

1 AN ACT concerning education.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section  
5 10-22.22e as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-22.22e new)

7 Sec. 10-22.22e. Science and mathematics partnership  
8 school.

9 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
10 contrary and subject to the provisions of this Section, 4 or  
11 more contiguous school districts with all or portion of their  
12 territory located within the geographic boundaries of the same  
13 municipality may, when in their judgment the interest of the  
14 districts and of the students therein will be best served,  
15 jointly operate, through an institution of higher education  
16 located in the municipality, a science and mathematics  
17 partnership school for serving some or all of grades  
18 kindergarten through 8. The partnership school may (i) restrict  
19 attendance to pupils who reside within the geographic  
20 boundaries of the areas served by the school districts and (ii)  
21 select students for enrollment based on admission criteria that  
22 focuses on academic proficiency in science and mathematics  
23 established by the partnership school and approved by the

1 districts' school boards; however, in no case may the  
2 partnership school discriminate on the basis of disability,  
3 race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion,  
4 ancestry, marital status, or need for special education  
5 services in the establishment of its attendance boundaries or  
6 in the selection of students for enrollment. The number of  
7 students enrolled from each school district shall be  
8 approximately equal in number. If there are more students  
9 eligible for enrollment in the partnership school from a school  
10 district than there are spaces available, eligible students  
11 must be selected by lottery.

12 (b) The school board of each school district shall, by  
13 proper resolution, enter into the joint operation of the  
14 partnership school. The school boards of the participating  
15 districts shall execute a partnership school contract with the  
16 institution of higher education for the joint operation,  
17 subject to the provisions of this Section. The agreement for  
18 joint operation of the partnership school shall include, but  
19 not be limited to, provisions for administration, staff,  
20 programs, financing, facilities, and transportation.

21 (c) Each participating school district shall pay its per  
22 capita cost of educating the students residing in the district  
23 and attending the partnership school for the maintenance and  
24 operation of the partnership school. The manner of determining  
25 per capita cost must be set forth in the agreement. Each  
26 district shall pay the amount owed under the terms of the

1 agreement from the fund that the district would have used if  
2 the district had incurred the costs directly and may levy taxes  
3 and issue bonds as otherwise authorized for these purposes in  
4 order to make payments.

5 (d) The teachers and other non-administrative, certified  
6 employees who work in the partnership school must be selected  
7 according to criteria established by the partnership school and  
8 agreed to by the school districts' school boards. The number of  
9 such employees selected from each school district must be  
10 approximately equal in number. Their selection must be for a  
11 2-year or 4-year period, upon the completion of which they must  
12 be assigned to a comparable position in the school from which  
13 they were selected. While working in the partnership school,  
14 these employees shall remain employees of and be paid by the  
15 school district from which they were selected, and their wages  
16 and benefits must be the same as if they were teaching or  
17 otherwise working in that district, provided that additional  
18 wages and benefits may be provided to these teachers and other  
19 staff if the participating school districts and the exclusive  
20 bargaining representatives of their teachers and other staff  
21 agree. The contractual continued service status of a teacher  
22 and the retirement benefits of those employees who accept work  
23 with the partnership school must not be affected. A school term  
24 worked in the partnership school must be considered a school  
25 term worked in the school district from which the employees  
26 were selected for contractual continued service attainment

1 purposes. The time spent in employment with a participating  
2 district by any teacher who has not yet entered upon  
3 contractual continued service and accepts selection to work in  
4 the partnership school is not lost when computing the time  
5 necessary for the teacher to enter upon contractual continued  
6 service.