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SCHOOL LAW

OF

MICHIGAN.

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JASON E. HAMMOND,

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION. FORMERLY COMMISSIONER OF SCHOOLS IN HILLSDALE COUNTY.



LANSING, MICH. ROBERT SMITH, PUBLISHER, 1895.

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"Our safety is not in constitutions and forms of government, but in the establishment of right systems of education."-John D. Pierce, 1838.



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PREFACE.

Teachers and pupils in the public schools of Michigan should know more of the system under which they are working, and young men and women just entering upon the duties of citizenship should be better prepared to perform the duties that will devolve upon them as officers of the primary and graded school districts.

For several years before the department of public instruction began preparing questions in school law for the examination of teachers, it was evident that many school officers, citizens, and teachers, were uninformed upon some of the simplest questions of school administration, and also that much controversy and litigation resulted from this imperfect knowledge.

The head of the state educational system is authorized by one of the provisions of Act 164 of the laws of 1881, to publish all general laws relating to schools and to transmit the same to school officers having the care and management of the schools. To do this requires an edition of more than 20,000 books, and the department has issued an edition every four years which has been furnished to all the officers of the state. This supply was quite sufficient, until teachers and pupils became students of school law. The department is not anthorized by the statute to furnish books to all who

PREFACE.

will apply, and the author of this book seeks to supply the demand.

In the compilation of this edition no attempt has been made to recall any of the history of the founding or growth of our educational system. It is believed that the best service to be rendered by its publication, will be the furnishing of a brief and practical treatise on the legal side of our educational system. The decisions of the supreme court of the state, attorneys general, and Superintendents of Public Instruction, have been carefully examined, and such material gleaned therefrom as will aid the student better to understand the law in its statutory form. We give all that part of the constitution of the state relating to education and, in as condensed and attractive a form as possible, the acts of the legislature which, at the close of the session of 1895, are the laws of the state governing educational affairs.

J. E. HAMMOND,

LANSING, MICH., July 4, 1895.

4

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I	-	-	-	- Constitutional Provisions
CHAPTER II	-	-	-	Administration of School Affairs
CHAPTER III	-	-	-	Organization of School Districts
CHAPTER IV	-	-	Po	wers of Voters at District Meetings
CHAPTER V	-	-	-	School Officers
CHAPTER VI	-	-	-	Teachers
CHAPTER VII	-	-		Compulsory Attendance at School
CHAPTER VIII		-	-	Text Books and Libraries
CHAPTER IX	-	-	-	School Revenues
CHAPTER X	-	-	-	- Miscellaneous Provisions



CHAPTER I.

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS.

(From Constitution of Michigan.)

ARTICLE VIII.

There shall be elected at each biennial election, a Superintendent of Public Instruction for the term of two superinternot years. He shall keep his office at the seat of govinstruction. ernment, and shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed by law.

His term of office shall commence on the first day of January,

TERM OF

one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, and of every second year thereafter. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office, the Governor shall fill the

same by appointment, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, if in session.

ARTICLE XIII.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall have the gen-GENERAL eral supervision of educational affairs.

The proceeds from the sales of all lands that have been or hereafter may be granted by the United States to the state for educational purposes, and the proceeds of all lands or other property given by individuals, or appropriated by the state for

RIMARY SCHOOL FUND. School FUND. School FUND. Sold, shall be inviolably appropriated and annually applied to the specific objects of the original gift, grant, or appropriation. All lands, the titles to which shall fail from a defect of heirs, shall escheat to the state; and the interest on the clear proceeds from the sales thereof shall be appropriated exclusively to the support of primary schools.

The legislature shall, within five years from the adoption of this constitution, provide for and establish a system of primary

PRIMARY SCHOOL SYSTEM. sector in said schools shall be kept without charge for tuition, at least three* months in each year, in every school district in the state; and all instruction in said schools shall be conducted in the English language.

A school shall be maintained in each school district at least

three months in each year. Any school district neglecting to maintain such school shall be deprived for the ensuing year of its proportion of the income of the primary school fund, and of all funds arising from taxes for the support of schools.

There shall be elected in the year eighteen hundred and sixtythree, at the time of the election of a justice of the supreme

UNIVERSITY REGENTS. court, eight regents of the university, two of whom shall hold their office for two years, two for four years, two for six years, and two for eight

years. They shall enter upon the duties of their office on the first of January next succeeding their election. At every regular election of a justice of the supreme court thereafter, there shall be elected two regents, whose term of office shall be eight years. When a vacancy shall occur in the office of regent, it shall be filled by appointment of the Governor. The regents thus elected shall constitute the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan, and these regents and their successors in office, shall continue to constitute the body corporate known by the name and title of "The Regents of the University of Michigan."

^{*}Act No. 15 of 1895 increases the minimum length of school year to five months.

The regents of the university shall, at their first annual meeting or as soon thereafter as may be, elect a president of the university, who shall be *ex officio* a member of their board, with the privilege of speaking, but not of voting. He shall preside at the meetings of the regents, and be the principal executive officer of the university. The Board of Regents

supervision of the university, and the direction and control of all expenditures from the university interest fund.

There shall be elected at the general election in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, three members of a

State Board of Education, one for two years, one of Education. for four years, and one for six years; and at each succeeding biennial election there shall be elected

one member of such board, who shall hold his office for six years. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be exofficio a member and secretary of such board. The board shall have the general supervision of the state normal school, and their duties shall be prescribed by law.

Institutions for the benefit of those inhabitants who are deaf, STATE IN-STITUTIONS dumb, blind, or insane, shall always be fostered and supported.

