

# AN ACT

To amend sections 3301.162, 3314.03, 3319.111, 3319.112, 3326.02, 3326.03, 3326.04, and 3326.09 and to enact sections 3319.114 and 3326.032 of the Revised Code to authorize the STEM Committee to grant a designation of STEM school equivalent to a community school or chartered nonpublic school, to make other revisions to the law regarding STEM schools, and to make changes to the law regarding educator performance evaluations.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:*

SECTION 1. That sections 3301.162, 3314.03, 3319.111, 3319.112, 3326.02, 3326.03, 3326.04, and 3326.09 be amended and sections 3319.114 and 3326.032 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 3301.162. (A) If the governing authority of a chartered nonpublic school intends to close the school, the governing authority shall notify all of the following of that intent prior to closing the school:

- (1) The department of education;
- (2) The school district that receives auxiliary services funding under division (E) of section 3317.024 of the Revised Code on behalf of the students enrolled in the school;
- (3) The accrediting association that most recently accredited the school for purposes of chartering the school in accordance with the rules of the state board of education, if applicable;

(4) If the school has been designated as a STEM school equivalent under section 3326.032 of the Revised Code, the STEM committee established under section 3326.02 of the Revised Code.

The notice shall include the school year and, if possible, the actual date the school will close.

(B) The chief administrator of each chartered nonpublic school that closes shall deposit the school's records with either:

- (1) The accrediting association that most recently accredited the school for purposes of chartering the school in accordance with the rules of the

state board, if applicable;

(2) The school district that received auxiliary services funding under division (E) of section 3317.024 of the Revised Code on behalf of the students enrolled in the school.

The school district that receives the records may charge for and receive a one-time reimbursement from auxiliary services funding under division (E) of section 3317.024 of the Revised Code for costs the district incurred to store the records.

Sec. 3314.03. A copy of every contract entered into under this section shall be filed with the superintendent of public instruction. The department of education shall make available on its web site a copy of every approved, executed contract filed with the superintendent under this section.

(A) Each contract entered into between a sponsor and the governing authority of a community school shall specify the following:

(1) That the school shall be established as either of the following:

(a) A nonprofit corporation established under Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, if established prior to April 8, 2003;

(b) A public benefit corporation established under Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, if established after April 8, 2003.

(2) The education program of the school, including the school's mission, the characteristics of the students the school is expected to attract, the ages and grades of students, and the focus of the curriculum;

(3) The academic goals to be achieved and the method of measurement that will be used to determine progress toward those goals, which shall include the statewide achievement assessments;

(4) Performance standards by which the success of the school will be evaluated by the sponsor;

(5) The admission standards of section 3314.06 of the Revised Code and, if applicable, section 3314.061 of the Revised Code;

(6)(a) Dismissal procedures;

(b) A requirement that the governing authority adopt an attendance policy that includes a procedure for automatically withdrawing a student from the school if the student without a legitimate excuse fails to participate in one hundred five consecutive hours of the learning opportunities offered to the student.

(7) The ways by which the school will achieve racial and ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves;

(8) Requirements for financial audits by the auditor of state. The contract shall require financial records of the school to be maintained in the same manner as are financial records of school districts, pursuant to rules of

the auditor of state. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with section 117.10 of the Revised Code.

(9) The facilities to be used and their locations;

(10) Qualifications of teachers, including a requirement that the school's classroom teachers be licensed in accordance with sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the Revised Code, except that a community school may engage noncertificated persons to teach up to twelve hours per week pursuant to section 3319.301 of the Revised Code.

(11) That the school will comply with the following requirements:

(a) The school will provide learning opportunities to a minimum of twenty-five students for a minimum of nine hundred twenty hours per school year.

(b) The governing authority will purchase liability insurance, or otherwise provide for the potential liability of the school.

(c) The school will be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or religious institution.

