) pass an examination of skills in reading, writing, and mathematics as required by section 125.05;
- (3) have been offered a job to teach in a school district, group of districts, or an education district approved by the board of teaching to offer an alternative preparation licensure program;

(4)(i) have a college major in the subject area to be taught; or

(ii) have five years of experience in a field related to the subject to be taught; and

(5) document successful experiences working with children.

(c) An alternative preparation license is of one year duration and is issued by the board of teaching to participants on admission to the alternative preparation program.

Subd. 2. Characteristics. The alternative preparation program has the following characteristics:

(1) staff development conducted by a resident mentorship team made up of administrators, teachers, and post-secondary faculty members;

(2) an instruction phase involving intensive preparation of a candidate for licensure before the candidate assumes responsibility for a classroom;

(3) formal instruction and peer coaching during the school year;

(4) assessment, supervision, and evaluation of a candidate to determine the candidate's specific needs and to ensure satisfactory completion of the program;

(5) a research based and results oriented approach focused on skills teachers need to be effective;

(6) assurance of integration of education theory and classroom practices; and

(7) the shared design and delivery of staff development between school district personnel and post-secondary faculty.

Subd. 3. Program approval. (a) The board of teaching shall approve alternative preparation programs based on criteria adopted by the board, after receiving recommendations from an advisory task force appointed by the board.

(b) An alternative preparation program at a school district, group of schools, or an education district must be affiliated with a post-secondary institution that has a teacher preparation program.

Subd. 4. **Approval for standard entrance license.** The resident mentorship team must prepare for the board of teaching an evaluation report on the performance of the alternative preparation licensee during the school year and a positive or negative recommendation on whether the alternative preparation licensee shall receive a standard entrance license.

Subd. 5. **Standard entrance license.** The board of teaching shall issue a standard entrance license to an alternative preparation licensee who has successfully completed the school year in the alternative preparation program and who has received a positive recommendation from the licensee's mentorship team.

Subd. 6. **Qualified teacher.** A person with a valid alternative preparation license is a qualified teacher within the meaning of section 125.04.

History: 1990 c 562 art 7 s 7

125.1885 ALTERNATIVE PREPARATION LICENSING FOR ADMINISTRATORS.

Subdivision 1. **Requirements.** (a) A preparation program that is an alternative to a graduate program in education administration for public school administrators to acquire an entrance license is established. The program may be offered in any administrative field.

(b) To participate in the alternative preparation program, the candidate must:

- (1) have a master's degree in an administrative area;
 - (2) have been offered an administrative position in a school district, group of districts, or an education district approved by the state board of education to offer an alternative preparation licensure program;
 - (3) have five years of experience in a field related to administration; and
 - (4) document successful experiences working with children and adults.
- (c) An alternative preparation license is of one year duration and is issued by the state board of education to participants on admission to the alternative preparation program.

Subd. 2. **Characteristics.** The alternative preparation program has the characteristics enumerated in this subdivision:

- (1) staff development conducted by a resident mentorship team made up of administrators, teachers, and post-secondary faculty members;
- (2) an instruction phase involving intensive preparation of a candidate for licensure before the candidate assumes responsibility for an administrative position;
- (3) formal instruction and peer coaching during the school year;
- (4) assessment, supervision, and evaluation of a candidate to determine the candidate's specific needs and to ensure satisfactory completion of the program;
- (5) a research-based and results-oriented approach focused on skills administrators need to be effective;
- (6) assurance of integration of education theory and classroom practices; and
- (7) the shared design and delivery of staff development between school district personnel and post-secondary faculty.

Subd. 3. **Program approval.** (a) The state board of education shall approve alternative preparation programs based on criteria adopted by the board, after receiving recommendations from an advisory task force appointed by the board.

(b) An alternative preparation program at a school district, group of schools, or an education district must be affiliated with a post-secondary institution that has a graduate program in educational administration for public school administrators.

Subd. 4. **Approval for standard entrance license.** The resident mentorship team must prepare for the state board of education an evaluation report on the performance of the alternative preparation licensee during the school year and a positive or negative recommendation on whether the alternative preparation licensee shall receive a standard entrance license.

Subd. 5. **Standard entrance license.** The state board of education shall issue a standard entrance license to an alternative preparation licensee who has successfully completed the school year in the alternative preparation program and who has received a positive recommendation from the licensee's mentorship team.

Subd. 6. **Qualified administrator.** A person with a valid alternative preparation license is a qualified administrator within the meaning of section 125.04.

History: 1991 c 265 art 7 s 19

125.189 LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS.

In addition to other requirements, a candidate for a license or an applicant for a continuing license to teach hearing-impaired students in kindergarten through grade 12 must demonstrate the minimum level of proficiency in American sign language as determined by the Quality Assurance Systems Project of the department of education.