The legislature shall encourage the promotion of intellectual, scientific, and agricultural improvement, and shall, as soon as

AGRICULTUR-

practicable, provide for the establishment of an agricultural school. The legislature may appropriate the twenty-two sections of salt spring lands

now unappropriated, or the money arising from the sale of the same where such lands have been already sold, and any land which may hereafter be granted or appropriated for such purpose, for the support and maintenance of such school, and may make the same a branch of the university for instruction in agriculture and the natural sciences connected therewith, and place the same under the supervision of the regents of the university.

SCHOOL LAW

The legislature shall also provide for the establishment of at least one library in each township and city; and all fines

SCHOOL LIBRARIES, assessed and collected in the several counties and townships for any breach of the penal laws, shall be exclusively applied to the support of such

libraries, unless otherwise ordered by the township board of any township, or the board of education of any city: *Provided*, That in no case shall such fines be used for any other than library or school purposes.

ARTICLE XIV.

All specific state taxes, except those received from the mining companies of the Upper Peninsula, shall be applied to paying the interest upon the primary school, university, and other educational funds,

and of the interest and principal of the state debt in the order herein recited, until the extinguishment of the state debt other than the amount due to educational funds, when such specific taxes shall be added to and constitute a part of the Primary School Interest Fund.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOL AFFAIRS.

Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The chief officer of the state educational system is the Superintendent of Public Instruction, who is elected at the time of the general state election for a term of two years, commencing on the first day of January next following his election.

His salary is one thousand dollars a year and his office is salary. at the Capitol in Lansing.

He is assisted in the performance of his official duties by a deputy and five clerks appointed by himself. The

ASSISTANTS. deputy is required to take the constitutional oath of office and is authorized by law to execute the duties of the office in the absence of the superintendent or in case of a vacancy. Appointments made by the superintendent may be revoked by him at any time (5026).*

POWERS AND DUTIES.

1. To visit each and every state institution that is essentially educational in character and to meet with

VISIT STATE INSTITUTIONS. the governing board of each institution at least once in each year (5026).

2. To prepare an annual report to the Governor, which re-ANNUAL port shall contain the following information: REPORT.

(a) A statement of the condition of the university and of

* NOTE.-These numbers refer to sections in Howell's Statutes.

each of the several state educational institutions, all incorporated institutions of learning, and the primary, graded, and high schools.

(b) Estimates and amounts of expenditures of all educational funds.

(c) Plans for the management of all educational funds, and for the better organization of the educational system, if in his opinion the same be required.

(d) The annual reports and accompanying documents, so far as he shall deem the same of sufficient public interest, of all state institutions of educational character.

(e) Abstracts of the annual reports of the school inspectors of the several townships and cities of the state.

(f) All such other matter relating to his office and the subject of education generally as he shall deem expedient to communicate (5026).

3. To compile and cause to be printed all general laws relat-

ing to schools, with necessary forms, regulations, and instructions for conducting all proceedings under said laws. Such compilation must include rules for the management of libraries of townships and school districts, one copy to be furnished to each of the several school offices entrusted with the management of school affairs (5028).

4. To prepare statements directing the semi-annual appor-

PRIMARY APPORTION-MENT. IDENTIFY IDENT. IDENT

state treasurer in favor of the treasurer of each county for the amount due to each county. In case the reports from any county, township, city, or district, are defective, the superintendent is authorized to ascertain, by the best evidence he can obtain, the facts upon which the apportionment shall depend.

It is the intention of the law that districts shall not lose public money on account of inaccurate or incomplete reports; if the superintendent is unable to gather such information or if he finds that school has not been taught in the district at least five months (Act 15, 1895), it is his duty to cause such districts to forfeit their share of this fund. He may, if he finds

that officers failed to comply with the law through no fault of their own, apportion such deficiency at the time of the next apportionment (5029 and 5030). The preparation of this statement is one of the most important duties of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

5. To prepare statements for the division of library money among townships and districts entitled to receive a portion of the same (5145).

6. To prepare all examination questions to be used at county teachers' examinations. He is required to send EXAMINATION the same under seal to the commissioner of schools

(Act 66, 1895). He shall also send to commissioner

of schools the questions furnished by the president of the agricultural college for use in the examination of candidates for admission into said college (Δ ct 101, 1895).

7. To prescribe rules and regulations relative to the grant-COUNTY CER-INFIGATES. (Act 34, 1893).

8. To approve and countersign, in his discretion, first grade INDORSED certificates (Act 34, 1893). CERTIFICATES.

9. To prepare and furnish to school officers blank forms BLANKS AND for annual reports to the department. (Act 147, REPORTS. 1891).

SCHOOL LAW

10. To arrange for a teachers' institute in each organized county of the state and act as conductor of the same,

INSTITUTES. or appoint some suitable person or persons to act as conductor or instructors. He has general

supervision of the institutes and directs the disbursements of money belonging to the institute fund (5189 and Act 112, 1883).

11. He may appoint, in his discretion, boards of visitors to visiting any incorporated institution of learning within the state (Act 103, 1893).

12. He is a member of the State Board of Education (Art. DUTIES 13, Sec. 9, Mich. Constitution) and the State Ex OFFICIO. Board of Geological Survey (5468).

13. He shall perform such other duties as are or shall be re-

OTHER DUTIES. his term

quired of him by law and, at the expiration of his term of office, shall deliver to his successor all property, books, documents, maps, records, re-

ports, and all other papers belonging to his office, or which may have been received by him for the use of his office.

State Board of Education.

Including the Superintendent of Public Instruction, this board is composed of four members. The three members of the board other than the superintendent are elected for terms of six years and receive three dollars per day for their actual services, together with necessary traveling and other expenses. At each biennial state election one member is elected.