(d) The school will comply with sections 9.90, 9.91, 109.65, 121.22, 149.43, 2151.357, 2151.421, 2313.19, 3301.0710, 3301.0711, 3301.0712, 3301.0715, 3313.472, 3313.50, 3313.536, 3313.539, 3313.608, 3313.609, 3313.6012, 3313.6013, 3313.6014, 3313.6015, 3313.643, 3313.648, 3313.6411, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.666, 3313.667, 3313.67, 3313.671, 3313.672, 3313.673, 3313.69, 3313.71, 3313.716, 3313.718, 3313.719, 3313.80, 3313.814, 3313.816, 3313.817, 3313.86, 3313.96, 3319.073, 3319.321, 3319.39, 3319.391, 3319.41, 3321.01, 3321.041, 3321.13, 3321.14, 3321.17, 3321.18, 3321.19, 3321.191, 3327.10, 4111.17, 4113.52, and 5705.391 and Chapters 117., 1347., 2744., 3365., 3742., 4112., 4123., 4141., and 4167. of the Revised Code as if it were a school district and will comply with section 3301.0714 of the Revised Code in the manner specified in section 3314.17 of the Revised Code.

(e) The school shall comply with Chapter 102. and section 2921.42 of the Revised Code.

(f) The school will comply with sections 3313.61, 3313.611, and 3313.614 of the Revised Code, except that for students who enter ninth grade for the first time before July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 3313.61 and 3313.611 of the Revised Code that a person must successfully complete the curriculum in any high school prior to receiving a high school diploma may be met by completing the curriculum adopted by the governing authority of the community school rather than the curriculum specified in Title XXXIII of the Revised Code or any rules of the state board of

education. Beginning with students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 3313.61 and 3313.611 of the Revised Code that a person must successfully complete the curriculum of a high school prior to receiving a high school diploma shall be met by completing the Ohio core curriculum prescribed in division (C) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code, unless the person qualifies under division (D) or (F) of that section. Each school shall comply with the plan for awarding high school credit based on demonstration of subject area competency, adopted by the state board of education under division (J) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code.

(g) The school governing authority will submit within four months after the end of each school year a report of its activities and progress in meeting the goals and standards of divisions (A)(3) and (4) of this section and its financial status to the sponsor and the parents of all students enrolled in the school.

(h) The school, unless it is an internet- or computer-based community school, will comply with section 3313.801 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district.

(i) If the school is the recipient of moneys from a grant awarded under the federal race to the top program, Division (A), Title XIV, Sections 14005 and 14006 of the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009," Pub. L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115, the school will pay teachers based upon performance in accordance with section 3317.141 and will comply with section 3319.111 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district.

(12) Arrangements for providing health and other benefits to employees;

(13) The length of the contract, which shall begin at the beginning of an academic year. No contract shall exceed five years unless such contract has been renewed pursuant to division (E) of this section.

(14) The governing authority of the school, which shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract;

(15) A financial plan detailing an estimated school budget for each year of the period of the contract and specifying the total estimated per pupil expenditure amount for each such year.

(16) Requirements and procedures regarding the disposition of employees of the school in the event the contract is terminated or not renewed pursuant to section 3314.07 of the Revised Code;

(17) Whether the school is to be created by converting all or part of an existing public school or educational service center building or is to be a new start-up school, and if it is a converted public school or service center building, specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer that

the board of education or service center governing board that operated the school or building before conversion is delegating to the governing authority of the community school with respect to all or any specified group of employees provided the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining agreement applicable to such employees;

(18) Provisions establishing procedures for resolving disputes or differences of opinion between the sponsor and the governing authority of the community school;

(19) A provision requiring the governing authority to adopt a policy regarding the admission of students who reside outside the district in which the school is located. That policy shall comply with the admissions procedures specified in sections 3314.06 and 3314.061 of the Revised Code and, at the sole discretion of the authority, shall do one of the following:

(a) Prohibit the enrollment of students who reside outside the district in which the school is located;

(b) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in districts adjacent to the district in which the school is located;

(c) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in any other district in the state.

