



WVSSPA

West Virginia School Service Personnel Association
An Affiliate of the UMWA WV AFL-CIO

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2024 Legislative Update 02/16/2024

Moving Legislation

**Please continue to contact the Senate and let them know SB 727 is a bad bill!
Contact information for Legislators can be found at www.wvlegislature.gov**

SB 727 Revising process for county boards of education to hire support staff

- If passed this bill will be beginning of the end for seniority for service personnel.
- Completely changes the hiring process for Aides and ECCATs. Amended in Senate Education to remove secretaries.
- Allows both the school principal and faculty senate to interview applicants in order to recommend an applicant for the position.
- Seniority, qualification and past evaluations are equally weighted.
- The principal's and faculty senate's opinion are double weighted.
- If the principal and faculty senate agree the county BOE must hire that applicant.
- Any teacher involved in the hiring process will receive their daily rate of pay.
- This legislation was introduced by Senator Grady, Chair of Senate Education, passed out of senate education with only 5 minutes of discussion.

HB 5650 Allow suspended school personnel to enter school property functions open to the public

- Permits a suspended employee who presents no danger of disruption, disorder, riot of the event, or an immediate threat to public safety to attend public events on school property.
- Permits a suspended employee who has children or grandchildren attending the school to exercise normal functions of a parent or guardian.
- Introduced by Delegate Foggin, has passed House Education, reported to the House of Delegates and on first reading.

HB 5597 Relating to school bus driver charged with DUI

- Requires that a school bus driver charged with driving under the influence with students present also be charged with child endangerment.
- Introduced by Delegate Tully, passed out of House Education and sent to House Judiciary.

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Pending Legislation

HB 5056 Relating to substitute service personnel positions

- Allows for service personnel to serve as substitute workers if:
 - *There is no qualified substitute available.
 - *The shift does not interfere with their regular duties and responsibilities.
 - *Properly certified and trained for the position.
- Introduced by Delegates, Statler and Ellington, passed House of Delegates.

HB 5252 Requiring certain minimum experience for the director or coordinator of services class title involving school transportation

- Provides that after July 1, 2024 all newly employed as a director, assistant director or coordinator of transportation must have 5 years experience working in a county BOE transportation department.
- Or they may obtain qualification's as a school bus operator within their first year of employment.
- Amended to remove antiquated language from other sections of code.
- Introduced by Delegates Cooper and Toney, passed the House Of Delegates.

HB 4851 To allow for public and private schools in West Virginia to employ security personnel.

- The purpose of this bill is to authorize local school boards, public charter schools, and private or religious schools to employ school security officers.
- Establishes training for employment, job entry and in-service.
- Does not allocate funds for these positions.
- Introduced by Delegate Statler, Passed house of Delegates

SB 189 Providing for substantial deference to state school superintendent's interpretations of school laws

- Requires the Grievance Board and county BOE's to uphold and apply the Superintendent of Schools' interpretation of school law and State Board of Education rules.
- Introduced by Senator Weld, passed the Senate.

SB 172 Revising requirements of local school improvement councils

- Requires Report to be posted on the school and county websites.
- Maintains two service personnel on the committee but removes the requirement that one must be a bus operator.
- Requires the State BOE to provide training on LSIC and create a document explaining the LSIC.
- Introduced by Grady (Senate Education Chair), passed the Senate.

HB 4263 Modifying the definitions and pay grades of certain school cafeteria personnel

- Raises the paygrade for Cafeteria Managers from D to an E.
- Introduced by Delegate Tony, passed House Education pending in House Finance.

HB 4202 Raising salaries for school service personnel

- Amended to provide a \$670 pay increase for Service Personnel (was \$900 a month).
- The Governor's proposed pay increase (HB 4883) would only provide an increase of \$140 a month.
- Introduced by Delegate Tony, passed House Education pending in House Finance.

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Key dates left in the Legislative session

Forty-first Day - February 19, 2024: Last day to introduce bills in the Senate. [Senate Rule 14](#) does not apply to originating or supplementary appropriation bills, and does not apply to Senate or House resolutions or concurrent resolutions.

Forty-seventh Day - February 25, 2024: Bills due out of committees in house of origin to ensure three full days for readings.

Fiftieth Day - February 28, 2024: Last day to consider bill on third reading in house of origin. Does not include budget or supplementary appropriation bills.

[\(Joint Rule 5, paragraph b\)](#)

Sixtieth Day - March 9, 2024: Adjournment at Midnight.



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- ⇒ A weekly Legislative update will be emailed every Friday
- ⇒ Like us on Facebook : West Virginia School Service Personnel Association
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WWW.WVSSPA.ORG

Phone: 304-346-3544 - Email: Info@wvsspa.org