



ASHA urges Congress to include pupil services personnel in all high-quality professional development opportunities under the statute.

Pupil services personnel, as critical members of the school staff, should be afforded equal opportunities for ongoing, high-quality professional development. In a number of instances in ESEA, professional development for pupil services personnel is included only "as appropriate," whereas participation by teachers and administrators is allowed without qualification. ASHA believes that Congress should ensure that all staff members working with students have access to the most current and high-quality professional development. Therefore, pupil services personnel should be eligible for all professional development opportunities.

Currently, consultation of pupil services personnel is required only for development of State plans. Since pupil services personnel provide direct services to students and consultative services to other staff members, their input is necessary to ensure that the local district plan adequately addresses how these services will be provided.

ASHA proposes the following statutory changes to amend Title II, Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals and Title IX, General Provisions, paragraphs "(34) Professional Development" and "(36) Pupil Services Personnel":

Proposed Changes to Title II – Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals (amendments in *italicized text*):

- Change title to read, "Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers, Principals, and *Specialized Instructional Support Personnel*"
- Sec.2102 Purpose, add new 2nd paragraph to read:
"(2) improve specialized instructional support services in schools in order to improve academic achievement and educational results for students; and", renumber current paragraph #2 as #3
- Sec.2102.Definitions, add new 7th paragraph to read as follows:
"(7) Specialized Instructional Support Personnel. – The term 'specialized instructional support personnel' includes all the personnel defined in Title IX, Part A, Section 9101, (36)."
- Sec.2112.State Applications, paragraph (b)(7)(A) is amended to read as follows:
"..collaboratively and based on the input of teachers, principals, specialized instructional support personnel, parents, administrators, paraprofessionals, and other personnel."
- Sec.2113.State Use of Funds,
 1. subparagraphs (b)(4) and (6), are amended by striking, "pupil services personnel", and replacing with, "*specialized instructional support personnel*"
 2. subparagraph (11) is amended by adding specialized instructional support personnel to read as follows: "...supporting the training of teachers,

administrators, and *specialized instructional support personnel* to effectively...”

3. subparagraph (12) is amended by adding specialized instructional support personnel to read as follows: “...bonus pay for teachers and *specialized instructional support personnel*...”

ASHA urges Congress to fully integrate pupil services into the local educational system.

Local education agency capacity should be increased to ensure integration of pupil services into the general education system. Other school personnel, including teachers and administrators, should be made aware of how to access and use the skills and knowledge of pupil services personnel. Ultimately, increased school system capacity should define how pupil services personnel coordinate and collaborate with other school personnel to ensure student success.

- Title II, Section.2122 Local Applications & Needs Assessment. Subparagraph “(b) Contents” is amended with the *italicized text* as follows:
 1. Subparagraph (5) should read, “...made available to teachers, principals, and *specialized instructional support personnel*...”
 2. Subparagraph (7) should read, “...teachers, paraprofessionals, principals, *specialized instructional support personnel*, other relevant school personnel...”
 3. Subparagraph 9) should read, “...provide training to enable teachers and *specialized instructional support personnel* to-“

Subparagraph “(c) Needs Assessment” is amended with the *italicized text* as follows:

 - Subparagraph(2)is amended to read, “Such needs assessment shall be conducted with the involvement of teachers, including teachers participating in the programs under part A of title I, *and specialized instructional support personnel*, and shall take into account...”
- Title II, Section.2123.Local Use of Funds. Is amended with the *italicized text* by:
 1. striking “pupil services personnel” and replacing with, “*specialized instructional support personnel*”, in paragraph (a)(1)
 2. amending subparagraphs “(a)(3)Providing professional development activities(A)” & “(B)” so that it reads, “...that improve the knowledge of teachers, principals, *specialized instructional support personnel*, and, in appropriate cases...”
 3. amending subparagraph “(a)(3)(B)(iv)” so that it reads, “...provide training to enable teachers, principals, and *specialized instructional support personnel*...”
 4. adding a new paragraph “(a)(11)” to read as follows: “*(11) Carrying out programs to enhance the recruitment and retention of qualified specialized instructional support personnel.*”
- Title II, Subpart 3 – Subgrants to Eligible Partnerships Section.2131.Definitions is amended as follows:
 1. Subparagraph “(1)Eligible Partnership,(A),(i)” should read, “...prepares teachers, principals, and *specialized instructional support personnel*...”
 2. Subparagraph (1)(B) should read, “...institution that prepares teachers, principals, and *specialized instructional support personnel*...”

Section.2134.Use of Funds is amended as follows:

- a) Subparagraph (a)(1)(A) should read, "...teachers and highly qualified paraprofessionals, and if appropriate, principals and ***specialized instructional support personnel...***"
 - b) Subparagraph (2) should read, "...teachers, highly qualified paraprofessionals, principals, and ***specialized instructional support personnel...***"
- Title IX, General Provisions, paragraphs "(34) Professional Development" and "(36) Pupil Services Personnel; Pupil Services" is amended with the *italicized text* as follows:
 1. Paragraph (34), subparagraph (A)(iii) is amended to read as follows: "(iii) give teachers, principals, ***specialized instructional support personnel***, and administrators the knowledge and skills to provide students with the opportunity to meet challenging State academic content standards and student academic achievement standards;"
 2. Paragraph (34), subparagraph (A)(ix) is amended to read as follows: "(ix) are developed with extensive participation of teachers, principals, parents, ***specialized instructional support personnel***, and administrators of schools to be served under this Act;"
 3. Paragraph (34), subparagraph (A)(x) is amended to read as follows: "(x) are designed to give teachers of limited English proficient children, ***and specialized instructional support personnel, teachers and other staff***, the knowledge and skills to provide instruction and appropriate language and academic support services to those children, including the appropriate use of curricula and assessments;"
 4. Paragraph (34), subparagraph (A)(xi) is amended to read as follows: "(xi) to the extent appropriate, provide training for teachers, ***principals, and specialized instructional support personnel*** in the use of technology so that technology and technology applications are effectively used in the classroom to improve teaching and learning in the curricula and core academic subjects in which the teachers teach;"
 5. Paragraph (34), subparagraph (A)(xv) is amended to read as follows: "(xv) include instruction in ways that teachers, principals, ~~pupil services personnel~~ ***specialized instructional support personnel***, and school administrators may work more effectively with parents; and"
 6. Paragraph (36), subparagraph (A) is amended to read as follows: "(A) ~~Pupil Services Personnel~~***Specialized Instructional Support Personnel***.- The term '~~pupil services personnel~~***specialized instructional support personnel***' means..."
 7. Paragraph (36), subparagraph (B) is amended to read as follows: "(B) ~~Pupil Services~~ ***Specialized Instructional Support Services***. – the term '~~pupil services~~ ***specialized instructional support services***' means the services provided by ~~pupil services personnel~~ ***specialized instructional support personnel***."

For more information please contact Neil Snyder, ASHA's Director of Federal Advocacy, by phone at 202-624-7750 or via e-mail at nsnyder@asha.org.