

GENERAL LAWS
OF
MINNESOTA.

PASSED AND APPROVED AT THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE,
COMMENCING JANUARY FIFTH, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND
SIXTY-FOUR, AND TERMINATING MARCH FOURTH, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT
HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FOUR.

CHAPTER I.

An Act Supplementary to An Act entitled, "An Act to Provide for a General System of Common Schools, the Officers thereof, and their respective duties and powers," approved March sixth, A. D. eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

- SECTION 1. County Commissioners may adopt.
2. Appointment of County Superintendent—term of office.
 3. County Auditor to notify State Superintendent.
 4. Removal—what cause—when valid.
 5. Duty of County Superintendent.
 6. Examination of teachers.
 7. Certificates—how graded—County Superintendent may renew or revoke certificate—shall keep a record.
 8. County Auditor to deliver reports to County Superintendent—County Superintendent to report and forward blanks, etc.
 9. Board of Commissioners to fix compensation.
 10. When act to take effect.

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

SECTION 1. That such counties as elect so to do, through their county commissioners, may at any regular or special meeting of said commissioners held subsequent to the passage of this act, adopt and act in accordance with the following provision in lieu of section

County commissioners may adopt

28, of the general school law, approved March 6th, 1862, to which this act is supplementary.

Appointment of
county superintendent—
term of office

SEC. 2. The county commissioners of such counties as have thus elected, shall, at their annual meeting in September, A. D. 1865, and annually thereafter, or at any other time in case of vacancy, appoint a fitting person of high moral character and literary and scientific attainments, who shall be a county superintendent of schools. Said officer shall enter upon the duties of his office on the first day of January succeeding his appointment, and shall hold the same for one year, and until his successor is elected and qualified. *Provided*, That at any regular or special meeting of the county commissioners of the several counties held subsequent to the passage of this act, at which it is decided to adopt this provision, a county superintendent of schools shall be appointed as above specified, who shall enter immediately upon the discharge of the duties of his office and continue therein until his successor is appointed and qualified as above prescribed. Said officer, before entering upon the discharge of his duties as aforesaid, shall take and subscribe the customary oath of office, and shall deposit the same with the county auditor.

County auditor to
notify State Super-
intendent

SEC. 3. The county auditors of such counties as shall conform to the above provisions, shall immediately transmit an attested copy of the resolution of the board adopting the same, to the State Superintendent, together with the name of the officer appointed in pursuance thereof.

Removal—what
cause—when valid

SEC. 4. That such county superintendent so appointed, may be removed from office by the board of county commissioners upon satisfactory proof of incompetency or willful neglect of duty; *Provided*, That no such removal shall be valid, unless the person so removed shall have had at least thirty days notice of the charges brought against him, and opportunity to be heard in his own defence.

Duty of county su-
perintendent

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the county superintendent of schools to examine and license teachers, and to annul certificates on proper cause shown; to visit and inspect the schools of his county at least once in each term, and give such advice to the teacher as may be requisite and necessary; to organize and conduct at

least one institute for the instruction of teachers in each year, if he shall deem the same necessary; to encourage teachers' associations; to introduce to the notice of teachers and the people the best modes of instruction, the most improved plans of building and ventilating school houses, and ornamenting and adapting school grounds for the cultivation of the taste and the healthful exercise of the children; to stimulate school officers to the prompt and proper discharge of their duty; to receive the reports of the several district clerks, and transmit an abstract of the same to the State Superintendent, adding thereto a report of the condition and prospects of the schools under his charge, *together with such other information and suggestions as he may deem it expedient to communicate.*

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of the county superintendent of schools in each county, to hold, in and for each commissioner district in his county, at least two meetings in each year, for the examination and licensing of teachers, of which meetings at least thirty days' written notice shall be given to each school district clerk in the commissioner district for which the meeting is to be held, and by him posted in some conspicuous place in his district. Such notice shall contain the names of the towns embraced in the commissioner district, and the time, place and objects of the proposed meeting. The examinations of teachers thus held shall be public, and shall be conducted by written and oral questions and answers. They shall be uniform for the county in which they are held, and no certificate of qualification shall be given except in accordance with the provisions of law respecting teachers' certificates. *Provided*, That any teacher may be examined by the county superintendent at his office, at any time other than as above specified, on proper proof offered that such teacher was unable to be present at the public examinations above provided for, and on payment of the sum of fifty cents for such service.

Examination of
teachers

SEC. 7. The county superintendent shall examine any person proposing to teach a common school in the county, in orthography, reading in English, penmanship, arithmetic, English grammar, modern geography, and the history of the United States; and if he shall

Certificates—how graded

be satisfied that such person is of good moral character, and qualified to teach all of the aforesaid branches, he shall give such person a certificate, the grade of which shall be determined by the relative merit of the examination sustained. County superintendents shall be authorized by this act, to issue three grades of teachers' certificates, viz: First grade, valid in the county for two years. Second grade, valid in the county for one year. Third grade, valid in a given district only, for six months. The county superintendent may renew such certificate at its expiration by endorsement thereon, and he may revoke the same for gross immorality, incompetency or other adequate cause. Each county superintendent shall also keep a careful record, in a book provided for the purpose, of all the candidates to whom he issues certificates, noting the date of examination, the name, sex and age of each candidate, and the grade of the certificate granted, a transcript of which record shall be included in the annual report to the State Superintendent.

County superintendent may renew or revoke certificate—shall keep a record

SEC. 8. In such counties as elect to adopt the county superintendency as above prescribed, that part of section twenty-two of the general school law which relates to the reports of county auditors to the State Superintendent, shall apply to the county superintendent, which latter officer shall make the reports therein prescribed; and the county auditor shall deliver to the county superintendent, for this purpose, the reports of district clerks made to him, and such other information as shall aid him in the discharge of this duty. The county superintendent shall also receive from the State Superintendent and forward to the several clerks of districts, such blanks, reports and circulars, as shall be forwarded to him for that purpose, and shall be guided generally in the discharge of his duty by the rules laid down by the State Superintendent.

County auditor to deliver reports to county superintendent—county superintendent to report and forward blanks etc

SEC. 9. The compensation of the county superintendent of schools shall be fixed by the county board of commissioners, and shall be paid in the same manner as the salaries of other county officers are paid.

Board of commissioners to fix compensation

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

Approved March 3, 1864.