

STATE OF NEW YORK

6153

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 10, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. L. ROSENTHAL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring teachers and library media specialists to complete professional development related to media literacy education

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 3006-a of the education law, as
2 added by section 2 of subpart C of part EE of chapter 56 of the laws of
3 2015, is amended and a new subdivision 4 is added to read as follows:

4 2. a. During each five-year registration period beginning on or after
5 July first, two thousand sixteen, an applicant for registration shall
6 successfully complete a minimum of one hundred hours of continuing
7 teacher and leader education, as defined by the commissioner. The
8 department shall issue rigorous standards for courses, programs, and
9 activities, that shall qualify as continuing teacher and leader educa-
10 tion pursuant to this section. For purposes of this section, a peer
11 review teacher, or a principal acting as an independent trained evalu-
12 ator, conducting a classroom observation as part of the teacher evalu-
13 ation system pursuant to section three thousand twelve-d of this article
14 may credit such time towards his or her continuing teacher and leader
15 effectiveness requirements.

16 b. During each five-year registration period beginning on or after a
17 date which shall be determined by the commissioner, any applicant for
18 registration and any library media specialist shall successfully
19 complete a minimum of ten hours of professional development related to
20 media literacy education, as defined by the commissioner. Such profes-
21 sional development related to media literacy education shall be counted
22 toward the one hundred hours of continuing teacher and leader education
23 required by paragraph a of this subdivision. The commissioner shall
24 require that:

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (i) professional development related to media literacy education
2 incorporates the principles and practices of the department's culturally
3 responsive-sustaining framework;

4 (ii) professional development related to media literacy education is
5 provided by or in coordination with a library media specialist in every
6 school district;

7 (iii) library media specialists in every school district receive
8 specific training in how to provide professional development related to
9 media literacy education to teachers of all grade levels and subject
10 areas contained in their schools, which shall include instruction on how
11 to effectively integrate media literacy education into such teachers'
12 curricula; and

13 (iv) the department creates and provides model curricula, teaching and
14 professional development resources on its website, which incorporate
15 media literacy education.

16 c. Nothing in this section shall limit the ability of local school
17 districts to agree pursuant to collective bargaining to additional hours
18 of professional development or continuing teacher or leader education
19 above the minimum requirements set forth in this section.

20 ~~[e-]~~ d. A certified individual who has not satisfied the continuing
21 teacher and leader education requirements shall not be issued a five-
22 year registration certificate by the department and shall not practice
23 unless and until a registration or conditional registration certificate
24 is issued as provided in subdivision three of this section. For purposes
25 of this subdivision, "continuing teacher and leader education require-
26 ments" shall mean activities designed to improve the teacher or leader's
27 pedagogical and/or leadership skills, targeted at improving student
28 performance, including but not limited to formal continuing teacher and
29 leader education activities. Such activities shall promote the profes-
30 sionalization of teaching and be closely aligned to district goals for
31 student performance which meet the standards prescribed by regulations
32 of the commissioner. To fulfill the continuing teacher and leader educa-
33 tion requirement, programs must be taken from sponsors approved by the
34 department, which shall include but not be limited to school districts,
35 pursuant to the regulations of the commissioner.

36 4. For the purposes of this section, "library media specialist" shall
37 mean an individual employed by a school district as a library media
38 specialist pursuant to 8 NYCRR 91.2.

39 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.