

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0408.02 Owen Hatch x2698

SENATE BILL 26-103

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kolker and Marchman,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

Senate Committees

Education

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**
102 **CREATING A SPECIALIZED SCHOOL POLICY FOR AT-RISK**
103 **STUDENTS AND REQUIRING SUBDIVISIONS TO SET ASIDE LAND**
104 **FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill requires school districts and charter schools to adopt a policy that directs additional resources and supports toward at-risk public school students. The policy may implement the utilization of

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.

Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

community-school-based learning programs, as well as wraparound services, after-school programs, and tutoring services, among other community-focused programs.

Subdivision regulations adopted by a board of county commissioners must include land set aside for public schools of a school district.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) Colorado law recognizes community schools as
5 evidence-based, democratic public-school models that integrate
6 academics, family engagement, health services, and community
7 partnerships;

8 (b) Under current law, the community school model appears
9 primarily as a last-resort accountability intervention, becoming available
10 after schools have entered priority improvement or turnaround status;

11 (c) Due to systemic inequities, the needs of Black, Latino, and
12 low-income students are unmet far more often and far earlier than
13 accountability systems recognize;

14 (d) The state must be proactive in allowing schools and families
15 to adopt the community school framework before crisis emerges, thereby
16 strengthening public schools and ensuring all students have access to
17 high-quality schools; and

18 (e) School district contracting and metro-district land gifts have
19 enabled privatization that diverts public education dollars and governance
20 to private parties. These gaps must be addressed to preserve transparency,
21 oversight, and equity.

22 (2) This act establishes early pathways for schools to adopt proven

1 community school strategies and supports equitable school success across
2 Colorado.

3 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 22-32.5-112** as
4 follows:

5 **22-32.5-112. Achieving community commitment to equitable**
6 **school success policy - required - definition.**

7 (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
8 REQUIRES, "ACCESS POLICY" OR "POLICY" MEANS A POLICY DESCRIBED
9 IN SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION.

10 (2) (a) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2027, EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER
11 SCHOOL, DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOL, AND LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION,
12 FOR ITS SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT DISTRICT CHARTER SCHOOLS, SHALL
13 ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT AN ACHIEVING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT TO
14 EQUITABLE SCHOOL SUCCESS POLICY, TO BE KNOWN AS AN ACCESS
15 POLICY, THAT DIRECTS ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS TO AT-RISK
16 STUDENTS, AND SHALL POST THE POLICY ON THE SCHOOL'S OR SCHOOL
17 DISTRICT'S WEBSITE.

18 (b) THE POLICY MAY INCLUDE:

19 (I) PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO INCREASE
20 ACCESS TO HEALTH CLINICS, LEGAL SERVICES, AND COLLEGE
21 OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY;

22 (II) INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORT AND WRAPAROUND SERVICES
23 INFORMED BY THE ASSET AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT DESCRIBED IN SECTION
24 22-32.5-103 (1.5)(a), INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, INCREASING
25 COUNSELORS, CASEWORKERS, AND OTHER MENTAL HEALTH
26 PROFESSIONALS;

27 (III) EXTENDED LEARNING TIME WITH AFTER-SCHOOL, TUTORING,

1 AND OTHER SUMMER PROGRAMS;

2 (IV) STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT TEACHER RETENTION AND PAY,
3 INCLUDING INCREASING PLANNING TIME AND OPPORTUNITIES TO
4 COLLABORATE MEANINGFULLY WITH COLLEAGUES AND FUNDING
5 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES;

6 (V) FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES THAT
7 REFLECT CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY, INCLUDING BILINGUAL
8 AND DUAL-LANGUAGE SUPPORTS, TRANSLATORS, AND FAMILY LIAISONS;
9 AND

10 (VI) THE AT-RISK MEASURE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 22-54-104.6.

11 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 30-28-101, **add** (6.5)
12 as follows:

13 **30-28-101. Definitions.**

14 As used in this part 1, unless the context otherwise requires:

15 (6.5) "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL
16 DISTRICT.

17 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 30-28-133, **amend**
18 (4) introductory portion, (4)(a) introductory portion, (4)(a)(II)
19 introductory portion, and (4)(a)(II)(A) as follows:

20 **30-28-133. Subdivision regulations.**

21 (4) Subdivision regulations adopted by the board of county
22 commissioners pursuant to this section ~~shall~~ MUST also include, ~~as~~ AT a
23 minimum, provisions governing the following matters:

24 (a) Sites and land areas for PUBLIC schools and parks when ~~such~~
25 ~~THEY~~ are reasonably necessary to serve the proposed subdivision and the
26 future residents. ~~thereof. Such~~ THE provisions may include:

27 (II) Dedication of the sites and land areas to the county, to a

1 school district, or to the public or, in lieu ~~there~~ OF DEDICATION, payment
2 of a sum of money not exceeding the fair market value of the sites and
3 land areas or a combination of ~~such~~ dedication and ~~such~~ payment; except
4 that the value of the combination ~~shall~~ MUST not exceed the fair market
5 value of the sites and land areas. Any sums, when required, or ~~moneys~~
6 MONEY to be paid to the board of county commissioners pursuant to this
7 paragraph (a) SUBSECTION (4)(a) may, if approved by the board of county
8 commissioners, be paid directly to a school district. If the sites and land
9 areas are dedicated to the county, to a school district, or the public, the
10 board of county commissioners may, at the request of the affected entity,
11 sell the land. The subdivider ~~shall have~~ HAS a right of first refusal to
12 purchase all or a portion of ~~any~~ land dedicated by the subdivider to a
13 county, school district, or other public entity pursuant to this
14 subparagraph (H) SUBSECTION (4)(a)(II) before the land is sold,
15 transferred, or conveyed to ~~any~~ A party other than a school district. Prior
16 to selling or otherwise transferring ownership of the land, the county,
17 school district, or other public entity selling the land shall provide written
18 notice to the subdivider of its intention to sell or transfer ownership of all
19 or any portion of the land. The subdivider ~~shall then have~~ HAS sixty days
20 to provide written notice to the county, school district, or other public
21 entity of the subdivider's interest in purchasing all or a portion of the land
22 to be sold. THE PARTIES MUST MUTUALLY AGREE TO THE TERMS AND
23 CONDITIONS FOR the purchase of the land by the subdivider; ~~shall be upon~~
24 ~~such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the parties may~~
25 ~~mutually agree;~~ however, in no event shall the purchase price exceed the
26 fair market value of the land at the time the subdivider dedicated the land
27 to the county, school district, or other public entity. Any right of first

1 refusal created pursuant to this ~~subparagraph (II) shall expire~~ SUBSECTION
2 (4)(a)(II) EXPIRES twenty years ~~from~~ AFTER the date the land was
3 dedicated by the subdivider to a county, school district, or other public
4 entity. Except as provided in subsection (4.3) of this section, any ~~such~~
5 sums, when required, or ~~money~~ MONEY paid to the board of county
6 commissioners from the sale of the dedicated sites and land areas ~~shall~~
7 MUST be held by the board of county commissioners:

8 (A) For the acquisition of reasonably necessary sites and land
9 areas or for other capital outlay purposes for PUBLIC schools or parks;

10 **SECTION 5. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
11 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
12 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
13 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
14 institutions.