(20) A provision recognizing the authority of the department of education to take over the sponsorship of the school in accordance with the provisions of division (C) of section 3314.015 of the Revised Code;

(21) A provision recognizing the sponsor's authority to assume the operation of a school under the conditions specified in division (B) of section 3314.073 of the Revised Code;

(22) A provision recognizing both of the following:

(a) The authority of public health and safety officials to inspect the facilities of the school and to order the facilities closed if those officials find that the facilities are not in compliance with health and safety laws and regulations;

(b) The authority of the department of education as the community school oversight body to suspend the operation of the school under section 3314.072 of the Revised Code if the department has evidence of conditions or violations of law at the school that pose an imminent danger to the health and safety of the school's students and employees and the sponsor refuses to take such action.

(23) A description of the learning opportunities that will be offered to students including both classroom-based and non-classroom-based learning opportunities that is in compliance with criteria for student participation established by the department under division (H)(2) of section 3314.08 of

the Revised Code;

(24) The school will comply with sections 3302.04 and 3302.041 of the Revised Code, except that any action required to be taken by a school district pursuant to those sections shall be taken by the sponsor of the school. However, the sponsor shall not be required to take any action described in division (F) of section 3302.04 of the Revised Code.

(25) Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, the school will open for operation not later than the thirtieth day of September each school year, unless the mission of the school as specified under division (A)(2) of this section is solely to serve dropouts. In its initial year of operation, if the school fails to open by the thirtieth day of September, or within one year after the adoption of the contract pursuant to division (D) of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code if the mission of the school is solely to serve dropouts, the contract shall be void.

(26) Whether the school's governing authority is planning to seek designation for the school as a STEM school equivalent under section 3326.032 of the Revised Code.

(B) The community school shall also submit to the sponsor a comprehensive plan for the school. The plan shall specify the following:

(1) The process by which the governing authority of the school will be selected in the future;

(2) The management and administration of the school;

(3) If the community school is a currently existing public school or educational service center building, alternative arrangements for current public school students who choose not to attend the converted school and for teachers who choose not to teach in the school or building after conversion;

(4) The instructional program and educational philosophy of the school;

(5) Internal financial controls.

(C) A contract entered into under section 3314.02 of the Revised Code between a sponsor and the governing authority of a community school may provide for the community school governing authority to make payments to the sponsor, which is hereby authorized to receive such payments as set forth in the contract between the governing authority and the sponsor. The total amount of such payments for oversight and monitoring of the school shall not exceed three per cent of the total amount of payments for operating expenses that the school receives from the state.

(D) The contract shall specify the duties of the sponsor which shall be in accordance with the written agreement entered into with the department of education under division (B) of section 3314.015 of the Revised Code and

shall include the following:

(1) Monitor the community school's compliance with all laws applicable to the school and with the terms of the contract;

(2) Monitor and evaluate the academic and fiscal performance and the organization and operation of the community school on at least an annual basis;

(3) Report on an annual basis the results of the evaluation conducted under division (D)(2) of this section to the department of education and to the parents of students enrolled in the community school;

(4) Provide technical assistance to the community school in complying with laws applicable to the school and terms of the contract;

(5) Take steps to intervene in the school's operation to correct problems in the school's overall performance, declare the school to be on probationary status pursuant to section 3314.073 of the Revised Code, suspend the operation of the school pursuant to section 3314.072 of the Revised Code, or terminate the contract of the school pursuant to section 3314.07 of the Revised Code as determined necessary by the sponsor;

(6) Have in place a plan of action to be undertaken in the event the community school experiences financial difficulties or closes prior to the end of a school year.

(E) Upon the expiration of a contract entered into under this section, the sponsor of a community school may, with the approval of the governing authority of the school, renew that contract for a period of time determined by the sponsor, but not ending earlier than the end of any school year, if the sponsor finds that the school's compliance with applicable laws and terms of the contract and the school's progress in meeting the academic goals prescribed in the contract have been satisfactory. Any contract that is renewed under this division remains subject to the provisions of sections 3314.07, 3314.072, and 3314.073 of the Revised Code.