History: 1991 c 265 art 7 s 20

NOTE: This section, as added by Laws 1991, chapter 265, article 7, section 20, is effective August 1, 1994. See Laws 1991, chapter 265, article 7, section 44.

125.19 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.19 MS 1969 [Repealed, Ex1971 c 33 s 17]

125.191 LICENSE AND DEGREE EXEMPTION FOR HEAD COACH.

Notwithstanding section 125.03, subdivision 1, a school district may employ as a head varsity coach of an interscholastic sport at its secondary school a person who does not have a license as head varsity coach of interscholastic sports and who does not have a bachelor's degree if:

(1) in the judgment of the school board, the person has the knowledge and experience necessary to coach the sport;

(2) the position has been posted as a vacancy within the present teaching staff for a period of 30 days and no licensed coaches have applied for the position;

(3) the person can verify completion of six quarter credits, or the equivalent, or 60 clock hours of instruction in first aid and the care and prevention of athletic injuries; and

(4) the person can verify completion of a coaching methods or theory course.

Notwithstanding section 125.121, a person employed as a head varsity coach under this section has an annual contract as a coach that the school board may or may not renew as the board sees fit, after annually posting the position as required in clause (2) and no licensed coach has applied for the position.

History: 1991 c 265 art 9 s 56

125.20 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.20 MS 1969 [Repealed, Ex1971 c 33 s 17]

125.21 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.21 MS 1969 [Repealed, Ex1971 c 33 s 17]

125.211 RESEARCH ON PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS.

Subdivision 1. **Purpose.** The legislature recognizes a growing and substantial concern about the effectiveness and breadth of the existing undergraduate curriculum for teacher education students. It also recognizes the absence of definitive research about the most effective curricula to adequately prepare teachers for entrance into the teaching profession. The purpose of this section is to support research on the comparative effectiveness of different teacher education program structures, after new programs have been designed and implemented, and the first graduates are in service.

Subd. 2. **Responsibility.** By July 1, 1989, the board of teaching shall begin to evaluate the effectiveness of prebaccalaureate, postbaccalaureate, and other alternative pro-

gram structures for preparing candidates for entrance into the teaching profession. The evaluation shall be conducted by independent research centers or evaluators who are not associated with a Minnesota teacher education institution and shall be longitudinal in nature. By July 1, 1990, the board of teaching shall make a preliminary report on the effectiveness of alternative program structures to the education and finance committees of the legislature.

History: 1987 c 398 art 8 s 12

- 125.22 MS 1949 [Repealed, 1953 c 50 s 2]
 125.22 MS 1969 [Repealed, Ex1971 c 33 s 17]
 125.23 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]
 125.23 MS 1969 [Repealed, Ex1971 c 33 s 17]

125.231 TEACHER ASSISTANCE THROUGH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Teacher mentoring program.** School districts are encouraged to participate in a competitive grant program that explores teacher mentoring programs for teachers new to the profession or district, or for teachers with special needs.

Subd. 2. **Teacher mentoring task force.** The commissioner shall appoint and work with a teacher mentoring task force including representatives of the two teachers unions, the two principals organizations, school boards association, administrators association, board of teaching, parent teacher association, post-secondary institutions, foundations, and the private sector. Representation on the task force by populations of color shall reflect the proportion of people of color in the public schools.

The task force shall:

- (1) develop the application forms, criteria, and procedures for the mentorship program;
- (2) select sites to receive grant funding; and
- (3) provide ongoing support and direction for program implementation.

Subd. 3. **Applications.** The commissioner of education shall make application forms available to sites interested in developing or expanding a mentorship program. A school district, a group of school districts, or a coalition of districts, teachers and teacher education institutions may apply for a teacher mentorship program grant. The commissioner, in consultation with the teacher mentoring task force, shall approve or disapprove the applications. To the extent possible, the approved applications must reflect effective mentoring components, include a variety of coalitions and be geographically distributed throughout the state. The commissioner of education shall encourage the selected sites to consider the use of the assessment procedures developed by the board of teaching.

Subd. 4. **Criteria for selection.** At a minimum, applicants must express commitment to:

- (1) allow staff participation;
- (2) assess skills of both beginning and mentor teachers;
- (3) provide appropriate in-service to needs identified in the assessment;
- (4) provide leadership to the effort;
- (5) cooperate with higher education institutions;
- (6) provide facilities and other resources; and
- (7) share findings, materials, and techniques with other school districts.

Subd. 5. **Additional funding.** Applicants are required to seek additional funding and assistance from sources such as school districts, post-secondary institutions, foundations, and the private sector.

Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1991 c 265 art 8 s 7; art 11 s 26]

Subd. 7. **Program implementation.** New and expanding mentorship sites that are funded to design, develop, implement, and evaluate their program must participate in

activities that support program development and implementation. The department of education must provide resources and assistance to support new sites in their program efforts. These activities and services may include, but are not limited to: planning, planning guides, media, training, conferences, institutes, and regional and statewide networking meetings. Nonfunded schools or districts interested in getting started may participate in some activities and services. Fees may be charged for meals, materials, and the like.

History: 1987 c 398 art 8 s 13; 1990 c 562 art 7 s 8; 1991 c 265 art 8 s 7

125.24 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.24 MS 1969 [Repealed, Ex1971 c 33 s 17]

125.241 ADMINISTRATORS ACADEMY.

Subdivision 1. **Services.** An administrators academy is established. The academy shall provide at least the following services:

(1) an administrator assessment that results in an individual professional development plan;

(2) research and development assistance that provides current research and data of interest to administrators; and

(3) brokerage assistance to provide services and resources to help administrators with needs identified in their individual professional development plan.

Subd. 2. **Governance.** The commissioner of education shall appoint a 17-member committee to govern the administrators academy. Eight members must be from among administrators who are receiving or have received the services of the academy. In addition, a representative of each of the following organizations: Minnesota department of education, Minnesota association of school administrators, Minnesota elementary school principals, Minnesota secondary school principals, University of Minnesota, state university system, and a representative from the private colleges must be appointed by the organization each represents. Parents and teachers shall also have representation on the governing board.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1989 c 329 art 9 s 34]

History: 1987 c 398 art 8 s 14

125.25 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.25 MS 1969 [Repealed, Ex1971 c 33 s 17]

125.26 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.26 MS 1969 [Repealed, Ex1971 c 33 s 17]

125.27 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.28 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.29 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.30 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.31 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.32 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.325 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.33 MS 1953 [Repealed, 1957 c 947 art 9 s 9]

125.34 MS 1957 [Renumbered 129.06]

125.35 MS 1957 [Renumbered 129.07]

125.36 MS 1957 [Renumbered 129.08]

125.37 MS 1957 [Renumbered 129.09]

125.38 MS 1957 [Renumbered 129.10]

125.46 MS 1957 [Renumbered 129.11]

125.51 MS 1957 [Renumbered 129.12]

125.52 INTERSTATE AGREEMENT ON QUALIFICATIONS OF EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL.

The interstate agreement on qualifications of educational personnel is hereby enacted into law and entered into with all jurisdictions legally joining therein in the form substantially as follows:

INTERSTATE AGREEMENT ON QUALIFICATIONS OF
EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE, FINDINGS, AND POLICY

(1) The states party to this agreement, desiring by common action to improve their respective school systems by utilizing the teacher or other professional educational person wherever educated, declare that it is the policy of each of them, on the basis of cooperation with one another, to take advantage of the preparation and experience of such persons wherever gained, thereby serving the best interests of society, of education, and of the teaching profession. It is the purpose of this agreement to provide for the development and execution of such programs of cooperation as will facilitate the movement of teachers and other professional educational personnel among the states party to it, and to authorize specific interstate educational personnel contracts to achieve that end.

(2) The party states find that included in the large movement of population among all sections of the nation are many qualified educational personnel who move for family and other personal reasons but who are hindered in using their professional skill and experience in their new locations. Variations from state to state in requirements for qualifying educational personnel discourage such personnel from taking the steps necessary to qualify in other states. As a consequence, a significant number of professionally prepared and experienced educators is lost to our school systems. Facilitating the employment of qualified educational personnel, without reference to their states of origin, can increase the available educational resources. Participation in this compact can increase the availability of educational manpower.

ARTICLE II

DEFINITIONS

As used in this agreement and contracts made pursuant to it, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) Educational personnel means persons who must meet requirements pursuant to state law as a condition of employment in educational programs.

(2) Designated state official means the educational official of a state selected by that state to negotiate and enter into, on behalf of this state, contracts pursuant to this agreement.

(3) Accept, or any variant thereof, means to recognize and give effect to one or more determinations of another state relating to the qualifications of educational personnel in lieu of making or requiring a like determination that would otherwise be required by or pursuant to the laws of a receiving state.

(4) State means a state, territory, or possession of the United States; the District of Columbia; or the commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(5) Originating state means a state (and the subdivision thereof, if any) whose determination that certain educational personnel are qualified to be employed for specific duties in schools is acceptable in accordance with the terms of a contract made pursuant to article III.

(6) Receiving state means a state (and the subdivisions thereof) which accepts educational personnel in accordance with the terms of a contract made pursuant to article III.

