

**PUBLIC SCHOOL LAWS OF LOUISIANA:
SANITARY REGULATIONS OF THE STATE
BOARD OF HEALTH AND THE IMPORTANT
DECISIONS OF THE SUPREME COURT OF
LOUISIANA RELATIVE TO SCHOOLS.
TENTH COMPILATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649684472

Public School Laws of Louisiana: Sanitary Regulations of the State Board of Health and the Important Decisions of the Supreme Court of Louisiana Relative to Schools. Tenth Compilation by Various

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Cover @ 2017

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TENTH COMPILATION

T. H. HARRIS, STATE SUPERINTENDENT
1916



BATON ROUGE,
Ramires-Jones Printing Company
1916

LB2521
#83
1916

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(Term, one year, expires August 30, 1917.)

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(Term, two years, expires August 30, 1918.)

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(Term, three years, expires August 30, 1919.)

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(Term; four years, expires August 30, 1920.)

JNO. LEGIER, JR.....New Orleans, La.
(Term, five years, expires August 30, 1921.)

THOMAS H. HARRIS, Ex Officio..State Superintendent Education
(Term, four years.)

**ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION HAVING
REFERENCE TO PUBLIC EDUCATION.**

(Art. 53. Limitation of Legislative Powers.)

No money shall ever be taken from the public treasury, directly or indirectly, in aid of any church, sect or denomination of religion, or in aid of any priest, preacher, minister or teacher thereof, as such; and no preference shall ever be given to, nor any discrimination made against, any church, sect or creed of religion, or any form of religious faith or worship; nor shall any appropriation be made for private, charitable or benevolent purposes to any person or community; provided, this shall not apply to the State Asylum for the Insane and State Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and State Institution for the Instruction of the blind, and the charity hospitals and public charitable institutions conducted under State authority.

(Art. 230. Educational Institutions Exempt from Taxation.)

The following shall be exempt from taxation, and no other, viz: All public property, places of religious worship, or burial, all charitable institutions, all buildings and property used exclusively for public monuments or historical collections, colleges and other school purposes, the real and personal estate of any library, and that of any other library association used by or connected with such library, all books and philosophical apparatus, and all paintings and statuary of any company or association kept in a public hall; provided, the property so exempted be not leased for purposes of private or corporate profit and income. * * * * *

(Art. 231. Poll Tax of One Dollar.)

The General Assembly shall levy an annual poll tax of one dollar upon every male inhabitant in the State between the ages of twenty-one and sixty years, for the maintenance of the public schools in the parishes where collected.

(Art. 232. School Tax on a Vote of Property Taxpayers.)

The State tax on property for all purposes whatever, includ-

ing expenses of government, schools, levees and interest, shall not exceed in any one year, six mills on the dollar of its assessed valuation, and, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, no parish, municipal or public board tax for all purposes whatsoever, shall exceed in any one year ten mills on the dollar of valuation; provided, that for giving additional support to public schools, and for the purpose of erecting and constructing public buildings, public schoolhouses, bridges, wharves, levees, sewerage work and other works of permanent public improvement, the title to which shall be in the public, any parish, municipal corporation, ward or school district may levy a special tax in excess of said limitation, whenever the rate of such increase and the number of years it is to be levied and the purposes for which the tax is intended, shall have been submitted to a vote of the property taxpayers of each parish, ward or school district entitled to vote under the election laws of the State, and a majority of the same in numbers and in value voting at such election shall have voted therefor.

(Art. 248. Free Schools; for Whom; Apportionment of Funds.)

There shall be free public schools for the white and colored races, separately established by the General Assembly, throughout the State, for the education of all the children of the State between the ages of six and eighteen years; provided, that where kindergarten schools exist, children between the ages of four and six may be admitted into said schools. All funds raised by the State for the support of public schools, except the poll tax, shall be distributed to each parish in proportion to the number of children therein between the ages of six and eighteen years. The General Assembly, at its next session, shall provide for the enumeration of educable children.

(Art. 249, as amended by Act 28 of 1908. State Superintendent.)

There shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State a Superintendent of Public Education, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, and until his successor is qualified. His duties shall be prescribed by law, and he shall receive an annual salary of five thousand dollars.

(Art. 250. State Board of Education; Parish Boards and Officers.)

The General Assembly shall provide for the creation of a State Board and Parish Boards of Public Education. The Parish Boards shall elect a Parish Superintendent of Public Education for their respective parishes, whose qualifications shall be fixed by the Legislature, and who shall be ex-officio secretary of the Parish Board. The salary of the Parish Superintendent shall be provided for by the General Assembly, to be paid out of the public school funds accruing to the respective parishes.