(F) If a community school fails to open for operation within one year after the contract entered into under this section is adopted pursuant to division (D) of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code or permanently closes prior to the expiration of the contract, the contract shall be void and the school shall not enter into a contract with any other sponsor. A school shall not be considered permanently closed because the operations of the school have been suspended pursuant to section 3314.072 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3319.111. Notwithstanding section 3319.09 of the Revised Code, this section applies to any person who is employed under a teacher license issued under this chapter, or under a professional or permanent teacher's certificate issued under former section 3319.222 of the Revised Code, and

who spends at least fifty per cent of the time employed providing student instruction. However, this section does not apply to any person who is employed as a substitute teacher or as an instructor of adult education.

(A) Not later than July 1, 2013, the board of education of each school district, in consultation with teachers employed by the board, shall adopt a standards-based teacher evaluation policy that conforms with the framework for evaluation of teachers developed under section 3319.112 of the Revised Code. The policy shall become operative at the expiration of any collective bargaining agreement covering teachers employed by the board that is in effect on September 29, 2011, and shall be included in any renewal or extension of such an agreement.

(B) When using measures of student academic growth as a component of a teacher's evaluation, those measures shall include the value-added progress dimension prescribed by section 3302.021 of the Revised Code or an alternative student academic progress measure if adopted under division (C)(1)(e) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code. For teachers of grade levels and subjects for which the value-added progress dimension or alternative student academic progress measure is not applicable, the board shall administer assessments on the list developed under division (B)(2) of section 3319.112 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) The board shall conduct an evaluation of each teacher employed by the board at least once each school year, except as provided in division (C)(2) of this section. The evaluation shall be completed by the first day of May and the teacher shall receive a written report of the results of the evaluation by the tenth day of May.

~~(2)(a) The board may elect, by adoption of a resolution, to evaluate each teacher who received a rating of accomplished on the teacher's most recent evaluation conducted under this section once every ~~two~~ three school years, so long as the teacher's student academic growth measure, for the most recent school year for which data is available, is average or higher, as determined by the department of education. In that case, the biennial evaluation~~

(b) The board may evaluate each teacher who received a rating of skilled on the teacher's most recent evaluation conducted under this section once every two years, so long as the teacher's student academic growth measure, for the most recent school year for which data is available, is average or higher, as determined by the department of education.

(c) For each teacher who is evaluated pursuant to division (C)(2) of this section, the evaluation shall be completed by the first day of May of the applicable school year, and the teacher shall receive a written report of the

results of the evaluation by the tenth day of May of that school year.

(d) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, the board may elect not to conduct an evaluation of a teacher who meets one of the following requirements:

(i) The teacher was on leave from the school district for fifty per cent or more of the school year, as calculated by the board.

(ii) The teacher has submitted notice of retirement and that notice has been accepted by the board not later than the first day of December of the school year in which the evaluation is otherwise scheduled to be conducted.

(3) In any year that a teacher is not formally evaluated pursuant to division (C) of this section as a result of receiving a rating of accomplished or skilled on the teacher's most recent evaluation, an individual qualified to evaluate a teacher under division (D) of this section shall conduct at least one observation of the teacher and hold at least one conference with the teacher.

(D) Each evaluation conducted pursuant to this section shall be conducted by one or more of the following persons who hold a credential established by the department of education for being an evaluator:

(1) A person who is under contract with the board pursuant to section 3319.01 or 3319.02 of the Revised Code and holds a license designated for being a superintendent, assistant superintendent, or principal issued under section 3319.22 of the Revised Code;

(2) A person who is under contract with the board pursuant to section 3319.02 of the Revised Code and holds a license designated for being a vocational director, administrative specialist, or supervisor in any educational area issued under section 3319.22 of the Revised Code;

(3) A person designated to conduct evaluations under an agreement entered into by the board, including an agreement providing for peer review entered into by the board and representatives of teachers employed by the board;

(4) A person who is employed by an entity contracted by the board to conduct evaluations and who holds a license designated for being a superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal, vocational director, administrative specialist, or supervisor in any educational area issued under section 3319.22 of the Revised Code or is qualified to conduct evaluations.