ARTICLE III
INTERSTATE EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL CONTRACTS

(1) The designated state official of a party state may make one or more contracts on behalf of his state with one or more other party states providing for the acceptance of educational personnel. Any such contract for the period of its duration shall be applicable to and binding on the states whose designated state officials enter into it, and the subdivisions of those states, with the same force and effect as if incorporated in this agreement. A designated state official may enter into a contract pursuant to this article only with states in which he finds that there are programs of education, certification standards or other acceptable qualifications that assure preparation or qualification of educational personnel on a basis sufficiently comparable, even though not identical to that prevailing in his own state.

(2) Any such contract shall provide for:

(a) Its duration.

(b) The criteria to be applied by an originating state in qualifying educational personnel for acceptance by a receiving state.

(c) Such waivers, substitutions, and conditional acceptances as shall aid the practical effectuation of the contract without sacrifice of basic educational standards.

(d) Any other necessary matters.

(3) No contract made pursuant to this agreement shall be for a term longer than five years but any such contract may be renewed for like or lesser periods.

(4) Any contract dealing with acceptance of educational personnel on the basis of their having completed an educational program shall specify the earliest date or dates on which originating state approval of the program or programs involved can have occurred. No contract made pursuant to this agreement shall require acceptance by a receiving state of any persons qualified because of successful completion of a program prior to January 1, 1954.

(5) The certification or other acceptance of a person who has been accepted pursuant to the terms of a contract shall not be revoked or otherwise impaired because the contract has expired or been terminated. However, any certificate or other qualifying document may be revoked or suspended on any ground which would be sufficient for revocation or suspension of a certificate or other qualifying document initially granted or approved in the receiving state.

(6) A contract committee composed of the designated state officials of the contracting states or their representatives shall keep the contract under continuous review, study means of improving its administration, and report no less frequently than once a year to the heads of the appropriate education agencies of the contracting states.

ARTICLE IV
APPROVED AND ACCEPTED PROGRAMS

(1) Nothing in this agreement shall be construed to repeal or otherwise modify any law or regulation of a party state relating to the approval of programs of educational preparation having effect solely on the qualification of educational personnel within that state.

(2) To the extent that contracts made pursuant to this agreement deal with the educational requirements for the proper qualification of educational personnel, acceptance of a program of educational preparation shall be in accordance with such procedures and requirements as may be provided in the applicable contract.

ARTICLE V
INTERSTATE COOPERATION

The party states agree that:

- (1) They will, so far as practicable, prefer the making of multilateral contracts pursuant to article III of this agreement.
- (2) They will facilitate and strengthen cooperation in interstate certification and other elements of educational personnel qualification and for this purpose shall cooperate with agencies, organizations, and associations interested in certification and other elements of educational personnel qualification.

ARTICLE VI
AGREEMENT EVALUATION

The designated state officials of any party state may meet from time to time as a group to evaluate progress under the agreement, and to formulate recommendations for changes.

ARTICLE VII
OTHER ARRANGEMENTS

Nothing in this agreement shall be construed to prevent or inhibit other arrangements or practices of any party state or states to facilitate the interchange of educational personnel.

ARTICLE VIII
EFFECT AND WITHDRAWAL

- (1) This agreement shall become effective when enacted into law by two states. Thereafter it shall become effective as to any state upon its enactment of this agreement.
- (2) Any party state may withdraw from this agreement by enacting a statute repealing the same, but no such withdrawal shall take effect until one year after the governor of the withdrawing state has given notice in writing of the withdrawal to the governors of all other party states.
- (3) No withdrawal shall relieve the withdrawing state of any obligation imposed upon it by a contract to which it is a party. The duration of contracts and the methods and conditions of withdrawal therefrom shall be those specified in their terms.

ARTICLE IX
CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

This agreement shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this agreement shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision of this agreement is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any state or of the United States, or the application thereof to any government, agency, person, or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this agreement and the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person, or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. If this agreement shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state participating therein, the agreement shall remain in full force and effect as to the state affected as to all severable matters.

History: 1969 c 20 s 1

125.53 DESIGNATED STATE OFFICIAL.

For the purposes of the agreement set forth in section 125.52, the designated state official for this state shall be the commissioner of education.

History: 1969 c 20 s 2

125.54 RECORD OF CONTRACTS.

Two copies of all contracts made on behalf of this state pursuant to the agreement set forth in section 125.52 shall be kept on file in the office of the commissioner of education.

History: 1969 c 20 s 3

TEACHER MOBILITY INCENTIVES**125.60 EXTENDED LEAVES OF ABSENCE.**

Subdivision 1. As used in this section, the term "teachers" shall have the meaning given it in section 125.03, subdivision 1.

