

State of Arizona
Senate
Fiftieth Legislature
First Regular Session
2011

SENATE BILL 1055

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-154.01, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO CHARACTER
EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-154.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-154.01. Character education matching grant program

5 A. Any public or charter school that teaches a character education
6 curriculum pursuant to section 15-719 is eligible for a state matching
7 grant. The school shall provide matching monies from any lawful source,
8 except that the school shall not use resources obtained from a federal
9 character education grant as matching monies to obtain a second state
10 character education grant.

11 B. The character education program shall be an age-specific,
12 stand-alone character education curriculum with the following elements:

13 1. Applicable definitions for character qualities that include at
14 least five of the following attributes:

- 15 (a) Attentiveness.
- 16 (b) Caring.
- 17 (c) Citizenship.
- 18 (d) Compassion.
- 19 (e) Diligence.
- 20 (f) Discernment.
- 21 (g) Forgiveness.
- 22 (h) Generosity.
- 23 (i) Gratefulness.
- 24 (j) Initiative.
- 25 (k) Orderliness.
- 26 (l) Respect.
- 27 (m) Responsibility.
- 28 (n) Sincerity.
- 29 (o) Trustworthiness.
- 30 (p) Virtue.
- 31 (q) Wisdom.

32 2. Activities that provide a forum for practical application and an
33 environment in which character-related behavior is identified, recognized and
34 reinforced, such as literature or visual media presentations or discussion of
35 character values as they relate to a specific story.

36 3. Stories from the lives of our nation's leaders, ~~where~~ IN WHICH
37 character qualities are demonstrated.

38 4. Mentors or teachers who demonstrate the character qualities defined
39 in the lessons presented.

40 5. Mentor and teacher training for praising students who demonstrate
41 specific character qualities.

42 6. A precourse and postcourse survey of parents, teachers and students
43 on their assessment of the program.

1 C. The department of education shall administer the program and
2 distribute the state matching grant monies. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ANNUALLY
3 RETAIN UP TO SEVEN PER CENT OF THE STATE MATCHING GRANT MONIES FOR THE COST
4 OF ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM. Programs must demonstrate proven and effective
5 curriculum and training to receive matching grant funds.

6 D. The department of education shall distribute the state matching
7 grant monies under this section for services provided by organizations that
8 have been previously preapproved as providers of proven and effective
9 programs. Grant applications submitted by schools:

10 1. Shall be submitted to the department of education and shall list a
11 selected preapproved program provider.

12 2. Shall be fairly and objectively reviewed and approved by a
13 technical evaluation team that is appointed by the procurement division of
14 the department of education and that is composed of representatives from the
15 department of education, the education community, the business community and
16 nonprofit organizations.

17 3. Are subject to the procurement laws of this state.

18 E. The department of education shall apply for all applicable
19 character education grants from the federal government.

20 F. The department of education shall evaluate the effectiveness of all
21 character education programs funded by state and federal resources.

22 ~~G. The program established by this section ends on July 1, 2010~~
23 ~~pursuant to section 41-3102.~~