(E) Notwithstanding division (A)(3) of section 3319.112 of the Revised Code:

(1) The board shall require at least three formal observations of each teacher who is under consideration for nonrenewal and with whom the board has entered into a limited contract or an extended limited contract under

section 3319.11 of the Revised Code.

(2) The board may elect, by adoption of a resolution, to require only one formal observation of a teacher who received a rating of accomplished on the teacher's most recent evaluation conducted under this section, provided the teacher completes a project that has been approved by the board to demonstrate the teacher's continued growth and practice at the accomplished level.

(F) The board shall include in its evaluation policy procedures for using the evaluation results for retention and promotion decisions and for removal of poorly performing teachers. Seniority shall not be the basis for a decision to retain a teacher, except when making a decision between teachers who have comparable evaluations.

(G) For purposes of section 3333.0411 of the Revised Code, the board annually shall report to the department of education the number of teachers for whom an evaluation was conducted under this section and the number of teachers assigned each rating prescribed under division (B)(1) of section 3319.112 of the Revised Code, aggregated by the teacher preparation programs from which and the years in which the teachers graduated. The department shall establish guidelines for reporting the information required by this division. The guidelines shall not permit or require that the name of, or any other personally identifiable information about, any teacher be reported under this division.

(H) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in Chapter 4117. of the Revised Code, the requirements of this section prevail over any conflicting provisions of a collective bargaining agreement entered into on or after September 24, 2012.

Sec. 3319.112. (A) Not later than December 31, 2011, the state board of education shall develop a standards-based state framework for the evaluation of teachers. The state board may update the framework periodically by adoption of a resolution. The framework shall establish an evaluation system that does the following:

(1) Provides for multiple evaluation factors. One factor shall be student academic growth which shall account for fifty per cent of each evaluation, except as otherwise prescribed by the alternative framework under section 3319.114 of the Revised Code. When applicable to the grade level or subject area taught by a teacher, the value-added progress dimension established under section 3302.021 of the Revised Code or an alternative student academic progress measure if adopted under division (C)(1)(e) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code shall be used in the student academic growth portion of an evaluation in proportion to the part of a teacher's schedule of

courses or subjects for which the value-added progress dimension is applicable.

If a teacher's schedule is comprised only of courses or subjects for which the value-added progress dimension is applicable, one of the following applies:

(a) Beginning with March 22, 2013, until June 30, 2014, the majority of the student academic growth factor of the evaluation shall be based on the value-added progress dimension.

(b) On or after July 1, 2014, the entire student academic growth factor of the evaluation shall be based on the value-added progress dimension. In calculating student academic growth for an evaluation, a student shall not be included if the student has forty-five or more excused or unexcused absences during the full academic year.

(2) Is aligned with the standards for teachers adopted under section 3319.61 of the Revised Code;

(3) Requires observation of the teacher being evaluated, including at least two formal observations by the evaluator of at least thirty minutes each and classroom walkthroughs;

(4) Assigns a rating on each evaluation in accordance with division (B) of this section or section 3319.114 of the Revised Code, whichever is applicable;

(5) Requires each teacher to be provided with a written report of the results of the teacher's evaluation;

(6) Identifies measures of student academic growth for grade levels and subjects for which the value-added progress dimension prescribed by section 3302.021 of the Revised Code or an alternative student academic progress measure if adopted under division (C)(1)(e) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code does not apply;

(7) Implements a classroom-level, value-added program developed by a nonprofit organization described in division (B) of section 3302.021 of the Revised Code or an alternative student academic progress measure if adopted under division (C)(1)(e) of section 3302.03 of the Revised Code;

(8) Provides for professional development to accelerate and continue teacher growth and provide support to poorly performing teachers;

(9) Provides for the allocation of financial resources to support professional development.

