STATE OF NEW YORK

4761

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 12, 2025

Introduced by Sens. BAILEY, BRISPORT, BROUK, COMRIE, JACKSON, LIU, PARKER, SEPULVEDA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to enacting the Educational Rights Transparency for New York Families Act

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Educational Rights Transparency for New York Families Act".

§ 2. The education law is amended by adding a new article 67 to read as follows:

ARTICLE 67

EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS TRANSPARENCY FOR NEW YORK FAMILIES ACT

Section 3350. Short title.
3351. Standards for resource related educational rights.
3352. Reporting by school employees and school boards.
3353. Educational rights publication for parents and students.

§ 3350. Short title. This article shall be known and may be cited as the "Educational Rights Transparency for New York Families Act".

§ 3351. Standards for resource related educational rights. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding a student's resource related educational rights, including but not limited to target goals and definitions for:

(a) sufficient numbers of qualified teachers, principals, and other personnel;

(b) suitable and up-to-date curricula;

(c) support for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, any state learning standards in a core academic subject, including English language arts, math, science and social studies;

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

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(d) adequate resources for students with disabilities and English-language learners;

(e) appropriate class sizes;

(f) sufficient and up-to-date books, supplies, libraries, educational technology, and laboratories;

(g) a safe and orderly environment; and

(h) adequate and accessible school buildings.

§ 3352. Reporting by school employees and school boards. 1. Beginning in the two thousand twenty-six--two thousand twenty-seven school year, the board of education or trustees, as defined in section two of this chapter, of every school district within the state, however created and the chancellor of the city school district of the city of New York shall establish a program engaging teachers, support staff, parents and, at the high school level, student leaders in an annual school level self-assessment of each school's ability to follow and meet the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to section thirty-three hundred fifty-one of this article. The department shall develop and issue, policies and procedures for such annual assessment.

2. (a) The board of education or trustees of each school district, or the chancellor of the city school district of the city of New York, as applicable, shall examine any data and make inspections to validate the findings of the annual school level assessments made pursuant to subdivision one of this section. Such examination shall include an audit of the adequacy of a district's own resources and capacity to meet the needs of each school located in such district in regard to complying with the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to section thirty-three hundred fifty-one of this article.

(b) The findings of such examination shall be compiled into a report which shall be filed with the department and posted conspicuously on the website for the department and each school district. In the event an examination finds resource gaps at the school or district level, such report shall additionally include proposed remedies both that can be carried out with the district's available resources and an explanation of resource gaps that may be remedied through additional state aid.

3. (a) A school employee shall, no more than sixty days after learning of a school's noncompliance with the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to section thirty-three hundred fifty-one of this article, either through the annual assessment process pursuant to subdivision one of this section or at any other time, document such noncompliance in writing and file a report with the board of education or trustees of such school district or the chancellor of the city school district of the city of New York, as applicable.

(b) Within thirty days of receiving a report of noncompliance pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision, the board of education or trustees of such school district or the chancellor of the city school district of the city of New York, as applicable, shall ensure that:

(i) written notification is issued to the parent or guardian of any student affected by such noncompliance. Such written notification shall be provided in English and translated as necessary into the primary language of such parent or guardian; and

(ii) the board of education or trustees of such school district or the chancellor of the city school district of the city of New York, as applicable, submits the findings of noncompliance to the department's office of accountability.

4. The department shall review, store and organize all noncompliance reports submitted pursuant to subdivisions two and three of this section in a publicly accessible database.

5. The department's office of accountability shall develop and issue recommendations to a board of education or trustees of a school district or the chancellor of the city school district of the city of New York, as applicable, of a noncompliant school to bring such school into compliance with the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to section thirty-three hundred fifty-one of this article.

§ 3353. Educational rights publication for parents and students. 1. The department shall promulgate a parent and student friendly publication detailing the resource related educational rights of students within the state. Such publication shall include, but is not limited to, information regarding a student's right to:

(a) sufficient numbers of qualified teachers, principals, and other personnel;

(b) suitable and up-to-date curricula;

(c) support for students who are not meeting, or at risk of not meeting, any state learning standards in a core academic subject, including English language arts, math, science and social studies;

(d) adequate resources for students with disabilities and English-language learners;

(e) appropriate class sizes;

(f) sufficient and up-to-date books, supplies, libraries, educational technology, and laboratories;

(g) a safe and orderly environment; and

(h) adequate and accessible school buildings.

Such publication shall additionally include a phone number and an email address to the appropriate department office to accommodate questions or complaints from parents or guardians of students regarding resource related educational rights.

2. The department shall conspicuously post and maintain the publication required pursuant to subdivision one of this section on the website of the department and require that every school district within the state do the same on their respective sites. The department shall also require every school district within the state to provide a parent or guardian of a student in such district with a hard copy of such publication upon the initial release of the publication, at the start of each academic year, to a parent or guardian of a student when such student is enrolled in a new school and to a parent or guardian upon the request of such parent or guardian. Such publication shall be made available in English and the nine most common languages other than English spoken by parents or guardians of New York state school children as determined by the department.

§ 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.