

By: West

S.B. No. 2318

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to continuing education and training requirements for
classroom teachers and public school counselors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 21.054(d), Education Code, as amended by
Chapters 1045 (S.B. 1267) and 973 (S.B. 2066), Acts of the 87th
Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, is reenacted and amended to
read as follows:

(d) Subject to Subsection (d-1), continuing ~~[Continuing]~~
education requirements for a classroom teacher may not require
~~[must provide]~~ that ~~[not]~~ more than ~~[at least]~~ 25 percent of the
training required every five years include instruction regarding:

(1) collecting and analyzing information that will
improve effectiveness in the classroom;

(2) recognizing early warning indicators that a
student may be at risk of dropping out of school;

(3) digital learning, digital teaching, and
integrating technology into classroom instruction;

(4) educating diverse student populations, including:

(A) ~~[students who are eligible to participate in
special education programs under Subchapter A, Chapter 29,~~

~~[(B) students who are eligible to receive
educational services required under Section 504, Rehabilitation
Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794),~~

~~[(C) students with mental health conditions or who engage in substance abuse,~~

~~[(D) students with intellectual or developmental disabilities,~~

~~[(E)]~~ students who are educationally disadvantaged;

~~[(F) emergent bilingual students,]~~ and

(B) ~~[(G)]~~ students at risk of dropping out of school; and

(5) understanding appropriate relationships, boundaries, and communications between educators and students ~~[+ and~~

~~[(6) how mental health conditions, including grief and trauma, affect student learning and behavior and how evidence-based, grief-informed, and trauma-informed strategies support the academic success of students affected by grief and trauma].~~

SECTION 2. Section [21.054](#), Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d-2) and amending Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(d-2) Training in a topic of instruction described by Subsection (d) attended by a classroom teacher in excess of an amount of hours equal to 25 percent of the training required of the teacher every five years shall be counted toward the teacher's overall training requirements.

(f) Continuing education requirements for a counselor must provide that at least ~~[not more than]~~ 25 percent of training

1 required every five years include instruction regarding:

2 (1) assisting students in developing high school
3 graduation plans;

4 (2) implementing dropout prevention strategies;

5 (3) informing students concerning:

6 (A) college admissions, including college
7 financial aid resources and application procedures; and

8 (B) career opportunities;

9 (4) counseling students concerning mental health
10 conditions and substance abuse, including through the use of
11 grief-informed and trauma-informed interventions and crisis
12 management and suicide prevention strategies; and

13 (5) effective implementation of a comprehensive
14 school counseling program under Section [33.005](#).

15 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024
16 school year.

17 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.