The board has general care and management of the state normal schools, and its general duties relating thereto are prescribed by law (Act 194, 1889, and Act 73, 1895). We give in this chapter only such

duties as pertain to the general school system of the state.

POWERS AND DUTIES.

1. The board is required by law to prescribe in the state normal schools a course of study intended especially to prepare students for teaching the rural and elementary schools of the state, such course

to provide not less than twenty weeks of special professional instruction.

In addition to the course mentioned above, the board is required to maintain a fully equipped training school. school as a school of observation and practice. 2. Diplomas for five years are now granted by the State

Board of Education upon the recommendation of the principal and faculty of the school, and diplomas for life are granted to those who have com-

pleted a full course of not less than four years study. Diplomas granted by the board are legal certificates to teach in all the schools of the state, when recorded with the legal examining officer of the county or city where the holder thereof proposes to teach.

3. The board also holds two examinations each year at Lan-

sing, to examine candidates for state certificates. GRANT STATE CERTIFICATES These examinations are usually held during the last weeks of July and December. State certificates are valid during life.

4. The board may indorse state certificates granted in other

states, if it be shown that the examinations re- **INDORSE** quired or courses of study pursued are fully equal **ICATES.** to the requirements of this state (Act 73, 1895).

5. It may grant certificates to graduates of colleges of the state whose courses of study have been approved by said board, according to the condition prescribed in Act No. 136, laws of 1893.

6. It may examine and approve text books in physiology, be-

APPROVE TEXT BOOKS. fore such text books are legally adopted for use in any of the public schools of the state. (Act 165, 1887; Act 147, 1889).

County Board of School Examiners.

This board is composed of three persons, the county commissioner of schools and two examiners, each chosen for terms of two years,

SCHOOL LAW

THE COMMISSIONER.

The commissioner is elected by the people on the first Monday of April of every odd year, and enters upon the HOW ELECTED. duties of his office on the first day of July next after his election. Within ten days after he has received legal notice of his election, he shall take the constitutional oath of office and file a bond in the penal OATH OF sum of one thousand dollars for the faithful per-OFFICE. formance of his duties (Act 66, 1895).

The compensation of the commissioner of schools is fixed by

SALARY.

the board of supervisors. The maximum salary paid in any county is \$1,500. In counties having one hundred and twenty-five schools under his

supervision, the minimum salary is \$1,200; in counties having one hundred schools, the lowest limit is \$1,000; and in counties of fifty schools, \$500. In some of the smaller counties of the state the commissioners serve for salaries ranging from \$100 to \$500.

Before the county clerk can legally issue an order for the salary of the commissioner the latter must meet the following requirements:

1. File a certified statement from the Superintendent of

Public Instruction that all reports required of CERTIFIED him have been properly made and filed with said STATEMENT. superintendent.

2. File with the county clerk a detailed statement under oath, showing what schools have been visited by him during the preceding quarter and what amount of time was employed in each school, naming the township and school district.

The necessary contingent expenses of the commissioner for

printing, postage, stationery, record books, and CONTINGENT rent of rooms for public examinations shall be EXPENSES. audited and allowed by the board of supervisors (Act 147, 1891).

To be eligible to hold the office of commissioner of schools,

the candidate must possess higher qualifications than are required of most officials. Besides having been a teacher in the public schools of the state for twelve months, he must possess one at least of the following qualifications:

1. Be a graduate of the literary department of some reputable college, university, or state normal school having a course of at least three years.

2. Hold a state teacher's certificate.

3. Hold a first grade certificate in the county in which he is elected.

4. Have been a commissioner under the provisions of Act No. 147, public acts of 1891.

Counties having less than fifty schools under the supervision

IN SMALL COUNTIES. of a commissioner, may elect a commissioner who is the holder of a second grade certificate (Act 66, 1895).

A graduate of a high school or a person to whom a certifi-DATE OF cate was granted after the date of his election, is CERTIFICATE. not legally qualified (94 Mich. 165).

Women are also eligible to hold the office of commis-ELIGIBILITY sioner (Act 147, 1891).

Whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of commissioner of

schools, the county clerk shall issue a call to the chairmen of the township boards of school inspect-

VACANCY IN OFFICE.

chairmen of the township boards of school inspectors of each township in the county, who shall meet

within ten days at the office of the county clerk and appoint a suitable person to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term.

The executive duties of the board of examiners devolve

GRANT CER-

mainly upon the commissioner of schools. No county certificate is valid without his signature, and he is authorized to grant special certificates.

2

He must make out a schedule of the times and places of

holding special public examinations in counties of EXAMIN-ATIONS. of the county ten days before such examination (Act 66, 1895).

He is required to examine candidates for admission to the

freshman class of the agricultural college, using COLLEGE CAN- questions furnished by the president of said college and forwarded by the Superintendent of Public Instruction (Act 101, 1895). His duties as given in Act 147, Laws of 1891, are as follows:

1. Immediately after his or her qualification as commis-

sioner, to send notice thereof to the Superintend-REPORT TO STATE SUPER- ent of Public Instruction and the chairman of INTENDENT. each township board of school inspectors of the county.

2. To keep a record of all examinations held by the board RECORD OF EX- of school examiners and to sign all certificates AMINATIONS. and other papers and reports issued by the board.

3. To receive the institute fees provided by law and to pay RECEIVE IN-STITUTE FEES. ginning September thirtieth in each year.

4. To keep a record of all certificates granted, suspended,

or revoked by the said board or commissioner, CERTIFICATES. showing to whom issued, together with the date,

grade, duration of each certificate, and, if suspended or revoked, with the date and reason thereof.

