

**THE GENERAL STATUTES OF  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
MASSACHUSETTS RELATING  
TO THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, 1868**

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The General Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Relating to the Public Schools,  
1868 by Various

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**VARIOUS**

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THE  
GENERAL STATUTES

OF THE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

RELATING TO THE

PUBLIC SCHOOLS,

WITH THE

ALTERATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

To 1868.

BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER, STATE PRINTERS,  
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# LAWS RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

## OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND REGULATIONS RESPECTING CHILDREN.

- CHAPTER 34.—Of the Board of Education.  
CHAPTER 35.—Of Teachers' Institutes and Associations.  
CHAPTER 36.—Of the School Funds.  
CHAPTER 37.—Of State Scholarships.  
CHAPTER 38.—Of the Public Schools.  
CHAPTER 39.—Of School Districts.  
CHAPTER 40.—Of School Registers and Returns.  
CHAPTER 41.—Of the Attendance of Children in the Schools.  
CHAPTER 42.—Of the Employment of Children and Regulations  
respecting them.

### CHAPTER 34.

#### OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

##### SECTION

1. Board of education, how organized; term of office; vacancies.
2. —may take grants, devises, &c., in trust for educational purposes; to pay all moneys to treasurer.
3. —shall prescribe form of school registers, and of blanks for returns; transmit abstract of returns, and report to legislature.
4. —may appoint secretary, who shall make abstracts, collect and diffuse information, &c.
5. Secretary shall suggest improvements, visit different places, collect books, receive reports, &c.

##### SECTION

6. Secretary shall give notice and attend meetings, and collect information, &c.
7. —shall send blank forms and reports to clerks of towns and cities.
8. Compensation of secretary, and expenses of office.
9. Board may appoint agents to make inquiry, &c.
10. Expenses of board, how paid.
11. Assistant state librarian may act as clerk.

Board of education, how organized; term of members; vacancies. 1837, 241, § 1.

—may take grants, &c., in trust for educational purposes, &c. Duty of treasurer: 1859, 33.

—shall prescribe form of school registers and blanks for returns, &c. 1837, 241, § 2, 3. 1838, 135, § 5, 7. 1840, 227, § 8. 1849, 209.

—may appoint secretary, who shall make abstracts, &c. 1837, 241, § 2. 1847, 188, § 1. 1849, 215, § 1.

Secretary shall suggest improvements, &c. 1849, 215, § 1. 1858, 61.

SECTION 1. The board of education shall consist of the governor and lieutenant-governor, and eight persons appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the council, each to hold office eight years from the time of his appointment, one retiring each year in the order of appointment; and the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall fill all vacancies in the board which may occur from death, resignation, or otherwise.

SECT. 2. The board may take and hold to it and its successors, in trust for the Commonwealth, any grant or devise of lands, and any donation or bequest of money or other personal property, made to it for educational purposes; and shall forthwith pay over to the treasurer of the Commonwealth, for safe keeping and investment, all money and other personal property so received. The treasurer shall from time to time invest all such money in the name of the Commonwealth, and shall pay to the board, on the warrant of the governor, the income or principal thereof, as it shall from time to time require; but no disposition shall be made of any devise, donation, or bequest inconsistent with the conditions or terms thereof. For the faithful management of all property so received by the treasurer he shall be responsible upon his bond to the Commonwealth, as for other funds received by him in his official capacity.

SECT. 3. The board shall prescribe the form of registers to be kept in the schools, and the form of the blanks and inquiries for the returns to be made by school committees; shall annually on or before the third Wednesday of January lay before the legislature an annual report containing a printed abstract of said returns, and a detailed report of all the doings of the board, with such observations upon the condition and efficiency of the system of popular education, and such suggestions as to the most practicable means of improving and extending it, as the experience and reflection of the board dictate.

SECT. 4. The board may appoint its own secretary, who, under its direction, shall make the abstract of school returns required by section three; collect information respecting the condition and efficiency of the public schools and other means of popular education; and diffuse as widely as possible throughout the Commonwealth information of the best system of studies and method of instruction for the young, that the best education which public schools can be made to impart may be secured to all children who depend upon them for instruction.

SECT. 5. The secretary shall suggest to the board and to the legislature, improvements in the present system of public schools; visit, as often as his other duties will permit,

different parts of the Commonwealth for the purpose of arousing and guiding public sentiment in relation to the practical interests of education; collect in his office such school-books, apparatus, maps, and charts, as can be obtained without expense to the Commonwealth; receive and arrange in his office the reports and returns of the school committees; and receive, preserve, or distribute, the state documents in relation to the public school system.

SECT. 6. He shall, under the direction of the board, give sufficient notice of, and attend such meetings of teachers of public schools, members of the school committees of the several towns, and friends of education generally in any county, as may voluntarily assemble at the time and place designated by the board; and shall at such meetings devote himself to the object of collecting information of the condition of the public schools of such county, of the fulfilment of the duties of their office by members of the school committees of all the towns and cities, and of the circumstances of the several school districts in regard to teachers, pupils, books, apparatus, and methods of education, to enable him to furnish all information desired for the report of the board required in section three.

—shall give notice and attend meetings, &c. 1888, 159, § 1. 1842, 44.

SECT. 7. He shall send the blank forms of inquiry, the school registers, the annual report of the board, and his own annual report, to the clerks of the several towns and cities as soon as may be after they are ready for distribution.

Secretary shall send forms and reports to town clerks, &c. 1860, 41.

SECT. 8. He shall receive from the treasury, in quarterly payments, an annual salary of two thousand dollars, and his necessary travelling expenses incurred in the performance of his official duties after they have been audited and approved by the board; and all postages and other necessary expenses arising in his office, shall be paid out of the treasury in the same manner as those of the different departments of the government.

Compensation of secretary, and expenses of office. 1849, 215, §§ 2, 3. 1852, 40.

Amendment.—Chap. 276, 1867.

[SECT. 1. The secretary of the board of education shall receive an annual salary of three thousand dollars, and also the sum of four hundred dollars in full compensation for travelling expenses to be paid out of the moiety of the school fund applicable to educational purposes.]

SECT. 9. The board may appoint one or more suitable agents to visit the several towns and cities for the purpose of inquiring into the condition of the schools, conferring with teachers and committees, lecturing upon subjects connected

Board may appoint agents to make inquiry, &c. Resolves, 1867, 22.