Subd. 2. The board of any district may grant an extended leave of absence without salary to any full- or part-time elementary, secondary, or technical college teacher who has been employed by the district for at least five years and has at least ten years of allowable service, as defined in section 354.05, subdivision 13, or the bylaws of the appropriate retirement association or ten years of full-time teaching service in Minnesota public elementary, secondary, and technical colleges. The maximum duration of an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section shall be determined by mutual agreement of the board and the teacher at the time the leave is granted and shall be at least three but no more than five years. An extended leave of absence pursuant to this section shall be taken by mutual consent of the board and the teacher. If the school board denies a teacher's request, it shall provide reasonable justification for the denial.

Subd. 2a. [Repealed, 1984 c 463 art 7 s 54]

Subd. 3. **Reinstatement.** Except as provided in subdivisions 6a and 6b, a teacher on an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section shall have the right to be reinstated to a position for which the teacher is licensed at the beginning of any school year which immediately follows a year of the extended leave of absence, unless the teacher fails to give the required notice of intention to return or is discharged or placed on unrequested leave of absence or the contract is terminated pursuant to section 125.12 or 125.17 while the teacher is on the extended leave. The board shall not be obligated to reinstate any teacher who is on an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section, unless the teacher advises the board of the intention to return before February 1 in the school year preceding the school year in which the teacher wishes to return or by February 1 in the calendar year in which the leave is scheduled to terminate.

Subd. 4. Any teacher who is reinstated to a teaching position after an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section shall retain seniority and continuing contract rights in the employing district as though the teacher had been teaching in the district during the period of the extended leave; provided, however, this subdivision shall not be construed to require a board to reinstate a teacher to any particular position or to include the years spent on the extended leave of absence in the determination of a teacher's salary upon return to teaching in this district.

Subd. 5. The years spent by a teacher on an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section shall not be included in the determination of salary upon return to teaching in the district. The credits earned by a teacher on an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section shall not be included in the determination of salary upon return to teaching in the district for a period equal to the time of the extended leave of absence.

Subd. 6. Nothing within the provisions of this section shall be construed to limit the authority of a school board to grant any teacher a leave of absence which is not subject to the provisions of this section and sections 354.094 and 354A.091.

Subd. 6a. No school board shall be obligated to reinstate a teacher who takes a full-time or part-time position as a teacher in another Minnesota school district while on an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section. This subdivision shall not apply to a teacher who is employed as a substitute teacher.

Subd. 6b. A school board shall not be obligated to reinstate a superintendent on an extended leave of absence pursuant to this section to a position in the district.

Subd. 7. [Repealed, 1989 c 329 art 9 s 34]

Subd. 8. A teacher on an extended leave of absence shall receive all of the health, accident, medical, surgical and hospitalization insurance or benefits, for both the teacher and the teacher's dependents, for which the teacher would otherwise be eligible if not on an extended leave, if such coverage is available from the school district's insurer, if the teacher requests the coverage, and if the teacher either (a) reimburses the district for the full amount of the premium necessary to maintain the coverage within one month following the district's payment of the premium, or (b) if the district is wholly or partially self-insured, pays the district, according to a schedule agreed upon by the teacher and the school board, an amount determined by the school board to be the amount that would be charged for the coverage chosen by the teacher if the school board purchased all health, accident, medical, surgical and hospitalization coverage for its teachers from an insurer.

History: 1977 c 447 art 9 s 1; 1978 c 764 s 79-82; 1979 c 334 art 8 s 1-6; 1980 c 609 art 6 s 27; 1981 c 358 art 8 s 1,2; 1983 c 314 art 10 s 1-3; 1Sp1985 c 12 art 6 s 12; art 7 s 23; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 258 s 12; 1989 c 246 s 2; 1990 c 562 art 8 s 31; 1991 c 130 s 27

125.61 Subdivision 1. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]

- Subd. 1a. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]
- Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]
- Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]
- Subd. 3a. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]
- Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]
- Subd. 4a. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]
- Subd. 4b. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]
- Subd. 5. [Repealed, 1978 c 764 s 143]
- Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1980 c 609 art 6 s 48]

125.611 TEACHER EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Criteria.** For purposes of this section, "teacher" means a teacher as defined in section 125.03, subdivision 1, who:

(a) is employed in the public elementary, secondary, or technical colleges in the state and

(b) either

(1)(i) has not less than 15 total years of full-time teaching service in elementary, secondary, and technical colleges, or at least 15 years of allowable service as defined in sections 354.05, subdivision 13; 354.092; 354.093; 354.094; 354.53; 354.531; 354.66; 354A.011, subdivision 4; 354A.091; 354A.092; 354A.093; 354A.094; or Laws 1982, chapter 578, article II, section 1 and

(ii) has or will have attained the age of 55 years but less than 65 years as of the June 30 in the school year during which an application for an early retirement incentive is made, or

(2) has not less than 30 total years of full-time teaching service in elementary, secondary, and technical colleges, or at least 30 years of allowable service as defined in sections 354.05, subdivision 13; 354.092; 354.093; 354.094; 354.53; 354.531; 354.66; 354A.011, subdivision 4; 354A.091; 354A.092; 354A.093; 354A.094; or Laws 1982, chapter 578, article II, section 1.

