

## No. 341.

## AN ACT

To amend sections one, two, three, and four of an act, approved the eighteenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, four hundred and ninety-eight), entitled "An act defining consolidation of schools; providing for the establishment and regulation of consolidated schools; and providing for State aid for the transportation of pupils to and from consolidated schools."

Public school system.

Consolidated schools.

Section 1 of act of June 18, 1919 (P. L. 498), as amended by act of May 28, 1923 (P. L. 463), further amended.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section one of an act, approved the eighteenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, four hundred and ninety-eight), entitled "An act defining consolidation of schools; providing for the establishment and regulation of consolidated schools; and providing for State aid for the transportation of pupils to and from consolidated schools," as amended by an act, approved the twenty-eighth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three (Pamphlet Laws, four hundred and sixty-three), entitled "An act to amend sections one, two, three, and four of an act, approved the eighteenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, four hundred ninety-eight), entitled 'An act defining consolidation of schools; providing for the establishment and regulation of consolidated schools; and providing for State aid for the transportation of pupils to and from consolidated schools,' by providing for reimbursement for certain transportation costs of schools not consolidated," be hereby further amended to read as follows:

Definitions.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the following words and phrases, as used in this act, shall, unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context, have the following meanings:

[1. "Consolidation of schools" is the act uniting two or more public elementary schools which prior to such union were maintained in separate buildings, and which after such union are housed in one school plant and taught by two or more teachers.

2. A "consolidated school" is a public elementary school formed by uniting two or more public elementary schools which prior to such union were maintained in separate buildings, and which after said union is housed in one school plant and taught by two or more teachers.

3. "A joint consolidated school" is a consolidated school maintained by the joint action of two or more school districts.]

"Consolidated school."

1. A "consolidated school" is a school formed by uniting two or more public elementary schools or two or more public elementary schools with the grades of

other public schools, which prior to such union were maintained in separate buildings and after such union are maintained in one school organization taught by two or more teachers.

2. A "consolidated elementary school" is a consolidated school made up of grades one to eight only.

"Consolidated elementary school."

3. A "consolidated junior high school" is a consolidated school having an approved junior high school constituted of grades seven to nine inclusive or seven to ten inclusive.

"Consolidated junior high school."

4. A "joint consolidated school" is a consolidated school organization maintained and controlled by the joint action of two or more school districts.

"Joint consolidated school."

[4. When pupils of a public school are transported from one school to another for the purpose of better gradation or classification or other reasons, and the reasons for such transportation, together with the provisions therefor, are approved by the State Council of Education for reimbursement prior to the opening of the school term, the State shall be liable for such cost of transportation to the same extent as is now or may hereafter be provided for in the case of consolidated schools.]

Section 2. That section two of said act as amended be further amended to read as follows:

Section 2 of act amended.

Section 2. The State Council of Education is hereby authorized and directed to investigate and to aid in the establishment of consolidated and joint consolidated schools, and to inspect and approve such schools, as hereinafter provided. [The State Council of Education shall make a report annually to the Governor and Legislature, describing the conditions and progress of consolidation of schools throughout the Commonwealth and making such recommendations as the Council may deem advisable.]

State Council of Education to aid in establishing.

Section 3. That section three of said act as amended be hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 3 of act amended.

Section 3. Any school district may, through its board of directors, establish, equip, furnish, and maintain consolidated schools, and may transport pupils to and from such schools as [already] provided for by law.

Establishment and maintenance by school district.

Two or more districts may, as provided in article eighteen, sections one thousand eight hundred and one to one thousand eight hundred and eight, inclusive, of the act, approved the eighteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and eleven (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and nine), entitled "An act to establish a public school system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, together with the provisions by which it shall be administered, and prescribing penalties for the violation thereof; providing revenue to establish and maintain the same, and the method of collecting such revenue; and repealing all laws, general, special, or

Establishment and maintenance by two or more districts.

local, or any parts thereof, that are or may be inconsistent therewith," through a joint school committee, establish, equip, furnish, and maintain joint consolidated schools.

Section 4 of act amended.

Section 4. That section four of said act as amended be hereby further amended to read as follows:

Reimbursement of approved schools.

Section 4. Consolidated *schools* or joint consolidated schools shall, so long as they are approved by the State Council of Education as to organization, control, location, equipment, courses of study, qualifications of teachers, methods of instruction, condition of admission, expenditures of money, methods and means of transportation and the contracts providing therefor, constitute approved *consolidated schools* [local] or *approved* joint consolidated schools. School districts maintaining, or transporting pupils to and from, *any* such approved [local] *consolidated* or joint consolidated schools shall receive reimbursement, as herein after provided.