5. To furnish previous to the first Monday in September in

RECORD OF

each year, to the township clerk of each township in the county, a list of all persons legally author-

ized to teach in the county at large and in such township, with the date and term of each certificate, and if any have been suspended or revoked, the date of such suspension or revocation. 6. To visit each of the schools in the county at least once in each year, and to examine carefully the disci-

VISITATION OF SCHOOLS. pline, the mode of instruction, and the progress and proficiency of pupils: *Provided*, That in case

the county commissioner is unable to visit all the schools of the county as herein required, the said commissioner may appoint such assistant visitors as may be necessary, who shall perform such duties pertaining to the visitation and supervision of schools as said commissioner shall direct. The whole expense incurred by such assistant vistors must not exceed the sum of ninety dollars in any one year.

7. To counsel with the teachers and school boards as to the courses of study to be pursued, and as to any COUNSEL WITH improvement in the discipline and instruction in TEACHERS.

the schools.

8. To promote by such means as he or she may devise, the

improvement of the schools in the county, and the ASSISTANT INSTITUTE CONDUCTOR. elevation of the character and qualifications of the teachers and officers thereof, and to act as assistant conductor of institutes appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and perform such other duties as the superintendent shall require.

9. To receive the duplicate annual reports of the several

INDORSE REPORTS boards of school inspectors, examine into their correctness, require them to be amended when necessary, indorse his or her approval upon them,

and immediately thereafter and before the first day of November in each year, transmit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction one copy of each of said reports and file the other in the office of the county clerk.

10. To be subject to such instructions and rules as the Superintendent of Public Instruction may prescribe; to receive all blanks and communications that may be sent to him or her

ANNUAL REPORTS. by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to dispose of the same as directed, and to make annual reports at the close of the school year to the Superintendent of Public Instruction of his or her official labor, and of the schools of the county, together with such other information as may be required.

11. To perform such other duties as may be required by law, and, at the close of the term of office, to deliver all records, books, and papers belonging to the office to his or her successor.

The law creating the office and prescribing the duties of the LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICtions. strictions upon his powers and duties as follows:

1. No commissioner shall act as agent for the sale of any school furniture, text-books, maps, charts, or other school apparatus* (Act 66, 1895).

2. He can not legally grant a second special certificate to the same person (Act 147, 1895).

3. His expenses for printing, postage, rent of rooms, stationery, books, etc., shall not exceed \$200 per year (Act 147, 1891).

4. No traveling fees are allowed him while engaged in his official duties (Act 147, 1891).

THE EXAMINERS.

The examiners are appointed at the October meeting of the

HOW AP-POINTED. board of supervisors for a term of two years, a majority of those present and voting being necessary to a choice (475). It is so arranged that one examiner goes out of office each year.

A person eligible to this office must be the holder of at least a

third grade certificate and have had an experience

ELIGIBILITY. of nine months as teacher (Act 66, 1895).

Examiners receive four dollars per day for time actually employed in their official duties, and persons ap-

pointed to assist the commissioner in school visitation receive three dollars per day. The whole ex-

pense incurred for assistant visitors in any one year is limited to ninety dollars.

20

COMPEN-

^{*}Note.--This rule also applies to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, instructor at institute, and school examiner.

When a vacancy occurs in the office of examiner, the commissioner and remaining examiner, together with the judge of probate, act as a board to appoint a successor, who shall hold his office for the balance of the unexpired term.

The examiners assist the commissioner in the work of conducting examinations and issuing certificates (Act ASSIST AT EX- 66, 1895). The duties of the board as to the granting of teachers' certificates will be discussed in another chapter.

Township Board of School Inspectors.

The state constitution (Art. 11, Sec. 1) provides for the election of a township clerk who shall be *ex-officio* school inspector, and for the election of one school inspector; the statute (684a)in addition to this declares that the term of office shall be two years. The board of school inspectors, therefore, consists of the township clerk and two inspectors. Women are eligible to hold the office (782).

The organization of the board must be effected within twenty

ORGANI-ZATION. days after the first Monday in April. The township clerk is the clerk of the board, and the board shall elect one of their number chairman. The

chairman is also the treasurer of the board (5079) and as such "is the proper custodian of the township library money (30 Mich. 100).

The treasurer is required to give a bond for the safe keeping TREASUR-ER'S BOND. of the moneys that may come into his hands.

POWERS AND DUTIES.*

By Act No. 147, Laws of 1891, the chairman of the board of inspectors is required:

First, To have general supervisory charge of the schools of supervisory his township, subject to such advice and direction charge. as the county commissioner may give: Second, To make such reports of his official labors and of MAKE the condition of the schools as the Superintendent REPORTS. of Public Instruction may direct or commissioner request.

The law relative to the powers and duties of school inspectors has undergone many changes and, in the older portions of the State, there seems to be little left for them to do.

The most important of these duties and one which generally falls to the clerk, is the preparation, on the third Monday in September, of the triplicate annual

report of the schools of the township to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Blanks for this purpose are prepared at the department of public instruction. One of these reports is filed with the township clerk, another with the county clerk, and the third is sent to the department office at Lansing.

Before making these reports it is the duty of the board to

FINANCIAL ACCOUNT, ascertain if the schools have been taught by legally qualified teachers. The report must contain a full financial account of all moneys received and dis-

bursed (5082).

The number of meetings of the inspector at the expense of the township shall not exceed eight in any one year (5083).

The authority of the inspectors to form new districts (5033) is discussed in another part of this book.

Township Clerk.