(B) For purposes of the framework developed under this section, the state board also shall do the following:

(1) Develop specific standards and criteria that distinguish between the following levels of performance for teachers and principals for the purpose

of assigning ratings on the evaluations conducted under sections 3311.80, 3311.84, 3319.02, and 3319.111 of the Revised Code:

- (a) Accomplished;
- (b) Skilled;
- (c) Developing;
- (d) Ineffective.

(2) For grade levels and subjects for which the assessments prescribed under sections 3301.0710 and 3301.0712 of the Revised Code and the value-added progress dimension prescribed by section 3302.021 of the Revised Code, or alternative student academic progress measure, do not apply, develop a list of student assessments that measure mastery of the course content for the appropriate grade level, which may include nationally normed standardized assessments, industry certification examinations, or end-of-course examinations.

(C) The state board shall consult with experts, teachers and principals employed in public schools, and representatives of stakeholder groups in developing the standards and criteria required by division (B)(1) of this section.

(D) To assist school districts in developing evaluation policies under sections 3311.80, 3311.84, 3319.02, and 3319.111 of the Revised Code, the department shall do both of the following:

- (1) Serve as a clearinghouse of promising evaluation procedures and evaluation models that districts may use;
- (2) Provide technical assistance to districts in creating evaluation policies.

(E) Not later than June 30, 2013, the state board, in consultation with state agencies that employ teachers, shall develop a standards-based framework for the evaluation of teachers employed by those agencies. Each state agency that employs teachers shall adopt a standards-based teacher evaluation policy that conforms with the framework developed under this division. The policy shall become operative at the expiration of any collective bargaining agreement covering teachers employed by the agency that is in effect on September 24, 2012, and shall be included in any renewal or extension of such an agreement. However, this division does not apply to any person who is employed as a substitute teacher or as an instructor of adult education.

Sec. 3319.114. (A) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, a district or school may choose to use the alternative framework prescribed by divisions (B) and (C) of this section when evaluating teachers under section 3319.111 of the Revised Code.

(B) If a district or school chooses to use the alternative framework for the 2014-2015 school year, that district or school shall calculate ratings assigned for teacher evaluations according to the following:

(1) The teacher performance measure, as defined by the department of education, shall account for forty-two and one-half per cent of each rating.

(2) The student academic growth measure, as defined by the department, shall account for forty-two and one-half per cent of each rating.

(3) Only one of the following components shall account for fifteen per cent of each rating:

(a) Student surveys;

(b) Teacher self-evaluations;

(c) Peer review evaluations;

(d) Student portfolios.

(C) If a district or school chooses to use the alternative framework for the 2015-2016 school year or any school year thereafter, that district or school shall calculate ratings assigned for teacher evaluations according to the following:

(1) The teacher performance measure, as defined by the department, shall account for forty-two and one-half to fifty per cent of each rating.

(2) The student academic growth measure, as defined by the department, shall account for forty-two and one-half to fifty per cent of each rating.

(3) The remainder shall be one of the following components:

(a) Student surveys;

(b) Teacher self-evaluations;

(c) Peer review evaluations;

(d) Student portfolios.

(4) The teacher performance measure and the student academic growth measure shall account for an equal percentage of each rating.

(D) The department shall compile a list of approved instruments for districts and schools to use, beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, when evaluating the components described under divisions (B)(3) and (C)(3) of this section. Each district or school shall choose one of the approved instruments to evaluate the applicable component selected by the district or school under that section.

Sec. 3326.02. There is hereby established a the STEM committee of the department of education consisting of the following members:

(A) The superintendent of public instruction;

(B) The chancellor of the Ohio board of regents;

(C) The director of development;

(D) Four members of the public, two of whom shall be appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and one of whom shall be appointed by the president of the senate. Members of the public shall be appointed based on their expertise in business or in STEM fields. The initial members of the committee shall be appointed under division (D) of this section not later than forty-five days after June 30, 2007.

All members of the committee appointed under division (D) of this section shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority.

Members of the committee shall receive no compensation for their services. The department of education shall provide administrative support for the committee.

