

# County Governments, Chapter VI - Education

## A. Administration

### County officers

1. We have a county unit of education. The school officers are the school board members, the superintendent and the clerk. There are no elected officers.
2. We have a county board of education. It has 7 members. It is appointed by the <sup>School Trustees</sup> electoral board, which is appointed by the judge of the circuit court. No specific requirements are made. The term of office is 4 years, the salary is \$180 a year. The duty of the members of the school board is to appoint the superintendent and to manage the school through him, as the executive and administrator.
3. We have a division superintendent of schools. He is selected from a list of eligibles furnished by the state board of education. Present requirements are a Master's degree and 3 years experience as a principal or a supervisor. His duties are to act for the school board in managing the schools. He has the power to select teachers, administer the schools, plan bus routes etc., *subject to approval of the board.*

### State control

1. Our county school system is subject to regulation by the state board of education.
2. We receive state grants-in-aid for education. They prescribe a course of study, but that provides for a great deal of freedom in adapting it to local needs. They set requirements for teacher certification, the length of the school term, and the minimum amount of local contribution. We do not have any small school districts. The state legislature has the power to consolidate districts.

School district or township units not  
The common school district or the township is <sup>not</sup> the administrative unit for education in our county. )

## B. School Finance

### Expenditures

1. Our county spent \$406,000 on education during the past year. This was 80% of the total budget.
2. 55% was teachers' salaries, 4% for debt service, 31% for other current expenses, and 9% for capital outlay.
3. The per pupil cost of the grade schools is \$85 and of the high schools \$115. The pupil-teacher ratio is 27 to one, set by the school board.

### State Aid

1. During the past year, 37% of total educational costs was met by the state.
2. These grants are for specific purposes, such as paying teachers' salaries.
3. There is an attempt to secure equal educational opportunities for children in the state by setting minimum local contributions, but there is no minimum teacher's salary.
4. The basis of distribution is average daily attendance, transportation need and special funds, such as home economics and agriculture.

### C. Special Problems

#### Transportation

1. We have school buses for transporting children to rural schools. (Only the drivers who own their buses are under contract. These are awarded by the school board.) There are state-wide specifications for the buses for purposes of safety. Drivers are required to secure a special permit from the division of motor vehicles.

#### Attendance officers

1. Mr. Emerick and Mrs. Cady serve as school attendance officers.
2. Mrs. Cady's salary is set according to the teachers' salary scale. (They understand and try to solve the social problems that usually surround non-attendance at school.)
3. The census contains a complete list of all children who come under the compulsory school law. The percentage of attendance during the last year was 89.5. There is community interest in the problem.

#### Use of school buildings

The school houses are used for recreation and for community purposes.

*How much are drivers paid?  
How about set salary scale all county - and buses?  
Leesburg locker for children?*