

of the office, there is hereby appropriated annually, out of any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000).

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 18, 1911.

CHAPTER 207—H. F. No. 210.

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An Act relating the formation of consolidated school districts, providing state aid for schools in such districts, and repealing sections 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, Revised Laws of 1905, and chapter 326, Session Laws of 1905, and chapter 304, Session Laws of 1907, and other acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Procedure for consolidation of school districts.—Section 1. Two or more school districts of any kind may be consolidated, either by the formation of a new district or by annexation of one or more districts to an existing district in which is maintained a state graded, semi-graded or high school, as hereinafter provided.

A district so formed by consolidation or annexation shall be known as a consolidated school district. Before any steps are taken to organize a consolidated school district, the superintendent of the county in which the major portion of territory is situated, from which it is proposed to form a consolidated school district, shall cause a plat to be made showing the size and boundaries of the new district, the location of schoolhouses in the several districts, the location of other adjoining school districts and of schoolhouses therein, together with such other information as may be of essential value, and submit the same to the superintendent of public instruction, who shall approve, modify or reject the plan so proposed, and certify his conclusions to the county superintendent of schools. To receive state aid as a consolidated school of Class A or Class B, as defined in this act, the consolidated district must contain not less than eighteen sections, and to receive state aid as a consolidated school of Class C, not less than twelve sections; but any existing school district or at least such area shall have the rights and privileges of a consolidated school district. A consolidated school district of less than twelve sections may be formed as herein provided, but shall not be entitled to receive special state aid as herein provided for.

Duties of county superintendent.—Sec. 2. After approval by the superintendent of public instruction of the plan for the formation of a consolidated school district, and upon presentation to the county superintendent of a petition signed and acknowledged by at least twenty-five (25) per cent of the resident free-holders of each district affected, qualified to vote at school meetings, asking for the formation of a consolidated school district in accordance with the plans approved by the superintendent of public instruction, the county superintendent shall within ten days cause ten days' posted notice to be given in each district affected, and one week's published notice, if there be a newspaper published in such district, of an election or special meeting to be held within the proposed district, at a time and place specified in such notice, to vote upon the question of consolidation.

Election of officers.—Sec. 3. At such meeting the electors, not less than twenty-five (25) being present, shall elect from their number a chairman and clerk, who shall be the officers of the meeting. The chairman shall appoint two tellers, and the meeting and election shall be conducted as are annual meetings in common and independent districts. The vote at such election or meeting shall be by ballot, which shall read "For Consolidation" or "Against Consolidation." The officers at such meeting or election shall, within ten days thereafter, certify the result of the vote to the superintendent of the county in which such district mainly lies. If a majority of the votes cast be for consolidation, the county superintendent within ten days thereafter shall make proper orders to give effect to such vote, and shall thereafter transmit a copy thereof to the auditor of each county in which any part of any district affected lies, and to the clerk of each district affected, and also to the superintendent of public instruction. If the order be for the formation of a new district, it shall specify the number of such district. The county superintendent shall also cause ten days' posted notice, and one week's published notice, if there be a newspaper published in such district, to be given of a meeting to elect officers of the newly formed consolidated school district; *provided*, that a consolidated district shall upon its formation become an independent district, with the powers, privileges and duties now conferred by law upon independent districts. After the formation of any consolidated school district, appeal may be taken as now provided by law in connection with the formation of other school districts. Nothing in this act shall be construed to transfer the liability of existing bonded indebtedness from the district or territory against which it was originally incurred.

Consolidation with other districts.—Sec. 4. In like manner, one or more school districts may be consolidated with an existing

district in which is maintained a state high, semi-graded, or graded school, in which case the board of the district maintaining a state high, semi-graded or graded school shall continue to be the board governing the consolidated school district until the next annual school meeting, when successors to the members whose terms then expire shall be elected by the legally qualified voters of the consolidated school district. In like manner, one or more school districts may be consolidated with an existing district in which is maintained a state high, graded or semi-graded school, in which case the school board of the district maintaining a state high, graded, or semi-graded school shall continue to be the board governing the consolidated school district, until the next annual school meeting, when successors to the members whose terms then expire shall be elected by the legally qualified voters of the consolidated school district; *provided*, however, that in the case of consolidation with a school district in which there is maintained a state high or state graded school, consolidation shall be effected by vote of the rural school districts only, in the manner provided under this act, and by the approval of such consolidation of the rural district or districts with the one in which there is maintained a state high or graded school, by the school board thereof.