Subd. 2. For purposes of this section, "retirement" means termination of services in the employing district and withdrawal from active teaching service.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1Sp1985 c 12 art 6 s 31]

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1Sp1985 c 12 art 6 s 31]

Subd. 5. [Repealed, 1Sp1985 c 12 art 6 s 31]

Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1Sp1985 c 12 art 6 s 31]

Subd. 7. [Repealed, 1Sp1985 c 12 art 6 s 31]

Subd. 8. [Repealed, 1987 c 398 art 7 s 43]

Subd. 9. [Repealed, 1987 c 398 art 7 s 43]

Subd. 10. [Repealed, 1987 c 398 art 7 s 43]

Subd. 11. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 2, a teacher who has entered into an agreement for termination of services and withdrawal from active teaching service with an early retirement incentive may be employed as a substitute teacher after retirement.

Subd. 12. Any amount of unemployment insurance that the teacher receives and for which the district is required to pay into the unemployment compensation fund pursuant to section 268.06, subdivision 25, may be deducted by the district from the amount of the teacher's early retirement incentive or recovered by the district from the teacher up to the amount of the early retirement incentive.

Subd. 13. **Applications.** A teacher meeting the requirements of subdivision 1 may apply to the school board of the employing district for a contract for termination of services, withdrawal from active teaching service, and payment of an early retirement incentive. This application shall be submitted on or before February 1 of the school year at the end of which the teacher wishes to retire. A school board shall approve or deny the application within 30 days after it is received by the board. The amount of the early retirement incentive shall be agreed upon between the teacher and the school board. The early retirement incentive shall be paid by the employing district at the time and in the manner mutually agreed upon by a teacher and the board.

History: 1980 c 609 art 6 s 28; 1981 c 358 art 8 s 3-8; 1982 c 548 art 4 s 11; 1983 c 67 s 1; 1983 c 314 art 10 s 4,5; 1984 c 463 art 7 s 15; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 258 s 12; 1987 c 398 art 7 s 30-32; 1989 c 246 s 2

125.62 GRANTS TO PREPARE INDIAN TEACHERS.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A grant program is established to assist American Indian people to become teachers and to provide additional education for American Indian teachers. The state board may award a joint grant to each of the following:

(1) the Duluth campus of the University of Minnesota and independent school district No. 709, Duluth;

(2) Bemidji state university and independent school district No. 38, Red Lake;

(3) Moorhead state university and one of the school districts located within the White Earth reservation; and

(4) Augsburg college and special school district No. 1, Minneapolis.

Subd. 2. **Application.** To obtain a joint grant, a joint application shall be submitted to the state board of education. The application must be developed with the participation of the parent advisory committee, established according to section 126.51, and the Indian advisory committee at the post-secondary institution. The joint application shall set forth:

(1) the in-kind, coordination, and mentorship services to be provided by the post-secondary institution; and

(2) the coordination and mentorship services to be provided by the school district.

Subd. 3. **Review and comment.** The state board shall submit the joint application to the Minnesota Indian scholarship committee for review and comment.

Subd. 4. **Grant amount.** The state board may award a joint grant in the amount it determines to be appropriate. The grant shall include money for the post-secondary institution, school district, student scholarships, and student loans.

Subd. 5. **Information to student applicants.** At the time a student applies for a scholarship and loan, the student shall be provided information about the fields of licensure needed by school districts in the part of the state within which the district

receiving the joint grant is located. The information shall be acquired and periodically updated by the recipients of the joint grant. Information provided to students shall clearly state that scholarship and loan decisions are not based upon the field of licensure selected by the student.

Subd. 6. Eligibility for scholarships and loans. The following Indian people are eligible for scholarships:

(1) a student, including a teacher aide employed by a district receiving a joint grant, who intends to become a teacher and who is enrolled in a post-secondary institution receiving a joint grant;

(2) a licensed employee of a district receiving a joint grant, who is enrolled in a master of education program; and

(3) a student who, after applying for federal and state financial aid and an Indian scholarship according to section 124.48, has financial needs that remain unmet. Financial need shall be determined according to the congressional methodology for needs determination or as otherwise set in federal law.

A person who has actual living expenses in addition to those addressed by the congressional methodology for needs determination, or as otherwise set in federal law, may receive a loan according to criteria established by the state board. A contract shall be executed between the state and the student for the amount and terms of the loan.

