

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1386
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

February 7, 2023

By Rachel Tabler, Assistant Director of Educational Improvement and Support

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Chairman Heinert and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rachel Tabler, and I am an Assistant Director in the Office of Educational Improvement and Support with the Department of Public Instruction. I am here to provide information regarding HB 1386.

As it stands now, districts are only required to complete two reports to NDDPI pertaining to professional development: the behavioral health PD report outlined in HB 1386 and science of reading implementation. All districts are required to offer eight hours of behavioral health professional development every two years.

Currently, school districts use STARS reporting to report on the behavioral health professional development (PD) offered within their district. However, many districts and teachers do much more than eight hours. High-quality professional development is an integral part of every school and is intensive, collaborative, job-embedded, and data-driven.

The current law also requires that each school assigns a dedicated behavioral health resource coordinator. This individual is identified in the STARS reporting system and is shared on the NDDPI website. In addition, a sister bill was passed in 2019 (SB

2313) for the department of health and human services to offer resources to schools regarding behavioral and mental health services. This is now called the B-HERO program, whose mission it is to engage K-12 Behavioral Health Resource Coordinators in training, technical assistance, and opportunities to facilitate connections. This program utilizes this list as a point of contact for outreach to individual schools and to share resources and information regarding mental and behavioral health.

Currently, responding to behavioral health needs is one of the most common requests from administrators, teachers, and students. Last year, NDDPI updated the report to collect additional data for the B-HERO program to ensure that it provides the proper resources to the K-12 Behavioral Resource Coordinators. I've included a screen shot below of what the report looks like in the STARS reporting system:

Categories	2022-2023	
	Elementary PD Title, Hours, and Number of Staff in Attendance	High School PD Title, Hours, and Number of Staff in Attendance
A. Trauma	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
B. SEL, including resiliency	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
C. Suicide Prevention	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
D. Bullying	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
E. Understanding of the prevalence and impact of youth behavioral health wellness on family structure, education, juvenile service, law enforcement, and health care and treatment providers	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
F. Knowledge of behavioral health symptoms and risks	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
G. Awareness of referral resources and evidence-based strategies for appropriate interventions	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
H. Other evidence-based strategies to reduce risk factors for students	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
I. Current or new evidence-based behavior prevention or mitigation techniques	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/> Hours: <input type="text"/> Number of Staff in Attendance: <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> I assure the district staff and administration has completed the minimum of 8 hours of professional development within the above required categories during the current biennium. Date: MM/DD/YYYY <input type="text"/>		

Since this bill was originally passed, a report has never been requested by legislators.

Chairman Heinert and Members of the Committee that concludes my prepared testimony, and I will stand for any questions that you may have.