Sec. 3326.03. (A) The STEM committee shall authorize the establishment of and award grants to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics schools based on proposals submitted to the committee.

The committee shall determine the criteria for proposals, establish procedures for the submission of proposals, accept and evaluate proposals, and choose which proposals to approve to become a STEM school. In approving proposals for STEM schools, the committee shall consider locating the schools in diverse geographic regions of the state so that all students have access to a STEM school.

The committee shall seek technical assistance from the Ohio STEM learning network, or its successor, throughout the process of accepting and evaluating proposals and choosing which proposals to approve. In approving proposals for STEM schools, the committee shall consider the recommendations of the Ohio STEM learning network, or its successor.

The committee may authorize the establishment of a group of multiple STEM schools to operate from multiple facilities located in one or more school districts under the direction of a single governing body in the manner prescribed by section 3326.031 of the Revised Code. The committee shall consider the merits of each of the proposed STEM schools within a group and shall authorize each school separately. Anytime after authorizing a group of STEM schools to be under the direction of a single governing body, upon a proposal from the governing body, the committee may authorize one or more additional schools to operate as part of that group.

The STEM committee may approve one or more STEM schools to serve only students identified as gifted under Chapter 3324. of the Revised Code.

(B) Proposals may be submitted only by a partnership of public and private entities consisting of at least all of the following:

(1) A city, exempted village, local, or joint vocational school district or

an educational service center;

(2) Higher education entities;

(3) Business organizations.

A community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, a chartered nonpublic school, or both may be part of the partnership.

(C) Each proposal shall include at least the following:

(1) Assurances that the STEM school or group of STEM schools will be under the oversight of a governing body and a description of the members of that governing body and how they will be selected;

(2) Assurances that each STEM school will operate in compliance with this chapter and the provisions of the proposal as accepted by the committee;

(3) Evidence that each school will offer a rigorous, diverse, integrated, and project-based curriculum to students in any of grades six through twelve, with the goal to prepare those students for college, the workforce, and citizenship, and that does all of the following:

(a) Emphasizes the role of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in promoting innovation and economic progress;

(b) Incorporates scientific inquiry and technological design;

(c) Includes the arts and humanities;

(d) Emphasizes personalized learning and teamwork skills.

(4) Evidence that each school will attract school leaders who support the curriculum principles of division (C)(3) of this section;

(5) A description of how each school's curriculum will be developed and approved in accordance with section 3326.09 of the Revised Code;

(6) Evidence that each school will utilize an established capacity to capture and share knowledge for best practices and innovative professional development with the Ohio STEM learning network, or its successor;

(7) Evidence that each school will operate in collaboration with a partnership that includes institutions of higher education and businesses;

(8) Assurances that each school has received commitments of sustained and verifiable fiscal and in-kind support from regional education and business entities;

(9) A description of how each school's assets will be distributed if the school closes for any reason.

Sec. 3326.032. (A) The STEM committee may grant a designation of STEM school equivalent to a community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code or to a chartered nonpublic school. In order to be eligible for this designation, a community school or chartered nonpublic school shall submit a proposal that satisfies the requirements of this section.

The committee shall determine the criteria for proposals, establish procedures for the submission of proposals, accept and evaluate proposals, and choose which proposals warrant a community school or chartered nonpublic school to be designated as a STEM school equivalent.

(B) A proposal for designation as a STEM school equivalent shall include at least the following:

(1) Assurances that the community school or chartered nonpublic school submitting the proposal has a working partnership with both public and private entities, including higher education entities and business organizations;

(2) Assurances that the school submitting the proposal will operate in compliance with this section and the provisions of the proposal as accepted by the committee;

(3) Evidence that the school submitting the proposal will offer a rigorous, diverse, integrated, and project-based curriculum to students in any of grades six through twelve, with the goal to prepare those students for college, the workforce, and citizenship, and that does all of the following:

(a) Emphasizes the role of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in promoting innovation and economic progress;

(b) Incorporates scientific inquiry and technological design;

(c) Includes the arts and humanities;

(d) Emphasizes personalized learning and teamwork skills.

