

Excerpts from Iowa Code about Education Reform, 1860

Title XIV.
OF EDUCATION.

CHAPTER 84.
THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

[Code—Chapter 65]

ARTICLE 1.

An Act for the Government and Regulation of the State University of Iowa. [Passed Dec. 25, 1858;
Laws of Board of Education.]

SECTION 1926. (1.) Be it enacted by the Board of Education of the State of Iowa, That the object of the state university of Iowa, established by the constitution at Iowa City, shall be to provide the best and most efficient means of imparting to the youth of the state, of both sexes, upon equal terms, a thorough education and a perfect knowledge of the different branches of literature, the arts and sciences, with their various applications...

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CHAPTER 87.
SECRETARY OF BOARD OF EDUCATION.

An Act to provide for the Election and to define the Duties of the Secretary of the Board of Education. [Passed Dec. 24, 1858 ; Laws of Board of Education.]

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... SEC 2020. (21.) Whenever reasonable assurance shall be given by the county superintendent of any county, to the secretary of the board of education, that a number of not less than thirty teachers desire to assemble for the purpose of holding a teachers' institute in said county, to remain in session for a period of not less than six working days, he shall appoint such time and place for said meeting, and such lectures as the said teachers shall suggest, and shall give due notice thereof, and for the purpose of defraying the expenses of said institutes there is Appropriation, hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, a sum not exceeding fifty dollars annually for one such institute in each county held as aforesaid, which the said secretary shall immediately transmit to the county

superintendent in whose county the institute shall be held, who shall pay out the same as the institute shall direct

CHAPTER 88. COMMON SCHOOLS.
ARTICLE 1.

An Act to amend an Act, entitled " An Act to provide a system of Common Schools." [Passed Sec. 24, 1859, took effect March 1, 1860 ; Laws of Board of Education of the Second Session.]

SECTION 2022. (1.) Be it enacted by the Board of Education of Act of the State of Iowa, That the act of the board of education, passed December, 1858, entitled " an act to provide a system of common schools," be amended, so as to read as follows :

Each civil township that is now or may be hereafter organized in the several counties of this state, is hereby declared a school district for all townships the purposes of this act, and each sub-district, as now organized under an act entitled "an act for the public instruction of the state of Iowa," approved March 12th, 1858, shall continue such, subject to the provisions hereinafter made:

SEC . 2023. (2.) In each sub-district there shall be taught one or more schools for the instruction of youth between the ages of five and twenty-one years for at least twenty-four weeks, of five school days each, in each year, unless the county superintendent shall be satisfied that there is good and sufficient cause for failure so to do.

SEC . 2024. (3.) Scholars residing in one district may attend school in another, in the same or adjoining county, with the concurrence of the directors of both districts, and in such case, their proportion of the school money of the district to which they belong shall be paid to the treasurer of the district in which they attend school; and scholars may attend school in any sub-district of the township in which they reside, with the consent of the district board.

SEC . 2025. (4.) Any township in an unorganized county shall be Township for the purposes of this act regarded as a portion of the county to which its county is attached for revenue purposes.

SEC . 2026. (5.) Every school district which is now, or may hereafter be organized in this state, is hereby made a body corporate, by the name of the "district township of _____, in the county of _____, and state of Iowa," and in that name, may hold property, become a party to suits and contracts, and do other corporate acts...

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...SEC. 2033. (12.) The electors of said sub-district shall also, at the regular meeting in March, determine whether they desire any funds raised by tax to erect, repair, lease or furnish a school-house in said sub-district, or for the lease or purchase of grounds for the same, and the amount for each purpose...

ARTICLE 4.

An Act to confer certain powers on Towns and Cities for School Purposes.
[Passed December 24, 1858; Laws of Board of Education.]

SECTION 2097. (1.) Be it enacted by the Board of Education of the State of Iowa, That any city or incorporated town in this state, including the territory annexed thereto for school purposes, may constitute a separate school district.

SEC . 2098. (2.) At the written request of any ten voters of such city or town, the municipal authorities thereof shall provide for taking the sense of the people residing within the limits of the contemplated district, by means of a public vote by ballot.

ARTICLE 8.

An Act to provide for the purchase of School District Libraries.
[Passed December 18, 1858; Laws of Board of Education]

SECTION 2120. (1.) Be it enacted by the Board of Education of the State of Iowa, That the temporary school funds belonging to each county in this state shall be apportioned separately by the county judge at the time of apportioning other school funds among the several districts in each county, in proportion to the number of persons residing in such district between the ages of five and twenty-one years.

SEC . 2121. (2.) The board of directors shall, at their regular meeting in April of each year, determine whether the amount so received shall be appropriated to the purchase of a district library, and if not so appropriated, the same shall form a part of the teacher's fund of said district.

SEC. 2122. (3.) The secretary of each district shall be ex officio librarian, and shall purchase books and perform all other duties pertaining to that office, under the direction of the township board...