The township clerk is an important official in the management of educational matters in his township.

^{*}NOTE.—City and township school districts which have been incorporated as such by special enactment, have various provisions defining the powers and duties, election and term of office of school inspector. In some of these, as in Act No. 176, Laws of 1891, the duties of the inspectors are performed by another set of officers. The student is referred to page 625 of the manual (red book) for an index to the local acts of the legislature establishing city school districts.

POWERS AND DUTIES.

We mention briefly some of his chief duties as follows:

1. To act as clerk of the board of school inspectors, attend all CLERK BOARD meetings, and keep a record of their proceedings,

SPECTORS.

2. To receive all reports to inspectors from school directors, RECEIVE and file such reports in his office. REPORTS.

3. To receive all such communications, blanks, and docu-

ments as may be transmitted by the Superinten-RECEIVE COM-, dent of Public Instruction, and dispose of them as directed by said superintendent (5084).

4. To transmit to the county clerk immediately after the

organization of the board of inspectors, the name TRANSMIT and postoffice address of the chairman of said CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS. board.

5. To cause a map to be prepared showing the boundaries PREPARE MAP. of the school districts of the township (5086).

6. To make and deliver to the supervisor a certified copy of all statements on file in his office of money to be raised by taxation in the several school districts of his township.

7. To attend to the apportionment of the school moneys of

the districts entitled to the same, according to the DIRECT number of pupils in each between the ages of five APPORTION-MENTS. and twenty years.

8. To act as clerk of township board at meetings called to re-CLERK OF move school officers (5170). TOWNSHIP BOARD.

9. To act in township school districts of the Upper Peninsula.

as member and ex-officio clerk of the board of TOWNSHIP education. His duties in such townships are quite BOARD OF similar to his duties in other townships of the EDUCATION. state, and his salary as clerk of the board of education is limited to fifty dollars per year (Act 176, 1891).

SCHOOL LAW

CHAPTER III.

ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Primary Schools.

The original and fundamental school organization in Michigan is the district, which is established by authority of the township board of school inspectors. After a township has been organized, its territory shall be divided into school districts which shall not exceed nine sections of land in size and which may be altered from time to time in the discretion of the inspectors.

The statute directs that the territory of each district must be

FORM

in as compact form as may be (5033). It is not essential that the territory of the maximum school district shall contain exactly nine full sections of

land, but it must not contain more than 5,760 acres (75 Mich. 143).

After an organization has been effected by the inspectors, it NOTICE OF ING. NOTICE ING

boundaries and specifying the time and place of the first meeting, which notice, with the fact of such delivery, is entered upon record by the clerk. The notice also directs such inhabitant to notify every qualified voter of such district, either personally or by leaving a written notice at his place of residence, of the time and place of said meeting, at least five days before the time appointed therefor; and it is the duty of such inhabitant to notify the qualified voters of said district accordingly:

and said inhabitant, when he has notified the qualified voters, indorses thereon a return, showing such notification with the date or dates thereof, and delivers such notice and return to the chairman of the meeting, to be by him delivered to the director chosen at such meeting, and by said director recorded at length as a part of the records of the district (5034).

A school district created by special legislative enactment, SPECIAL cannot be dissolved or changed by the school in-LEGISLATIVE pectors (17 Mich. 223).

In case the inhabitants of the district fail to organize as above indicated, the clerk shall give a new notice and the residents of the district shall proceed in the same manner as in case of first notice (5035).

Fractional districts are districts formed from territory taken

FRACTIONAL DISTRICTS. from two or more adjoining townships. Such districts are formed by joint action of the township boards of inspectors of the townships interested.

They are organized in the same manner as other primary school districts, and the officers report to the clerk of the township in which the school house is situated. The inspectors assign a number to each school district thus established (5036).

Any unorganized territory cannot be included in a school UNORGANIZED district and taxed for school purposes (45 Mich. TERRITORY. 559), unless at the request of the owner (5042).

The proceedings in the organization of school districts are many times informal and irregular. The statute and the courts have wisely declared that, however awkward and improper may have been such pro-

ceedings, a school district is deemed duly organized when any two of the officers elected at the first meeting have filed their acceptances in writing with the director, and the same have been recorded in the minutes of such first meeting. Every school district is presumed to be legally organized when it has exercised the franchises and privileges of a district for the term of

SCHOOL LAW

two years; and such school district and its officers shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges, and immunities, and be subject to all the duties and liabilities conferred upon school districts by law (5037; 81 Mich. 339).

A district organized under the laws of Michigan, has a corporate existence and possesses the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes (5039).

CHANGES IN THE BOUNDARIES OF PRIMARY SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

These are effected by the inspectors, under certain regulations and restrictions. After a district has exercised its corporate functions for several years, its boundaries should not be altered for trivial reasons. The official acts of inspectors in the change of district boundaries are therefore quite carefully guarded by the statutes.

Whenever the board of school inspectors contemplates an alteration of the boundaries of a district, the township clerk

NOTICE OF MEETING.

(and for meetings of boards to act in relation to fractional districts, clerks of the several townships interested) gives at least ten days' notice of the time

and place of the meeting of the inspectors, and of the alterations proposed, by posting such notice in three public places in the township or townships, one of which notices is posted in each of the districts that may be affected by such alteration. Whenever the board of school inspectors of more than one township meet, they elect one of their number chairman and another clerk (5040).

The inspectors may, in their discretion, detach the property

of any person or persons from one district and TRANSFER OF attach it to another, except that no land which TAXPAYERS. has been taxed for building a school house can be set off into another school district for the period of three years thereafter, without the consent of the owner thereof; and no district can be divided into two or more districts without the consent of a majority of the resident taxpayers of said district;

 $\mathbf{26}$

and no two or more districts can be consolidated without the consent of a majority of the resident taxpayers of each district (5041).

