

72-8230. Interlocal cooperation agreements; requirements and conditions; duration; partial or complete termination; financing; definitions. (a) In the event the boards of education of any two or more school districts enter into a school district interlocal cooperation agreement for the purpose of jointly and cooperatively performing any of the services, duties, functions, activities, obligations or responsibilities which are authorized or required by law to be performed by school districts of this state, the following conditions shall apply:

(1) A school district interlocal cooperation agreement shall establish a board of directors which shall be responsible for administering the joint or cooperative undertaking. The agreement shall specify the organization and composition of and manner of appointment to the board of directors. Only members of boards of education of school districts party to the agreement shall be eligible for membership on the board of directors. The terms of office of members of the board of directors shall expire concurrently with their terms as board of education members. Vacancies in the membership of the board of directors shall be filled within 30 days from the date of the vacancy in the manner specified in the agreement.

(2) A school district interlocal cooperation agreement may provide for the establishment and composition of an executive board. The members of the executive board, if established, shall be selected by the board of directors from its membership. The executive board shall exercise the powers, have the responsibilities, and perform the duties and functions of the board of directors to the extent authority to do so is delegated by the board of directors.

(3) A school district interlocal cooperation agreement shall be effective only after approval by the state board of education.

(4) A school district interlocal cooperation agreement shall be subject to change or termination by the legislature.

(5) The duration of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement for joint or cooperative action in performing any of the services, duties, functions, activities, obligations or responsibilities, other than the provision of special education services, which are authorized or required by law to be performed by school districts of this state, shall be for a term of at least three years but not exceeding five years.

(6) (A) The duration of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement for joint or cooperative action in providing special education services shall be perpetual unless the agreement is partially or completely terminated in accordance with this provision. This provision applies to every school district interlocal cooperation agreement for the provision of special education services entered into under authority of this section after the effective date of this act and to every such agreement entered into under this section prior to the effective date of this act, and extant on the effective date of this act, regardless of any provisions in such an agreement to the contrary.

(B) Partial termination of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement for the provision of special education services made and entered into by the boards of three or more school districts may be accomplished only upon petition for withdrawal from the agreement by a contracting school district to the other contracting school districts and approval by the state board of written consent to the petition by such other school districts or upon order of the state board after appeal to it by a school district from denial of consent to a petition for withdrawal and hearing thereon conducted by the state board. The state board shall consider all the testimony and evidence brought forth at the hearing and issue an order approving or disapproving withdrawal by the school district from the agreement.

(C) Complete termination of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement for the provision of special education services made and entered into by the boards of two school districts may be accomplished upon approval by the state board of a joint petition made to the state board for termination of the agreement by both of the contracting school districts after adoption of a resolution to that effect by each of the contracting school districts or upon petition for withdrawal from the agreement made by a contracting school district to the other contracting school district and approval by the state board of written consent to the petition by such other school district or upon order of the state board after appeal to it by a school district from denial of consent to a petition for withdrawal and hearing thereon conducted by the state board. The state board shall consider all the testimony and evidence brought forth at the hearing and issue an order approving or disapproving withdrawal by the school district from the agreement.

(D) Complete termination of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement for the provision of special education services made and entered into by the boards of three or more school districts may be accomplished only upon approval by the state board of a joint petition made to the state board for termination of the agreement by not less than 2/3 of the contracting school districts after adoption of a resolution to that effect by each of the contracting school districts seeking termination of the agreement. The state board shall consider the petition and approve or disapprove termination of the agreement.

(E) The state board shall take such action in approving or disapproving the complete or partial termination of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement for the provision of special education services as the state board deems to be in the best interests of the involved school districts and of the state as a whole in the provision of special education services for exceptional children. Whenever the state board has disapproved the complete or partial termination of such an agreement, no further action with respect to such agreement shall be considered or taken by the state board for a period of not less than three years.

(7) A school district interlocal cooperation agreement shall specify the method or methods to be employed for disposing of property upon partial or complete termination.

(8) Within the limitations provided by law, a school district interlocal cooperation agreement may be changed or modified by affirmative vote of not less than 2/3 of the contracting school districts.

(b) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this subsection, any power or powers, privileges or authority exercised or capable of exercise by any school district of this state, or by any board of education thereof, may be jointly exercised pursuant to the provisions of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement. No power or powers, privileges or authority with respect to the levy and collection of taxes, the issuance of bonds, or the purposes and provisions of the school district finance and quality performance act or title I of public law 874 shall be created or effectuated for joint exercise pursuant to the provisions of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement.

(c) Payments from the general fund of each school district which enters into any school district interlocal cooperation agreement for the purpose of financing the joint or cooperative undertaking provided for by the agreement shall be operating expenses.

(d) Upon partial termination of a school district interlocal cooperation agreement, the board of directors established under a renegotiated agreement thereof shall be the successor in every respect to the board of directors established under the former agreement.

(e) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to abrogate, interfere with, impair, qualify or affect in any manner the exercise and enjoyment of all of the powers, privileges and authority conferred upon school districts and boards of education thereof by the provisions of the interlocal cooperation act, except that boards of education and school districts are required to comply with the provisions of this section when entering into an interlocal cooperation agreement that meets the definition of school district interlocal cooperation agreement.

(f) As used in this section:

(1) "School district interlocal cooperation agreement" means an agreement which is entered into by the boards of education of two or more school districts pursuant to the provisions of the interlocal cooperation act.

(2) "State board" means the state board of education.

History: L. 1975, ch. 75, § 2; L. 1978, ch. 302, § 1; L. 1979, ch. 220, § 15; L. 1985, ch. 247, § 1; L. 1987, ch. 276, § 1; L. 1990, ch. 261, § 1; L. 1992, ch. 280, § 46; L. 1997, ch. 35, § 2; July 1.