

VIRGINIA SCHOOL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Section 653. School Trustee Electoral Boards; county school boards; special school districts; school levies -

In each county there shall be a board, to be known as the school trustee electoral board, which shall be composed of three resident qualified voters, who are not county or State officers, to be appointed by the circuit court of each county, or the judge thereof in vacation, within thirty days after the first day of July, nineteen hundred and thirty, and every four years thereafter. The said members of the trustee electoral board shall each receive a per diem of two dollars for each day actually employed, to be paid out of the county school fund. Any vacancy occurring within the term of the said appointees shall be filled by the circuit court, or by the judge thereof in vacation, within thirty days thereafter. The county school board shall consist of one member appointed from each school district in the county by the school trustee electoral board, provided in towns constituting separate school districts and operated by a school board of three members, one of said members shall be designated by the town board as a member of the county school board. The members of the county school board from the several districts shall have no organization and duties except as may be assigned to them by the school board as a whole. Before any appointment is made by the electoral board it shall give notice, by publication for two successive weeks, in a newspaper having general circulation in such county of time and place of any meeting for the purpose of appointing the members of the county school board.

The members so appointed shall constitute the county school board, and every such board is hereby declared a body corporate, under the style of the county school board of county, and may,

in its corporate capacity, sue or be sued, contract or be contracted with, and, in general, is vested with all the powers, and charged with all the duties, obligations and responsibilities imposed upon such board as such by law. The members of the county school board shall be appointed within sixty days prior to July first, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, and within sixty days prior to July first every four years thereafter. They shall take office on July first following their appointment, and shall hold office for a term of four years, and thereafter until their successors have been appointed and have qualified. Any vacancy in the county school board shall be filled by appointment by the trustee electoral board. The present trustee electoral boards and county school boards now in office, shall continue to hold office until their successors have been appointed and qualified. All of such school trustees shall qualify before the county clerk, by taking the oath prescribed for State officers. The county school board may in its discretion provide for a per diem not exceeding five dollars per day and mileage not to exceed five cents per mile for each mile of travel on each ~~business~~ day of such attendance by most direct route in going to and returning from the place of meeting for each member for each day he is in attendance upon meetings of the board, not to exceed thirty days in any one year, such per diem to be paid as other school expenses are paid. Provided that in counties, adjacent to cities having, according to the last United States census, a population of one hundred thousand or more, and in counties having a density of population of more than five hundred per square mile the county school board may pay each of its members an annual salary of three hundred dollars, payable in equal monthly installments.

For the purpose of representation each magisterial district shall, except where otherwise provided by law, constitute a separate school

district, but for all other school purposes, taxation, management, control, and operation, the county school be the unit, and the school affairs of such county managed as if the county constituted ~~but~~ one school

district, provided, ~~however~~, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the levying of a district tax to provide interest and sinking fund for a district bond issue as provided in section six hundred and seventy-three, or for the levying of a district tax on recommendation of the county school board to pay existing district indebtedness. all special school districts and special town school districts except the special school district for the Town of Leesburg, of Loudoun County and of Lexington~~of~~ Rockbridge county and the town of Bedford of Bedford county which are hereby preserved, are hereby expressly abolished, except special town school districts which are located in more than one county, which last mentioned districts are hereby expressly ~~retained~~ as they exist at the present time; provided however, that the Town of Herndon, of Fairfax county, and the town of Colonial Beach, of Westmoreland county, and incorporated towns having a population of not less than one thousand inhabitants, according to the last United States census, may, by ordinance of the town council and by and with the approval of the State Board of Education, be constituted separate school districts either for the purpose of representation on the county school board, or for the purpose of being operated as a separate school district~~s~~ under a town school board of three members, appointed by the town council. In the event that such a town district be set up, to be operated by a board of three members, the members of such board shall be appointed in accordance with section seven hundred and eighty of the Code, providing for the appointment of trustees in cities and of such ~~members~~, one shall be designated by the town school board as a member of the county school board and entitled to serve as a member of said county board.

Nothing in this section, however, shall be construed to prohibit the board of supervisors in the counties of Henrico and Sussex from continuing to levy a district tax for the operation of the schools.

To such town school district operated by a school board of three members the county school board shall require the county treasurer to pay into the town treasury if and when property bonded for the amount derived from the county levy or any appropriation for school purposes a sum equal to the pro rata amount from such levy or appropriation derived from such town; and the county treasurer shall also pay into the town treasury a proportionate amount of all school funds determined by the ratio of the average daily attendance for the preceding school year in the town district and in the county.

The provisions of this section shall not be construed to amend or repeal the provisions of section twenty-seven hundred and seventy-three-n- fifteen and twenty-seven hundred and seventy-three-n-forty-one of the Code of Virginia. (1928, p. 1186; 1930p. 878; 1932, p. 124; 1936p. 497)