The inspectors have the right to detach such territory as they see fit (except as stated above), unless such action would practically destroy the district (67 Mich. 601); but they have no authority to divide up the

district and destroy it without the consent of a majority of the resident taxpayers; nor can they destroy it by cutting it up into pieces, and attaching all the territory to other districts without such consent (71 Mich. 87).

The inspectors may attach to a school district any person re-

siding in a township and not in any organized disset off. strict, at his request; and, for all district purposes, except raising a tax for building a school house,

such person is considered as residing in such district; but when set off to a new district, no sum is raised for such person as his proportion of the district property (5042).

In all cases where an alteration of the boundaries of a school

NOTICE OF ALTERATION, district is made, the township clerk is required within ten days to deliver to the director of each district affected by the alteration, a notice in writ-

ing, setting forth the action of the inspectors and defining the alterations that have been made (5043).

When a new district is formed in whole or in part, from one or more districts possessed of a school house or entitled to other property, the inspectors, at the time of forming such new district or as soon thereafter as may be, ascertain and determine the amount justly due to such new district from any district out of which it may have been in whole or in part formed, as the proportion of such new district, of the value of the school house and other property belonging to the former district at the time of such division; and whenever, by the division of any district, the school house or site thereof is no longer conveniently located for school purposes and is not desired for use by the new district in which it may be situated, the school inspectors of the township in which such school house and site is located, may advertise and sell the same and apportion the proceeds of such sale,

as also any moneys belonging to the district thus divided, among the several districts erected in whole or in part from the divided district.

Such proportion is ascertained and determined according to the value of the taxable property of the respective parts of such former district at the time of the division, by the best evidence in the power of the inspectors; and such amount of any debt due from the former district which would have been a charge upon the new had it remained in the former district, is deducted from such proportion: *Provided*, That no real estate thus set off, which has not been taxed for the purchase or building of such school house, shall be entitled to any portion thereof, nor be taken into account in such division of district property.

Graded Schools.

The term graded school as used in the laws of the state is sometimes confused with those schools which have, by authority of the school board and teacher, adopted a graded course of study according to the manual and course of study published by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. In using the term we refer exclusively to districts organized under the law for graded schools. All such schools are first organized

HOW CLASSIFIED. as primary districts, and all graded schools, whether created under special acts or organized under general laws, are subject to the general

primary school law, except in so far as the acts creating them or under which they are organized, are inconsistent with it (18 Mich. 400).

Any school district containing more than one hundred chil-NUMBER OF dren of school age may organize as a graded GHILDREN. district.

The vote may be taken at any school meeting properly called, and a two-thirds vote of the qualified voters is required (5132). The district voting to organize as a graded district, elects at such meeting a board

of trustees, and the time from the date of the meeting to the date of the next annual school meeting is reckoned as one year.

ALTERATION IN BOUNDARIES OF GRADED DISTRICT.

The authority to make changes in the boundaries of graded districts, is given to the board of inspectors with the following limitations:

No alteration can be made in the boundaries of any graded school district, without the consent of a majority of the trustees of said district, which consent must be spread upon the records of the district and placed on file in the office of the clerk of the board of school inspectors of the township or city to which the reports of said district are made (97 Mich. 127). Graded school districts are not restricted to nine sections of land (5135).

Whenever two or more contiguous districts having together

more than one hundred children of school age, CONSOLIDAhave published in the notices of the annual meet-TION OF DIS-TRICTS. ings of each district the intention to take such action and have, by a vote of two-thirds of the qualified voters attending the annual meetings in said districts, determined to unite for the purpose of establishing a graded school district. the school inspectors of the township or townships in which such districts may be situated are required, on being properly notified of such vote, to unite such districts and to appoint a time and place for a meeting of the new district. Three notices of the same must be posted in each of the districts so united at least five days before the time of such meeting. At this meeting the district elects a board of trustees and transacts the usual business of an annual school meeting (5135a).

Whenever the trustees of any organized graded school district are presented, twenty days before the annual CHANGE FROM GRADED meeting, with a petition signed by ten electors of TO PRIMARY said district, stating that it is their desire that, at DISTRICT. the annual meeting of the school district, there be submitted a proposition to change from a graded district to one or more primary districts, the trustees shall, in their notice of such annual meeting, state that the proposition set forth in said petition will be presented at the meeting; and, if two-thirds of the qualified voters present at said meeting vote to change to one or more primary districts, the change shall be made, and it becomes the duty of the board of school inspectors of the township or townships in which the district is situated, upon being duly notified of such vote, to change or divide the district as determined by such annual meeting, and to provide for the holding of the first meeting in each of the proposed primary districts in the same manner as is provided for by law for the organization of primary districts; and whenever a fractional graded school district is so changed, the township boards of school inspectors of the respective townships where such graded school district is situated, organize the district into one or more primary districts (Act 84, 1891).

Township Districts.

Michigan has seventy-five townships organized as school districts, and every legislature, by the passage of special acts, adds others to the number. As the student will readily observe, the township district can not be organized under either of the laws for the primary or graded districts.