Subd. 7. Loan forgiveness. The loan may be forgiven if the recipient is employed as a teacher, as defined in section 125.12 or 125.17, in an eligible school or program in Minnesota. One-fifth of the principal of the outstanding loan amount shall be forgiven for each year of eligible employment, or a pro rata amount for eligible employment during part of a school year, part-time employment as a substitute teacher, or other eligible part-time teaching. The following schools and programs are eligible for the purposes of loan forgiveness:

(1) a school or program operated by a school district;

(2) a tribal contract school eligible to receive aid according to section 124.86;

(3) a head start program;

(4) an early childhood family education program; or

(5) a program providing educational services to children who have not entered kindergarten.

If a person has an outstanding loan obtained through this program, the duty to make payments of principal and interest may be deferred during any time period the person is enrolled at least one-half time in an advanced degree program in a field that leads to employment by a school district. To defer loan obligations, the person shall provide written notification to the state board of education and the recipients of the joint grant that originally authorized the loan. Upon approval by the state board and the joint grant recipients, payments shall be deferred.

The loan forgiveness program, loan deferral, and procedures to administer the program shall be approved by the higher education coordinating board.

Subd. 8. Revolving fund. The Indian teacher preparation loan repayment revolving account is established in the state treasury. Any amounts repaid or contributed by a teacher who received a scholarship or loan under this program shall be deposited in the account. All money in the account is annually appropriated to the state board of education and shall be used to enable Indian students to participate in the program.

History: 1991 c 265 art 3 s 17; 1992 c 499 art 3 s 11

MINNESOTA CAREER TEACHER ACT

125.70 CITATION.

Sections 124C.27 to 124C.31 may be cited as the "Minnesota career teacher act."

History: 1981 c 358 art 6 s 6; 1983 c 314 art 9 s 12; 1989 c 329 art 7 s 15; 1991 c 130 a 37

125.701 PURPOSE OF THE CAREER TEACHER ACT.

The legislature recognizes the unique and lifelong learning and development process of all human beings. The legislature is committed to the goal of maximizing the individual growth potential of all learners. The purposes of the career teacher act are:

- (1) to offer career teacher programs which emphasize learning and development based on learner outcomes;
- (2) to recognize and utilize the unique skills that teachers, students, family, and the community have in both the teaching process and the learning and development process; and
- (3) to provide an opportunity for maximum use of teachers, principals, and counselors.

History: 1981 c 358 art 6 s 7; 1983 c 314 art 9 s 12; 1989 c 329 art 7 s 16; 1991 c 130 s 37

125.702 PROGRAM SELECTION.

Subdivision 1. Authorization. A school district or group of districts may establish an improved learning program.

Subd. 2. Rules and rights. The state board of education may waive school district compliance with its rules which would prevent implementation of an improved learning program. Participation in an improved learning program as a principal-teacher, counselor-teacher, or career teacher shall not affect seniority in the district or rights under the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Subd. 3. Additional funding. A school district providing an improved learning program may receive funds for the program from private sources and governmental agencies, including state or federal funds.

History: 1981 c 358 art 6 s 8; 1983 c 314 art 9 s 1,12; 1984 c 463 art 7 s 2; 1987 c 398 art 1 s 19,20; 1991 c 130 s 37

125.703 ADVISORY COUNCIL.

The school board of a district providing a career teacher program shall appoint an advisory council. Council members shall be selected from the school attendance area in which programs are provided. Members of the council may include students, teachers, principals, administrators and community members. A majority of the members shall be parents with children participating in the local program. The local advisory council shall advise the school board in the development, coordination, supervision, and review of the career teacher program. The council shall meet at least two times each year with any established community education advisory council in the district. Members of the council may be members of the community education advisory council. The council shall report to the school board.

History: 1981 c 358 art 6 s 9; 1983 c 314 art 9 s 12; 1989 c 329 art 7 s 17; 1991 c 130 s 37

125.704 CAREER TEACHER PROGRAM COMPONENTS.

Subdivision 1. Mandatory components. A career teacher program shall include:

- (1) participation by a designated individual as a career teacher, principal-teacher, or counselor teacher;
- (2) an emphasis on each individual child's unique learning and development needs;
- (3) procedures to give the career teacher a major responsibility for leadership of the instructional and noninstructional activities of each child beginning with early childhood family education;
- (4) procedures to involve parents in the learning and development experiences of their children;

(5) procedures to implement outcome based education by focusing on the needs of the learner;

(6) procedures to coordinate and integrate the instructional program with all community education programs;

(7) procedures to concentrate career teacher programs at sites that provide early childhood family education and subsequent learning and development programs; and

(8) procedures for the district to fund the program.

