

**GENERAL PUBLIC
SCHOOL LAWS OF
ALABAMA, 1915**

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General Public School Laws of Alabama, 1915 by Various

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VARIOUS

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PUBLIC SCHOOL LAWS OF ALABAMA.

CHAPTER 41, CODE 1907.

ARTICLE 1.

PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND.

1678. (3539) (943) *Appropriations for public schools.*—For the maintenance of a system of public schools of the State the following sums of money are hereby appropriated for every scholastic year, to-wit:

1. The annual interest at six per cent on all sums of money which have heretofore been or which may hereafter be received by the State, as the proceeds of sales of lands granted or entrusted by the United States to the State, or to the several townships thereof, valueless sixteenth section fund, and school indemnity fund for school purposes.

2. The annual interest at four per cent on that part of the surplus revenue of the United States deposited with the State under the act of Congress approved June 23, 1836.

3. All annual rents, incomes, and profits or interest arising from the proceeds of sales of all such lands as may hereafter be given by the United States, or by this State, or by individuals, for the support of the public schools of the State.

4. All such sums as may accrue to the State as escheats the same to be applied to the support of the public schools during the scholastic year next ensuing the receipt in the State treasury.

5. The net amount of poll tax that may be collected in the State; poll tax collected in every county to be retained therein for the support of the public schools thereof and distributed and disbursed as provided in this chapter.

6. Licenses which are by law required to be paid into the school fund of any county to be promptly paid by the judge of probate or other person collecting the same to the county superintendent of education and to be expended for the benefit of the public schools of each county.

7. A further sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) annually for every scholastic year; provided, however, that there is hereby appropriated the additional sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) annually if in the judgment of the governor of Alabama the financial condition of the State treasury will permit of such additional appropriation.

That the provisions of this act shall become effective October 1st, 1911. Provided, that the annual excess of the appropriation herein made over the appropriation carried by existing laws,* viz.: The sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) per annum, shall be paid only on the approval of the governor, who, as the state of the treasury in his opinion may warrant, may approve the same in whole or in part from time to time; provided, that if the governor shall fail to approve in any year the full amount of the appropriation made for that year he may, if the condition of the treasury warrant, approve in any subsequent year or years the difference between the amount appropriated and that paid.

Note—In addition to the sources of school revenue above enumerated, there is annually levied, by Constitutional requirements, for the maintenance of the public schools, a tax of thirty cents on each one hundred dollars assessed valuation of taxable property.

Mobile and Baldwin counties levy a three-mill local tax, Escambia county a two-mill local tax, Jefferson county a one and one-half mill local tax, and forty-one other counties a one-mill tax.

1679. (3540) (944) *When appropriations accrue, placed to credit of educational fund.*—All such appro-

*The appropriation carried by existing laws is \$350,000.

priations, except the poll tax, shall accrue to the educational fund on the first day of October, in each year; and on that day the State auditor shall place to the credit of that fund, on the books in his office, all such amounts as accrue thereto from the sources in this article mentioned, except the poll tax, for the scholastic year beginning on that day.

ARTICLE 2.

OFFICERS AND BOARDS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1680. (3541) (945) *Officers and boards of administration of public schools.*—For the administration and government of public schools in this State, there are the following officers and boards of education:

1. The superintendent of education.
2. A county superintendent of education in each county.
3. Three district trustees in each school district.
4. One county board of education; constituted as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE 3.

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION.

1681. (3542) (946) *Term of office; salary.*—"The Superintendent of Education" holds office for the term of four years from the time of his installation in office, and until his successor is elected and qualified, and shall receive a salary of three thousand dollars per annum, payable in monthly installments, on the last day of each month, and shall not be eligible as his own successor.

1682. (3543) (947) *Oath of office and bond.*—Before entering upon the duties of his office, he shall take

oath of office prescribed by the constitution, and shall also give bond, with sureties to be approved by the governor, in the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, conditioned faithfully to discharge the duties of his office so long as he shall remain therein, or perform any of the duties thereof; and such bond shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state.

1683. (3544) (948) *Office and books, papers and records.*—He shall have an office at the capitol of the State, where the bonds, papers and records of his office shall be kept, and where he shall give attendance when not absent on official business; and it shall be the privilege of all persons interested to have access, at all proper hours, to the books, papers, and records of the office.

1684. (3545) (949) *Clerks and their salaries.*—He is authorized to employ a chief clerk, two bookkeepers, and a stenographer for service in his office; and such clerks shall be allowed salaries as follows: The chief clerk, eighteen hundred dollars per year; the two bookkeepers, fifteen hundred dollars per year each; the stenographer, seven hundred and fifty dollars per year, to be paid as the salaries of other department clerks are paid.

1685. (3546) (950) *Duties of the superintendent of education.*—The duties of the superintendent of education shall be as follows:

1. He shall devote his time to the care and improvement of the common schools, and the promotion of public education, and shall exercise a general supervision over all the educational interests of the State; and to this end he shall have power to require from the county superintendent of education, township and district trustees of public schools, and all other school officers, all such reports and information relating to the educational fund, or the condition of the schools and the management thereof, as he may deem important, or as may be prescribed by law; and he may remove from office any

such officer, except the county superintendent, for failure to make such report, give such information, or discharge any other official duty.

2. He shall annually, as far as practicable, visit every county in the State, for the purpose of inspecting the schools and their management, the accounts of county superintendents of education, and other school officers, and for diffusing as widely as possible, by personal address and personal communication, information as to the importance of public schools and the best method for their management; and he shall encourage and assist at organizing and conducting teachers' and superintendents' institutes.

3. He shall make provisions for instructing all pupils in all schools and colleges supported, in whole or in part, by public money, or under State control, in hygiene and physiology, with special reference to the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants, and narcotics upon the human system.

4. He shall make provision for instructing all pupils in all schools and colleges supported, in whole or in part, by public moneys, or under State control, in the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the State of Alabama.

5. He shall annually apportion the public school funds to the several counties, and the county board of education shall apportion the same to the school districts as required by section 256 of the Constitution, and shall see to the proper disbursement of the same; and to this end he shall keep an accurate account with all officers who may be custodians or disbursers of the school fund, or any part thereof.

6. He shall prepare all forms and have printed and distributed all such blanks as may be necessary, or as may be required by law, in the administration of the public school system.

7. He shall furnish the county superintendents and other school officers all necessary books for keeping their accounts and records, to be and remain public property; and he shall prescribe a uniform system of keeping such accounts and records.