

1 AN ACT with regard to education.

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

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing
5 Section 10-17a and adding Section 27-23.6 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-17a) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-17a)

7 Sec. 10-17a. Better schools accountability.

8 (1) Policy and Purpose. It shall be the policy of the
9 State of Illinois that each school district in this State,
10 including special charter districts and districts subject to
11 the provisions of Article 34, shall submit to parents,
12 taxpayers of such district, the Governor, the General
13 Assembly, and the State Board of Education a school report
14 card assessing the performance of its schools and students.
15 The report card shall be an index of school performance
16 measured against statewide and local standards and will
17 provide information to make prior year comparisons and to set
18 future year targets through the school improvement plan.

19 (2) Reporting Requirements. Each school district shall
20 prepare a report card in accordance with the guidelines set
21 forth in this Section which describes the performance of its
22 students by school attendance centers and by district and the
23 district's use of financial resources. Such report card
24 shall be presented at a regular school board meeting subject
25 to applicable notice requirements, and such report cards
26 shall be made available to a newspaper of general circulation
27 serving the district and shall be sent home to parents. In
28 addition, each school district shall submit the completed
29 report card to the office of the district's Regional
30 Superintendent which shall make copies available to any
31 individuals requesting them.

1 The report card shall be completed and disseminated prior
2 to October 31 in each school year. The report card shall
3 contain, but not be limited to, actual local school
4 attendance center, school district and statewide data
5 indicating the present performance of the school, the State
6 norms and the areas for planned improvement for the school
7 and school district.

8 (3) (a) The report card shall include the following
9 applicable indicators of attendance center, district, and
10 statewide student performance: percent of students who
11 exceed, meet, or do not meet standards established by the
12 State Board of Education pursuant to Section 2-3.25a;
13 composite and subtest means on nationally normed achievement
14 tests for college bound students; student attendance rates;
15 chronic truancy rate; dropout rate; graduation rate; and
16 student mobility, turnover shown as a percent of transfers
17 out and a percent of transfers in.

18 (b) The report card shall include the following
19 descriptions for the school, district, and State: average
20 class size; amount of time per day devoted to mathematics,
21 science, English and social science at primary, middle and
22 junior high school grade levels; number of students taking
23 the Prairie State Achievement Examination under subsection
24 (c) of Section 2-3.64, the number of those students who
25 received a score of excellent, and the average score by
26 school of students taking the examination; pupil-teacher
27 ratio; pupil-administrator ratio; operating expenditure per
28 pupil; district expenditure by fund; average administrator
29 salary; and average teacher salary.

30 (c) The report card shall include applicable indicators
31 of parental involvement in each attendance center. The
32 parental involvement component of the report card shall
33 include the percentage of students whose parents or guardians
34 have had one or more personal contacts with the students'

1 teachers during the school year concerning the students'
 2 education, and such other information, commentary, and
 3 suggestions as the school district desires. For the purposes
 4 of this paragraph, "personal contact" includes, but is not
 5 limited to, parent-teacher conferences, parental visits to
 6 school, school visits to home, telephone conversations, and
 7 written correspondence. The parental involvement component
 8 shall not single out or identify individual students,
 9 parents, or guardians by name.

10 (c-5) For the 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005 school
 11 years, the report card shall include information in the
 12 following format, which shall be filled out by the school
 13 district:

14 Does your school district incorporate anti-bias education
 15 and intergroup conflict resolution as part of its activities?
 16 yes ... no ...

17 If yes, please check all that apply:

- 18 ... teacher training
- 19 ... classroom instruction
- 20 ... student groups
- 21 ... other

22 (d) The report card form shall be prepared by the State
 23 Board of Education and provided to school districts.

24 (Source: P.A. 89-610, eff. 8-6-96.)

25 (105 ILCS 5/27-23.6 new)

26 Sec. 27-23.6. Anti-bias education.

27 (a) The General Assembly finds that there is a
 28 significant increase in violence in the schools and that much
 29 of that violence is the result of intergroup tensions. The
 30 General Assembly further finds that anti-bias education and
 31 intergroup conflict resolution are effective methods for
 32 preventing violence and lessening tensions in the schools.

33 (b) Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, public

1 elementary and secondary schools may incorporate activities
2 to address intergroup conflict, with the objectives of
3 improving intergroup relations on and beyond the school
4 campus, defusing intergroup tensions, and promoting peaceful
5 resolution of conflict. Such activities may include, but not
6 be limited to, instruction and teacher training programs.

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
8 becoming law.