

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1386**

Introduced by

Representatives Timmons, Bosch, Jonas, Mock, Murphy, Pyle, Richter, Sanford

Senators Conley, Lemm, Meyer

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-18.2 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to local boards of school districts' discretion to designate educational  
3 professional development content areas; and to amend and reenact section 15.1-07-34 of the  
4 North Dakota Century Code, relating to youth behavioral health professional development.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-07-34 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **15.1-07-34. Youth behavioral health training to teachers, administrators, and ancillary**  
9 **staff.**

- 10 1. Every two years, each school district ~~shall~~may provide a minimum of eight hours of  
11 professional development on youth behavioral health to elementary, middle, and high  
12 school teachers, and administrators. Each school district ~~shall~~may encourage ancillary  
13 and support staff to participate in the professional development. Based on the annual  
14 needs assessment of the school district, these hours ~~must~~may be designated from the  
15 following categories:
- 16 a. Trauma;
  - 17 b. Social and emotional learning, including resiliency;
  - 18 c. Suicide prevention;
  - 19 d. Bullying;
  - 20 e. Understanding of the prevalence and impact of youth behavioral health wellness  
21 on family structure, education, juvenile services, law enforcement, and health  
22 care and treatment providers;
  - 23 f. Knowledge of behavioral health symptoms, and risks;

- 1           g. Awareness of referral sources and evidence-based strategies for appropriate  
2           interventions;
- 3           h. Other evidence-based strategies to reduce risk factors for students; or
- 4           i. Current or new evidence-based behavior prevention or mitigation techniques.
- 5           2. ~~Each school district shall report the professional development hours required under~~  
6           ~~subsection 1 to the department of public instruction.~~
- 7           ~~3.~~ Each school within a district shall designate an individual as a behavioral health  
8           resource coordinator.
- 9           4.3. The superintendent of public instruction shall collaborate with regional education  
10           associations to disseminate information, training and instructional materials, and  
11           notice of training opportunities to school districts and nonpublic schools.
- 12           5.4. The superintendent of public instruction shall maintain the contact information of the  
13           behavioral health resource coordinator in each school.

14           **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 15.1-18.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
15           created and enacted as follows:

16           **Professional development - Discretionary.**

17           A school administrator shall recommend professional development content areas  
18           appropriate for a public school or school district to the board of a school district. The board of a  
19           school district may designate professional development for a school district. Professional  
20           development may include content areas, including behavioral, physical, or mental health.  
21           Professional development must include the professional development training required under  
22           section 15.1-21-12.1.