The majority of the township districts of the state are in the Upper Peninsula and are authorized by the provision of Act 176, Public Acts of 1891. By this law the qualified voters of

HOW ORGANIZED. a township petition the township board to give notice that, at the next annual township meeting, the township will be organized into a single school

district. It is necessary that the petition be signed by a majority of the voters of the township, and be filed with the township clerk at least fifteen days prior to the annual township meeting. To ascertain whether a majority of the qualified voters have signed the petition, the township board is required to compare the names on the petition with the names on the list of registered voters qualified to vote at the preceding election. If the board finds that a majority of the qualified voters have signed the petition, it is its duty to give notice that, at the next township meeting, the township school officers shall be chosen. The township board makes and files, both with the county clerk and the commissioner of schools of the county in which such township is located, a certified copy of the petition, with their findings and doings thereon (93 Mich. 281). Thereupon such township becomes a single school district which is subject to all the general laws of the state, so far as the same may be applicable, and said district has all the powers and privileges conferred upon other school districts by the laws of this state, all the general provisions of which relating to common or primary schools shall apply and be enforced in said district, except such as shall be inconsistent with the provisions of this act.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The first Monday of September is the date fixed by law for the annual meeting of primary and graded school districts. The voters of a district may, however, by a vote of any properly called meeting, decide to fix the date of its annual meeting on the second Monday of July. They are also authorized to change back to the September date in a similar manner. The officers chosen at an annual meeting, date their terms of office from the date of election and continue in office until their successors are elected and qualified (5046).

In township districts the annual meeting is held at the same time and place as the annual township meeting, the first Monday in April.

At this meeting the township school officers are chosen, the

amount of money to be raised by tax for school purposes is determined, and the annual detailed report of the board of education is publicly read by the president of the board or, in his absence, by the clerk (Act 176, 1891).

Districts in cities organized by special legislative enactment, IN DISTRICTS hold annual meetings on the date specified in the act.

The time of taking the annual school census by the director and school officers is the same in all districts of the state, being the ten days previous to the first Monday in September.

Special meetings may be called by the district board. It is

SPECIAL MEETINGS. the duty of the board or any one of them, to call such meetings on the written request of not less than five legal voters of the district, by giving the

required notice. No special meeting can legally be called, unless the business to be transacted may lawfully come before such meeting (5047).

NOTICES.

Six days' notice of all district meetings must be given by the posting of written notices in three of the most public places of the district. These notices are prepared by the director, and one copy is placed on the outer door of the school house.

When a special meeting is called for the purpose of establish-FOR SPECIAL ing or changing a school site, a ten days' notice is required.

It is the duty of any school officer, upon receiving a request

signed by five legal voters, to call such meeting on a date between six and twelve days from the time such request is received.

All notices of special meetings must contain a statement of all the business which is proposed to be transacted at such meeting (5048).

Failure on the part of a director to give notice of an annual

FAILURE TO GIVE NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING. Wilfully and fraudulently omitted to give notice.

No notices of district meetings in township districts are re-

IN TOWNSHIP DISTRICTS quired, as the only meeting provided in the act is the annual township meeting held on the first Monday of April (Act 176, 1891).

3

CHAPTER IV.

POWERS OF VOTERS AT DISTRICT MEETINGS.

By the school laws of the state certain powers and duties are delegated to the voters of the district, certain other powers and duties are given wholly to the district officers, while still other powers and duties are given to the district officers with the consent of a majority of the qualified voters. School officers and patrons of schools would save themselves much controversy and litigation, if each would carefully study and correctly determine where the authority rests and, having thus informed himself, carefully avoid assuming responsibility which belongs to others. In this book we shall attempt to arrange these powers and duties in such an order that they may be better understood by those who are entrusted with their enforcement.

Primary Districts.

The qualified voters in any school district, when lawfully assembled at the first and at each annual meeting or at an adjournment thereof or at any special meeting lawfully called, except as otherwise provided, have power:

1. At any	meeting after the organization of the district, in
APPOINT	the absence of the moderator, to appoint a chair- man and, in the absence of the director, to appoint
CHAIRMAN.	a person to act in his stead.
	2. To adjourn from time to time as occasion may
ADJOURN.	require.
ELECT OFFICERS.	3. To elect district officers.

4. To designate a site or such number of sites LOCATE SITES. as may be desired for school houses, and to change the same when necessary.

5. To direct the purchasing or leasing of a site or sites, lawfully determined upon; also the building, hiring, or purchasing of a school house or houses, or the enlarging of a site or sites previously established.

6. To vote such tax as the meeting may deem sufficient for purchasing or leasing a site or sites, or for building.

TAX FOR SITES hiring or purchasing a school house or houses; but PURPOSES. the amount of taxes to be raised in any district for the purpose of purchasing or building a school house or houses in the same year that any bonded indebtedness is incurred, shall not exceed, in districts containing less than ten children between the ages of five and twenty years, two hundred and fifty dollars; in districts having between ten and thirty children of like age, it shall not exceed five hundred dollars; and in districts having between thirty and fifty children of like age, it shall not exceed one thousand dollars. (See also Chap. X.)

7. To impose such tax as shall be necessary to keep TAX FOR RE-TAX FOR REprovide the necessary appendages and school ESSARY AP-PENDAGES. apparatus; in districts having district libraries, to provide for the support of the same, and to pay and discharge any debts or liabililities of the district lawfully incurred, and also to pay for the services of any district officer. The tax herein authorized to be voted shall not exceed one-half the amount which the district is authorized to raise for building school houses. (See also Chap. X.)

8. To authorize and direct the sale of any school house, site, building, or other property belonging to the district, when the same shall no longer be needed for the use of the district.

9. To give such directions and make such provisions as they

SUITS AGAINST DISTRICT. shall deem necessary in relation to the prosecution or defense of any suit or proceeding in which the district may be a party or interested.

10. To appoint, as in their discretion it may be necessary, a building committee to perform such duties in supervising the work of building a school house as they, by vote, may direct.