Subd. 2. Optional components. A career teacher program may include:

(1) efforts to improve curricula strategies, instructional strategies, and use of materials that respond to the individual educational needs and learning styles of each pupil in order to enable each pupil to make continuous progress and to learn at a rate appropriate to that pupil's abilities;

(2) efforts to develop student abilities in basic skills; applied learning skills; and, when appropriate, arts; humanities; physical, natural, and social sciences; multicultural education; physical, emotional, and mental health; consumer economics; and career education;

(3) use of community resources and communications media to pursue learning and development opportunities for pupils;

(4) staff development for teachers and other school personnel;

(5) improvements to the learning and development environment, including use of the community in general, to enhance the learning and development process;

(6) cooperative efforts with other agencies involved with human services or child development and development of alternative community based learning and development experiences;

(7) post-secondary education components for pupils who are able to accelerate or programs for pupils with special abilities and interests who are given advanced learning and development opportunities within existing programs;

(8) use of volunteers in the learning and development program;

(9) flexible attendance schedules for pupils;

(10) adult education component;

(11) coordination with early childhood family education and community education programs;

(12) variable student/faculty ratios for special education students to provide for special programming;

(13) inclusion of nonpublic pupils as part of the ratio in the career teacher, principal-teacher, and counselor teacher component;

(14) application of educational research findings;

(15) summer learning and development experiences for students as recommended by the career teacher, principal-teacher, and counselor teacher;

(16) use of education assistants, teacher aides, or paraprofessionals as part of the career teacher program;

(17) establishment of alternative criteria for high school graduation; and

(18) variable age and learning size groupings of students.

History: 1981 c 358 art 6 s 10; 1983 c 314 art 9 s 2,12; 1989 c 329 art 7 s 18; 1991 c 130 s 37

125.705 CAREER TEACHER.

Subdivision 1. Status. A career teacher program may include a career teacher, principal-teacher, and counselor teacher component. The career teacher, principal-teacher, and counselor teacher shall not be the exclusive teacher for students assigned to them but shall serve as a primary teacher and perform the function of developing and implementing a student's overall learning and development program. The career teacher,

principal-teacher, and counselor teacher may be responsible for regular assignments as well as learning and development programs for other assigned students.

Subd. 2. Qualifications. (a) An individual employed as a career teacher must be licensed as a teacher and shall be considered a teacher as defined in section 179A.03, subdivision 18, for purposes of chapter 179A.

(b) An individual employed as a principal teacher must be licensed as a principal and shall be considered a principal, as defined in section 179A.03, subdivision 12, for purposes of chapter 179A.

(c) An individual employed as a counselor teacher must be licensed as a counselor and shall be considered a teacher, as defined in section 179A.03, subdivision 18, for purposes of chapter 179A.

Subd. 3. Staff/student ratio. (a) Except as provided in clause (b), one career teacher, principal-teacher, or counselor teacher shall be assigned for every 125 students. For each special education student included in the assignment, the 1:125 ratio shall be reduced by one.

(b) One principal-teacher shall be assigned for every 50 students when the principal-teacher is also the principal of the school.

Subd. 4. Selection; renewal. (a) The school board shall establish procedures for teachers, principals, and counselors to apply for the position of career teacher, principal-teacher, or counselor teacher. The authority for selection of career teachers, principal-teachers, and counselor teachers shall be vested in the board and no individual shall have a right to employment as a career teacher, principal-teacher, or counselor teacher based on seniority or order of employment in the district.

(b) Employment of the career teacher, principal-teacher, and counselor teacher may be on a 12-month basis with vacation time negotiated individually with the board. The annual contract of a career teacher, principal-teacher, or counselor teacher may not be renewed, as the board shall see fit; provided, however, the board shall give any such teacher whose contract as a career teacher, principal-teacher, or counselor teacher it declines to renew for the following year written notice to that effect before April 15. If the board fails to renew the contract of a career teacher, principal-teacher, or counselor teacher, that individual shall be reinstated to another position in the district if eligible pursuant to section 125.12 or 125.17.

Subd. 5. Duties. The career teacher, principal-teacher, and counselor teacher shall be responsible for:

(1) the overall education, learning, and development plan of assigned students. This plan shall be designed by the career teacher, principal-teacher, and counselor teacher with the student, parents, and other faculty, and shall seek to maximize the learning and development potential and maturation level of each pupil;

(2) measuring the proficiency of the assigned students and assisting other staff in identifying pupil needs and making appropriate educational and subject groupings;

(3) when part of the district's plan, taking responsibility for the parent and early childhood education of assigned students;

(4) designing and being responsible for program components which meet special learning needs of high potential and talented students;

(5) coordinating the ongoing, year-to-year learning and development program for assigned students; and

(6) developing learning and development portfolios.

History: 1981 c 358 art 6 s 11; 1983 c 314 art 9 s 12; 1984 c 462 s 27; 1986 c 444; 1989 c 329 art 7 s 19; 1989 c 356 s 49; 1991 c 130 s 37