

New law amends generally with respect to the management and operation of special education schools and programs as follows:

- (1) Provides for an entity within the Dept. of Education known as the Special School District; removes references to Special School District No. 1.
- (2) Provides that the Special School District includes special schools (the La. Schools for the Deaf and Visually Impaired and the La. Special Education Center) as well as Special School Programs which provide services to students in state-operated facilities.
- (3) Provides for a superintendent of the Special School District who is responsible for administration and management of the district and its schools and programs. Removes provisions regarding the responsibilities of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education with respect to such schools and programs.
- (4) Provides that the superintendent of the Special School District, rather than the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, is responsible for matters pertaining to sabbatical, sick, personal, maternity, and military leave for teachers in the special schools and programs.
- (5) Provides that the state superintendent of education is the governing authority of the Special School District.
- (6) Provides that a teacher at the La. Schools for the Deaf and Visually Impaired may attain tenure in the educational program, either the program for the hearing impaired or for the visually impaired, for which the teacher is certified. A teacher at the La. Special Education Center may attain tenure at the center, and a teacher in Special School Programs may attain tenure in such programs.
- (7) For purposes of sabbatical leave, La Schools for the Deaf and Visually Impaired, La. Special Education Center, and Special School Programs are considered separate schools.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Amends R.S. 17:43, 46(A)(1)(b), (B), (D), (E)(1), (2)(d), and (4)(b) and (c), (G)(1)(a)(iii), (I), (N)(2), (P), and (Q), 47(A), (B), and (D)(1)(a) and (6)(a), (b), (c), and (d), 48(A) and (B), 49(A) and (B), 348(A) and (B), and 1945 and R.S. 36:642(C)(1) and 648.1; Adds R.S. 17:46(A)(1)(c); Repeals R.S. 17:4.1, 348(D) and (E), and 1945(C)(4) and (5))