

**THE SCHOOL LAW
OF ILLINOIS;
CIRCULAR NO. 157**

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The School Law of Illinois; Circular No. 157 by J. C. Thompson & Francis G. Blair

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J. C. THOMPSON & FRANCIS G. BLAIR

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OF ILLINOIS;
CIRCULAR NO. 157**

Illinois, Public Instruction, Dept of
School Law THE

SCHOOL LAW OF ILLINOIS

Univ. of
California



Compiled by
J. C. THOMPSON

Circular No. 157

ISSUED BY
FRANCIS G. BLAIR
Superintendent of Public Instruction

[Printed by authority of the State of Illinois.]

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CIRCULAR 157

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SYSTEM OF FREE SCHOOLS.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:* That on Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, 1910, and quadrennially thereafter, there shall be elected by the qualified voters of this State a Superintendent of Public Instruction, who shall hold his office for four years from the second Monday in January next after his election.

§ 2. Before entering upon his duties he shall take and subscribe the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, and execute a bond in the penalty of \$25,000.00, payable to the People of the State of Illinois, with securities to be approved by the Governor, conditioned upon the faithful discharge of his duties. Such bond and oath shall be deposited with the Secretary of State.

§ 3. The duties of the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be:

First—To have his office at the seat of government and to keep a record of all matters pertaining to the business of his office.

Second—To file all papers, reports and public documents transmitted to him by the school officers of the several counties, for each year separately; and to keep and preserve all other public documents, books and papers relative to schools, coming into his hands as Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Third—To supervise all the common and public schools in the State.

Fourth—To counsel and confer, in such manner as he may deem best, with experienced and practical teachers as to the best manner of conducting common schools.

Fifth—To advise and assist county superintendents of schools, addressing to them, from time to time, circular letters relating to the best manner of conducting schools, constructing schoolhouses, furnishing the same, and examining and procuring competent teachers.

Sixth—To be ex officio a member of the board of trustees of the Southern Normal University.

Seventh—To make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry into efficient and uniform effect the provisions of this Act, and of all laws for establishing and maintaining free schools in the State.

Eighth—To be the legal adviser of school officers, and, when requested by any school officer, to give his opinion in writing upon any question arising under the school laws of the State.

TO WHOM
APPLICABLE

Ninth—To hear and determine all controversies arising under the school laws of the State coming to him by appeal from a county superintendent of schools.

Tenth—To grant certificates to such teachers as may be found qualified to receive them, and to suspend the operation of any State certificate for immorality or other unprofessional conduct.

Eleventh—To visit such of the charitable institutions of the State as are educational in their character, to examine their facilities for instruction, and to prescribe forms for such reports as he may desire from their superintendents.

Twelfth—To report to the Governor, on or before the first of November, preceding each regular session of the General Assembly, the condition of the schools in the several counties of the State; the number of schools which have been taught in each county in each of the preceding years, commencing on the first of July; the number taught by men and women respectively; the number of pupils in attendance; the number of persons in each county under 21 years of age, and the number of persons between the ages of 12 and 21 years unable to read and write; the amount of township funds; the amount of interest on the State or common school fund, and on the township fund, annually paid out; the amount raised by an ad valorem tax; the amount annually expended for schools; the number of schoolhouses, their kind and condition; the number of townships and parts of townships in each county; the number of books purchased for the use of schools and the cost of the same; the value of apparatus purchased; the number of district libraries; together with such other information and suggestions as he may deem important in relation to the schools and school laws, and the means of promoting education, throughout the State, which report shall be submitted to the General Assembly at each regular session.

Thirteenth—To prepare with the advice of the State Board of Health, the State Architect and the State Fire Marshal, for school directors and boards of education specifications for the minimum requirements for the heating, ventilation, lighting, seating, water supply, toilets and safety against fire which will conserve the health and safety of the children attending the public schools. (As amended by an Act approved June 26, 1915.)

§ 4. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall have the following powers:

First—To designate the particular statistics relating to public schools which school officers are required to report to the county superintendent of schools.

Second—To authorize the county superintendent of schools to procure such assistance as may be necessary to conduct teachers' institutes.

Third—To require the county superintendents of schools to furnish him with such information as he may desire to include in his report to the General Assembly.

Fourth—To require the trustees of schools of each township to make, at any time, a report similar to that required of trustees of

schools, on or before the 15th day of July preceding each regular session of the General Assembly.

Fifth—To require annual reports from the authorities of townships, cities or districts maintaining schools by authority of special charters.

Sixth—To remit, upon the recommendation of the county superintendent of schools, or for other good and sufficient reasons, the forfeiture of the school fund by any township which may have failed to make the reports required by law.

Seventh—To require the Auditor of Public Accounts to withhold from the county superintendent the amount due his county from the State school fund, or the said county superintendent for his compensation, until the report provided for in section 7 of this Act shall have been furnished as therein required.

Eighth—To request the president, principal or other proper officer of every organized university, college, seminary, academy or other educational institution, whether incorporated or unincorporated, to submit such report as he may require, in order to lay before the General Assembly a full exhibit of the affairs and conditions of such institutions and of the educational resources of the State.

Ninth—To require the county superintendent of schools, trustees, township treasurer, directors or other school officer to withhold from any township, district, officer or teacher any part of the common school township or other school fund, until such treasurer, officer or teacher shall have made all schedules, reports and returns required of him by this Act, and until such officer shall have executed and filed all official bonds and accounted for all common school, township or other school funds which have come into his hands.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

§ 5. On Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, 1918, and quadrennially thereafter, there shall be elected by the qualified voters of every county in the State, a county superintendent of schools, who shall enter upon the discharge of his duties the first Monday of August next after his election. No one shall be eligible to the office of county superintendent of schools who is not of good character, actually engaged in educational work, the holder of a valid county supervisory certificate, or a State certificate, and who has not had at least four years' experience in teaching. (As amended by an Act approved June 28, 1915.)

§ 6. Before entering upon his duties he shall take and subscribe the oath prescribed by the Constitution, and execute a bond payable to the People of the State of Illinois, with two or more responsible freeholders as security, to be approved by the county board or by the judge and clerk of the county court, in a penalty of not less than \$12,000.00, conditioned upon the faithful discharge of his duties. The bond shall be in the following form, to-wit:

STATE OF ILLINOIS, } ss.
COUNTY. }

Know All Men by These Presents: That we, A B, C D, and E F, are held and firmly bound, jointly and severally, unto the people of the State of