(Art. 251. French May Be Taught.)

The general exercises in the public schools shall be conducted in the English language; provided, that the French language may be taught in those parishes or localities where the French language predominates, if no additional expense is incurred thereby.

(Art. 252. Application of the Poll Tax.)

The funds derived from the collection of the poll tax shall be applied exclusively to the maintenance of the public schools as organized under this Constitution, and shall be applied exclusively to the support of the public schools in the parish in which the same shall be collected, and shall be accounted for and paid by the collecting officer directly to the treasurer of the local school board.

(Art. 253. Private and Sectarian Schools Cannot Receive Public School Funds.)

No funds raised for the support of the public schools of the State shall be appropriated to or used for the support of any private or sectarian schools.

(Art. 254. School Funds—Of What They Shall Consist.)

The school funds of the State shall consist of: 1st. Not less than one and one-quarter mills of the six mills tax levied and collected by the State. 2d. The proceeds of taxation for school purposes as provided by this Constitution. 3d. The interest on the proceeds of all public lands heretofore granted or to be granted by the United States for the support of the public schools, and the revenues derived from such lands as may remain unsold. 4th. All funds and property, other than unimproved lands, bequeathed or granted to the State, not designated for

any other purpose. 5th. The proceeds of vacant estates falling under the law to the State of Louisiana. 6th. The legislature may appropriate to the same fund the proceeds of public lands not designated or set apart for any other purpose, and shall provide that every parish may levy a tax for the public schools therein, which shall not exceed the entire State tax; provided, that with such a tax the whole amount of parishes taxes shall not exceed the limits of parish taxation fixed by this Constitution. The City of New Orleans shall make such appropriations for the support, maintenance and repair of the public schools of said city as it may deem proper, but not less than eight-tenths of one mill for one year; and said schools shall continue to receive from the Board of Liquidation of the City Debt, the amounts to which they are now entitled under the Constitutional amendment adopted in the year 1892.

(Art. 255. School Funds—Of What They Shall Consist.)

The police juries of the several parishes and boards of trustees and municipal councils of incorporated cities and towns (the Parish of Orleans excepted) shall levy, collect and turn over to the parish school boards of their respective parishes, cities or towns, the proceeds of at least three mills of the annual tax which they are empowered to levy on each dollar of the assessed valuation of the property thereof. Provided, that cities and towns that are not exempted by the terms of their charters from the payment of parish taxes and which are subjected to the similar burdens of taxation as are the parishes shall not pay this tax, as same is included in the taxes imposed by the parish in which the town is situated, unless the parish boards of school directors of that parish certify that the needs of the school can be met by a smaller levy of such taxes.

(Art. 256. Louisiana State University and A. & M. College.)

The Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, founded upon land grant of the United States to endow a seminary of learning and a college for the benefit of agriculture and mechanic arts, now established and located in the City of Baton Rouge, is hereby recognized; and all revenues derived and to be derived from the seminary fund, the Agricul-

tural and Mechanical College fund, and other funds or lands donated to or to be donated by the United States to the State of Louisiana for the use of a seminary of learning or of a college for the benefit of agriculture or the mechanic arts, shall be appropriated exclusively to the maintenance and support of the said Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College; and the General Assembly shall make such additional appropriations as may be necessary for its maintenance, support, and improvement, and for the establishment, in connection with said institution, of such additional scientific or literary departments as the public necessities and the well-being of the people of Louisiana may require.

The Tulane University of Louisiana, located in New Orleans, is hereby recognized as created, and to be developed in accordance with the provisions of the legislative act No. 43, approved July 5th, 1884, and by approval of the electors, made part of the Constitution of the State.

(Art. 257.)

The Louisiana State Normal School, established and located at Natchitoches; the Industrial Institute and College of Louisiana, whose name is hereby changed to the Louisiana Industrial Institute, established and located at Ruston; and the Southern University, now established in the City of New Orleans, for the education of persons of color, are hereby recognized; and the General Assembly is directed to make such appropriations from time to time as may be necessary for the maintenance, support and improvement of these institutions; provided, that the appropriation for the maintenance and support of the Southern University shall not exceed ten thousand dollars per annum.

(Art. 258. Interest Due the Townships.)

The debt due by the State to the free school fund is hereby declared to be the sum of one million, one hundred and thirty thousand, eight hundred and sixty-seven dollars and fifty-one cents in principal, and shall be kept on the books of the Auditor and Treasurer to the credit of the several townships entitled to the same; the said principal being the proceeds of the sales of lands heretofore granted by the United States for the use and support of free public schools which amount shall be held by