Contributions by Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth, in order to [aid in] *encourage* the establishment and maintenance of approved *consolidated elementary schools* or *approved consolidated junior high schools* [local] or *approved* joint consolidated schools, shall, as provided in this act, pay annually, from the treasury to school districts and unions of school districts maintaining, or transporting pupils to and from, such [school] *schools* an amount [equal to one-half] *determined by (a) the true valuation per teacher per district as provided by law and (b) a given per centum of the sum which has been expended during the previous school year by such a school district or union of school districts for transporting pupils of said schools to and from said schools, as follows:*

Determination of amount.

*The amount paid by the Commonwealth to a school district which has a true valuation per teacher of assessable property of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or less shall be seventy-five (75) per centum; more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), sixty (60) per centum; and more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), fifty (50) per centum: Provided, That in case any of said school districts or union of said school districts has purchased or shall hereafter purchase an approved conveyance which is used exclusively for the transportation of school children to and from said schools, said sum may include a reasonable charge for depreciation and repairs, not to exceed fifteen (15) per centum, of the cost of said approved school conveyance: Provided, That the State's share of depreciation and repairs shall not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per vehicle per year: Provided further, That the State's share for transportation shall not exceed one dollar (\$1.00) per day per pupil for the actual number of days such pupil*

Proviso.

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Proviso.

*is transported to and from school: Provided further, That districts receiving reimbursement on the basis of seventy-five (75) per centum and sixty (60) per centum shall not receive more than four thousand dollars (\$4,000) in any one school year from the State for transportation: Provided further, That districts receiving reimbursement on the basis of fifty (50) per centum shall not receive more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in any one year from the State for transportation.*

Proviso.

Proviso.

[Provided, That said sum shall not include amounts paid for the purchase and repair of the vehicle or vehicles used for transporting these pupils: And providing further, That no one school district shall receive more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in any one school year from the funds provided in this act.

On or before the third Wednesday of January of any year in which the regular session of the Legislature is held, the State Council of Education shall present to the Legislature an estimate of the amount of money necessary to meet the expenditures to be incurred in the administration of this act for the two school years beginning with the first day of the ensuing July, and of the amount necessary to meet the claims of school districts and unions of school districts maintaining, or transporting pupils to and from, approved local or joint consolidated schools under the provisions of this act for the two school years beginning with the first day of the ensuing July.] On the basis of [such] a statement of estimates of the amount of money necessary to meet the expenditures provided in this act, submitted by the Department of Public Instruction, the Legislature shall make an appropriation of such amounts as may be necessary to meet the expense of carrying this act into effect and of reimbursing such school districts and unions of school districts for such school years, as herein provided.

Legislature to make appropriation.

[On or before the tenth day of July of each year, the school board of each district maintaining, or transporting pupils to and from, a local or joint consolidated school shall present to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction a sworn statement of the amount expended, during the school year previous to such first day of July, for transporting pupils to and from said schools, as herein provided. On the basis of such a statement, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall, by requisition upon the State Treasury, pay such school district or districts and unions of school districts such reimbursement for the previous school year as is provided for in this act.]

*On or before the first day of July of each year each school district of the third and fourth class or union of such school districts transporting pupils to and from*

Statement to be furnished to Superintendent of Public Instruction,

Requisition on  
State Treasurer.

any form of an approved consolidated school or approved joint consolidated school shall present to the Superintendent of Public Instruction in such form as he may prescribe and on blanks to be furnished by him a sworn statement of the amount expended during the previous school year for transporting pupils to and from said school, as herein provided. On the basis of such a statement the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall, by requisition upon the State Treasurer, pay during the month of September to such school district or districts and unions of school districts such reimbursement for the previous year as is provided for in this act.

APPROVED—The 13th day of May, A. D. 1925.

GIFFORD PINCHOT.

No. 342.

AN ACT

To amend section one of an act, approved the twenty-sixth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and sixteen), entitled "An act relating to husband and wife who are the parents of minor children, enlarging and extending the power, control and authority of the mother over their minor children, under certain circumstances," giving the mother under all circumstances the same and equal power and rights with the father.

Husband and wife.

Section 1 of act of  
June 26, 1895 (P.  
L. 316),  
amended.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section one of an act, approved the twenty-sixth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and sixteen), entitled "An act relating to husband and wife who are the parents of minor children, enlarging and extending the power, control and authority of the mother over their minor children, under certain circumstances," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Mother shall have  
equal authority  
and right with  
father over minor  
child under certain  
circumstances.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That hereafter a married woman, who is the mother of a minor child (and who contributes by the fruits of her own labor or otherwise toward the support, maintenance and education of her said minor child), shall have the same and equal power, control and authority over her said child and shall have the same and equal right to its custody and services and earnings as is now by law possessed by her husband, who is the father of such minor child: Provided, however, That the mother of such minor child is otherwise qualified as a fit and proper person to have the control and custody of said child. *If either the father or the mother desert their child or fail to perform their parental duties the right to the custody, services, and earnings of the child shall be*

Providso.

When either  
parent deserts  
child.