

Senator moves to amend the delete-everything amendment (SCS2255A-3) to S.F. No. 2255 as follows:

Page 24, after line 27, insert:

"Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 121A.642, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. **Qualifications.** (a) Starting in the 2025-2026 school year, a paraprofessional meets the federal personnel qualifications required in Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, sections 200.58 and 300.156, if the paraprofessional:

(1) has at least two years of college credits through an accredited institution of higher education, or an associate's degree or higher;

(2) has received a score of 440 or higher on the ParaPro assessment, or a passing score on a different assessment approved by the Department of Education; or

(3) demonstrates the following competencies, regardless of the number of hours of training the paraprofessional has received:

(i) understanding the distinctions between roles and responsibilities of professionals, paraprofessionals, and support personnel;

(ii) understanding the purposes and goals of education and instruction for all students;

(iii) knowledge of relevant laws, rules, regulations, and local district policies and procedures to ensure paraprofessionals work within these parameters;

(iv) awareness of the challenges and expectations of various learning environments;

(v) the ability to establish and maintain rapport with students;

(vi) the ability to follow oral and written direction of licensed teachers, seeking clarification as needed;

(vii) the ability to assist and reinforce elements that support a safe, healthy, and effective teaching and learning environment;

(viii) understanding strategies for assisting with the inclusion of students in various settings;

(ix) the ability to use strategies that promote the student's independence;

(x) understanding applicable laws, rules, and regulations, and procedural safeguards regarding the management of student behaviors;

- 2.1 (xi) awareness of the primary factors that influence student behavior;
- 2.2 (xii) the ability to effectively employ a variety of strategies that reinforce positive
- 2.3 behavior;
- 2.4 (xiii) the ability to use ethical practices for confidential communication about students;
- 2.5 (xiv) the ability to follow teacher instructions while conferring and collaborating with
- 2.6 teachers about student schedules, instructional goals, and performance;
- 2.7 (xv) demonstrating a commitment to assisting students in reaching the students' highest
- 2.8 potential, including the modeling of positive behavior;
- 2.9 (xvi) showing respect for the diversity of students;
- 2.10 (xvii) showing a willingness to participate in ongoing staff development and
- 2.11 self-evaluation and to apply constructive feedback;
- 2.12 (xviii) supporting and reinforcing the instruction of students in mathematics following
- 2.13 written and oral lesson plans developed by licensed teachers;
- 2.14 (xix) supporting and reinforcing the instruction of students in reading following written
- 2.15 and oral lesson plans developed by licensed teachers. Professional development required
- 2.16 under the Read Act in section 120B.123 exceeds this requirement; and
- 2.17 (xx) supporting and reinforcing the instruction of students in writing following written
- 2.18 and oral lesson plans developed by licensed teachers.
- 2.19 (b) Upon request from a paraprofessional employed by a school district, charter school,
- 2.20 or cooperative unit providing direct instructional services, the school must provide
- 2.21 administrative assistance to the paraprofessional when completing the competencies required
- 2.22 under this subdivision.
- 2.23 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment."
- 2.24 Renumber the sections in sequence and correct the internal references
- 2.25 Amend the title accordingly