(4) Evidence that the school submitting the proposal will attract school leaders who support the curriculum principles of division (B)(3) of this section;

(5) A description of how each school's curriculum will be developed and approved in accordance with section 3326.09 of the Revised Code;

(6) Evidence that the school submitting the proposal will utilize an established capacity to capture and share knowledge for best practices and innovative professional development;

(7) Assurances that the school submitting the proposal has received commitments of sustained and verifiable fiscal and in-kind support from regional education and business entities.

(C)(1) A community school or chartered nonpublic school that is designated as a STEM school equivalent under this section shall not be subject to the requirements of Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, except that the school shall be subject to the requirements of this section and to the curriculum requirements of section 3326.09 of the Revised Code.

Nothing in this section, however, shall relieve a community school of the applicable requirements of Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code. Nor shall

anything in this section relieve a chartered nonpublic school of any provisions of law outside of this chapter that are applicable to chartered nonpublic schools.

(2) A community school or chartered nonpublic school that is designated as a STEM school equivalent under this section shall not be eligible for operating funding under sections 3326.31 to 3326.37, 3326.39 to 3326.40, and 3326.51 of the Revised Code.

(3) A community school or chartered nonpublic school that is designated as a STEM school equivalent under this section may apply for any of the grants and additional funds described in section 3326.38 of the Revised Code for which the school is eligible.

(D) If a community school or chartered nonpublic school that is designated as a STEM school equivalent under this section intends to close or intends to no longer be designated as a STEM school equivalent, it shall notify the STEM committee of that fact.

Sec. 3326.04. (A) The STEM committee shall award grants to support the operation of STEM programs of excellence to serve students in any of grades kindergarten through eight through a request for proposals.

(B) Proposals may be submitted by any of the following:

(1) The board of education of a city, exempted village, or local school district;

(2) The governing authority of a community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code;

(3) The governing authority of a chartered nonpublic school.

(C) Each proposal shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the STEM committee that the program meets at least the following standards:

(1) Unless the program is designed to serve only students identified as gifted under Chapter 3324. of the Revised Code, the program will serve all students enrolled in the district or school in the grades for which the program is designed.

(2) The program will offer a rigorous and diverse curriculum that is based on scientific inquiry and technological design, that emphasizes personalized learning and teamwork skills, and that will expose students to advanced scientific concepts within and outside the classroom.

(3) Unless the program is designed to serve only students identified as gifted under Chapter 3324. of the Revised Code, the program will not limit participation of students on the basis of intellectual ability, measures of achievement, or aptitude.

(4) The program will utilize an established capacity to capture and share knowledge for best practices and innovative professional development.

(5) The program will operate in collaboration with a partnership that includes institutions of higher education and businesses.

(6) The program will include teacher professional development strategies that are augmented by community and business partners.

(D) The STEM committee shall give priority to proposals for new or expanding innovative programs.

Sec. 3326.09. Subject to approval by its governing body or governing authority, the curriculum of each science, technology, engineering, and mathematics school and of each community school or chartered nonpublic school that is designated as a STEM school equivalent under section 3326.032 of the Revised Code shall be developed by a team that consists of at least the school's chief administrative officer, a teacher, a representative of the higher education institution that is a collaborating partner in the STEM school or school designated as a STEM school equivalent, described in the proposal for establishment of the school as required by division (C)(7) of section 3326.03 of the Revised Code, and a member of the public with expertise in the application of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

SECTION 2. That existing sections 3301.162, 3314.03, 3319.111, 3319.112, 3326.02, 3326.03, 3326.04, and 3326.09 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

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*Speaker* \_\_\_\_\_ *of the House of Representatives.*

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*President* \_\_\_\_\_ *of the Senate.*

Passed \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

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*Governor.*

Sub. H. B. No. 362

130th G.A.

The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

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*Director, Legislative Service Commission.*

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A. D. 20\_\_\_\_.

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*Secretary of State.*

File No. \_\_\_\_\_ Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_