

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 204**

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
(MCL 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding section 1258.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 **Sec. 1258. (1) By not later than July 31, 2026, the board of a**
2 **school district or intermediate school district or board of**
3 **directors of a public school academy shall adopt and implement a**
4 **policy that prescribes procedures the school district, intermediate**
5 **school district, or public school academy must follow before**
6 **closing a school building. These procedures must address at least**
7 **all of the following:**

8 **(a) Reporting of data to the department as required by law.**

9 **(b) Transition of students and the students' records,**

1 including academic and medical records, to new schools.

2 (c) The selection of a records repository for the purposes of
3 subsection (4) and the submission of student records to that
4 repository.

5 (d) Timely notification to the parents and legal guardians of
6 students enrolled in the school and employees working at the
7 school. These notification procedures must include at least a 1-
8 month notice before a school is closed and at least 1 public
9 meeting. For a public school academy that receives from its
10 authorizing body a notice of revocation or nonrenewal of the public
11 school academy's contract, these notification procedures also must
12 include notice within 1 month after receipt of that notice of
13 revocation or nonrenewal. For a school district or intermediate
14 school district, the notification to parents and legal guardians
15 also must include information regarding the reassignment of
16 students to other schools operated by the school district or
17 intermediate school district. For a public school academy, the
18 notification to parents and legal guardians also must include
19 information about options for placement in other public schools
20 along with contact information and important timelines for
21 enrollment in other public schools. A notification provided to
22 parents and legal guardians under this subdivision must include
23 information on where student records are being stored and how
24 parents and legal guardians can access them. The notification
25 procedures must provide for notifications described in this
26 subdivision to be made by first-class mail unless that method of
27 notice is not financially feasible, in which case an alternative
28 method may be used such as electronic notice, sending notifications
29 home with students, or contracting with a third party to provide

1 notifications.

2 (e) Distribution of assets and proper securement of the closed
3 school building within 60 days after it is closed, if it is not
4 anticipated to be leased or sold in a timely manner. The procedure
5 for distribution of assets must include at least an accounting of
6 the assets of the school building and a report to the board of the
7 school district or intermediate school district or to the
8 authorizing body of the public school academy, and to the
9 department that inventories those assets including any obligated
10 fund amounts. However, except as otherwise provided under this act,
11 for a public school that has been incorporated under the nonprofit
12 corporation act, 1982 PA 162, MCL 450.2101 to 450.3192, the
13 procedure for distribution of assets must comply with that act with
14 respect to distribution of assets.

15 (f) That if a decision to close a school building is based on
16 financial projections made during the normal budget development
17 process for the school fiscal year beginning on the next July 1,
18 the closure decision must be made and the notification procedures
19 under subdivision (d) must be started not later than that next July
20 1.

21 (g) That if a decision to close a school building is made for
22 a reason other than finances, the closure decision must be made and
23 the notification procedures under subdivision (d) must be started
24 not later than the end of the school fiscal year, and that a
25 closure during the next school year for a reason other than
26 finances is prohibited unless this deadline is met.

27 (h) That the closure of a school building during the school
28 year is allowed only if there is an extenuating circumstance that
29 would endanger the health or safety of the students in attendance

1 at the school building. For a closure allowed under this
2 subdivision, the notification procedures under subdivision (d) must
3 be started as soon as possible after the discovery of the
4 extenuating circumstance.

5 (2) A policy adopted under subsection (1) must include
6 language regarding the allocation of funds to employ an individual
7 to facilitate the transition and ensure that all applicable
8 requirements of the law are met.

9 (3) By not later than March 31, 2026, the department shall
10 develop and make available a model policy for the purposes of this
11 section that complies with subsection (1).

12 (4) A policy adopted under subsection (1) must include the
13 selection of a records repository to provide long-term storage and
14 maintenance of the records of students of the closed school
15 building that are not delivered to new schools under subsection
16 (1)(b). The intermediate school district in which the closed school
17 building is located is the default records repository for those
18 records unless the closed school building is a public school
19 academy and the school district in which the closed school building
20 is located or the public school academy's authorizing body agrees
21 to act as the records repository for those records.