Certificate by officers.—Sec. 5. The officers of the several districts forming a consolidated school district shall within ten days from receipt of copy of the order of the county superintendent certifying the formation of the new district, or immediately after the election and qualification of members of the school board in the consolidated school district, turn over to the proper officers of the newly elected school board, or to the proper officers of the school board in the district maintaining the state high or graded school, all records, funds, credits and effects of their several districts.

Powers of consolidated board.—Sec. 6. For the purpose of promoting a better condition in rural schools, and to encourage industrial training, including the elements of agricultural, manual training and home economics, the board in a consolidated school district is authorized to establish schools of two or more departments, provide for the transportation of pupils, or expend a reasonable amount for room and board of pupils whose attendance at school can more economically and conveniently be provided for by such means; locate and acquire sites of not less than two acres, and erect necessary and suitable buildings thereon, when money therefor has been voted by the district. They shall submit to the superintendent of public instruction a plat of the school grounds, indicating the site of the proposed buildings, plans and specifications for the school building and its equipment, and the equipment of the premises.

It shall be the duty of the superintendent of public instruction, with respect to schools in consolidated districts, to approve plans of sites, of buildings and their equipment and the equipment of the premises; to prepare suggestive courses of study, including an industrial course; to prescribe the qualifications of the principal and other teachers, and through such supervisors as he may appoint, and in connection with the county superintendent, exercise general supervision over said consolidated schools.

Procedure for receiving state aid.—Sec. 7. (1) For the purpose of receiving state aid, schools in consolidated districts shall be classified as A, B, and C. They shall be in session at least eight months in the year, and be well organized. They shall have suitable schoolhouses, with the necessary rooms and equipment. Those belonging to Class A shall have at least four departments; those of Class B three departments; and those of Class C two departments. The board in a consolidated school district maintaining a school of either class shall arrange for the attendance of all pupils living more than two miles from the school, through suitable provision for transportation, or for the board and room of such as may be more economically and conveniently provided for by such means.

(2) The principal of a school coming under Class A shall hold at least a diploma from the advanced course of a state normal school, and be qualified to teach the elements of agriculture, as determined by such tests as are required by the superintendent of public instruction. A school of this class shall have suitable rooms and equipment for industrial and other work, a library, and necessary apparatus and equipment for efficient work, and a course of study embracing such branches as may be prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction.

(3) The principal of a school coming under Class B or C shall hold at least a state first grade certificate, and in other respects these schools shall comply with the requirements of schools under Class A, so far as this may be practicable, in accordance with requirements fixed by the superintendent of public instruction. Teachers other than the principal, including special teachers, shall possess such qualifications as are required of teachers in state graded schools.

(4) Besides maintaining schools in consolidated districts conforming to the requirements of those coming under Classes A, B and C, the school board may maintain other schools of not more than two rooms, and receive state aid for these as provided for semi-graded and rural schools.

Aid for the various districts.—Sec. 8. Aid. Schools under Class A. in consolidated districts shall receive annually state aid of

fifteen hundred (\$1,500) dollars; those under Class B one thousand (\$1,000) dollars; those under Class C seven hundred and fifty (\$750) dollars; and in addition to such annual aid a school of any of the above classes shall receive an amount to aid in the construction of a building, equal to twenty-five per cent. (25%) of the cost of said building, but no district shall receive more than a total of fifteen hundred (\$1,500) dollars for aid in the construction of buildings. The annual aid and the aid for building shall be paid in the same manner as now provided by law for the payment of other state aid to public schools. Whenever any school in a consolidated district attains the rank of state high or graded school, it shall possess the rights and privileges of such school.

Certain sections and chapters repealed.—Sec. 9. Sections 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, Revised Laws of 1905, and chapter 326, Session Laws of 1905, and chapter 304, Session Laws of 1907, and other acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Sec. 10. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 18, 1911.

CHAPTER 208—H. F. No. 225.

An Act to amend sections 1 and 3 of chapter 156 of the General Laws of Minnesota for the year 1909, relating to the issue of bonds by cities of more than 50,000 inhabitants for acquiring grounds for public school purposes and constructing public graded school buildings and additions to and repairs on public graded school buildings.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Amending chapter 156 G. L. 1909 relative to the issuing of bonds for school purposes.—Section 1. That sections 1 and 3 of chapter 156 of the General Laws of Minnesota for the year 1909 authorizing the issue and sale of bonds by cities of more than fifty thousand inhabitants for acquiring grounds for public school purposes and constructing public graded school buildings and additions to and repairs on public graded school buildings, be and the same are hereby amended so as to read as follows:

\$1,000,000 school bonds authorized. Section 1. Any city in this state now or hereafter having a population of more than fifty thousand inhabitants is hereby authorized and empowered, acting by and through the common council or city council of