11. At the first and the annual meetings only, to determine the length of time a school shall be taught in their school YEAR. district during the ensuing year, which shall not be less than nine months in districts having eight

hundred children over five and under twenty years of age, and not less than five months in all other districts, on pain of forfeiture of their share of the primary school interest fund (Act 15, 1895). But in case such matters shall not be determined at the first or annual meetings, the district board shall determine the same; and in case the district fails to vote for at least the minimum length required herein, the district board shall make provisions for said minimum length of school.

12. To appropriate any surplus moneys arising from the one mill tax (after having maintained a school in the SURPLUS OF ONE-MILL TAX. district at least eight months in the school year),

for the purpose of purchasing and enlarging school sites, or for building or repairing school houses, or for purchasing library books, globes, maps, and other school apparatus, or for any incidental expenses of the school (5052).

13. By a two-thirds vote of the qualified electors present at

BORROW MONEY. any annual meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose, to borrow money and issue bonds to pay for a school-house site or sites, and to erect

and furnish school building (5103).

14. To decide by a two-thirds vote of the tax-paying voters $T_{RANSFER TO}$ of the district, to use money for some purpose other than that for which it was raised (5063).

15. To designate by a two-thirds vote of those present. such number of sites as may be desired for school SCHOOL SITES. houses (5114).

16. By a two-thirds vote, to establish a district library (Act 158, 1893). ESTABLISH LIBRARY.

17. To vote to furnish free text-books to all the pupils of the district (Act 147, 1889). FURNISH TEXT-BOOKS.

18. To vote to close school house against public meetings CLOSE SCHOOL (5066). HOUSE.

Qualified Voters at District Meetings.

By the provisions of Act No. 15, Laws of 1895, the qualification of voters at school meetings is limited to citizens of the United States, and of the state, township, and school district in which such citizens offer to vote. The legal qualification of voters at school meetings is a subject of much discussion and controversy, and we give below carefully prepared statements of the necessary qualifications:

1. On all questions which do not directly involve the raising of money by a tax, all citizens, male or female, QUESTIONS NOT INVOLVwho have resided in the district the three months ING RAISING next preceding the school meeting, who are OF MONEY. twenty-one years of age and are parents or legal guardians of children included in the school census, may vote.

2. All citizens, male or female, who are twenty-one years of

age and are the owners of property assessed for PROPERTY school taxes, may vote on all questions at district QUALIFICA-TION. meetings.

3. In township districts organized under Act 176 of the Laws

WOMEN VOTING.

of 1891, and in several cities organized by special BARRED FROM legislative enactment, the right to vote is given only to those who are qualified voters for town-

ship and city officers. The legal voters for school officers at such district meetings, therefore, are only those who have the right to vote the entire township or city ticket (Act 176, 1891; 59 Mich. 165; 76 Mich. 1). Act No. 138, Public Acts of 1893, giving women the right to vote in all school, city, and village elections, was declared unconstitutional by our supreme court.

GRADED DISTRICTS.

The powers and duties of voters in graded school districts are the same as those in primary districts, so far as such powers and duties are consistent with the law for the organization of graded districts. The following is taken from the first section of the act:

Any school district containing more than one hundred children between the ages of five and twenty years may, by a twothirds vote of the qualified electors present at any annual or special meeting, organize as a graded school district: *Provided*. That the intention to take such vote shall be expressed in the notice of such annual or special meeting. When such change

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES.

in the organization of the district shall have been voted, the voters at such annual or special meeting shall proceed immediately to elect by ballot from

the qualified voters of the district, one trustee for the term of one year, two for the term of two years, and two for a term of three years, and annually thereafter a successor or successors to the trustee or trustees whose terms of office shall expire (5132).

TOWNSHIP DISTRICTS.

These are subject to all the general laws of the state, so far as the same may be applicable, and the voters have all the powers and privileges conferred upon graded school districts (Act 176, 1891).

Challenging of Voters.

When a person who is supposed to be unqualified to vote on any question which shall come before the voters of a district meeting, offers to vote, his vote may be challenged by any legal voter present; and it is the duty of the chairman to require such person to take his oath that he is legally qualified. If such person refuses to take the oath, his vote is rejected. A person who takes a false

oath, is deemed guilty of perjury and may be tried and punished according to the law for such an offense.

When any question is taken in any other manner than by ballot, a challenge immediately after the vote has

WHEN NOT VOTING BY BALLOT. been taken shall be deemed to be made when offering to vote, and treated in the same manner (5050).

Disorderly Conduct.

If, at any district meeting, any person conducts himself in a disorderly manner and, after notice from the moderator or person presiding, persists therein, the moderator or person presiding may order him to

withdraw from the meeting and, on his refusal, may order any constable or other persons to take him into custody until the meeting shall be adjourned.

Any person who refuses to withdraw from such meeting on

REFUSAL TO WITHDRAW. dis

being so ordered, and also any person who wilfully disturbs such meeting by rude and indecent bebehavior, or by profane or indecent discourse, or

in any other way makes a disturbance, shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not less than two nor more than fifty dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding thirty days; and any justice of the peace, recorder, or police justice of the township, ward, or city where such offense is committed, shall have jurisdiction to try and determine the same (5051).

CHAPTER V.

SCHOOL OFFICERS.

In Primary Districts.

At the first meeting in each newly organized school district there is elected a moderator for a term of three years, a director for a term of two years, and an assessor for a term of one year. By arranging in this way, the term of office of one expires each year and the length of each term is three years.

All school officers must be chosen by ballot to be legally elected. This provision is mandatory and must **HOW ELECTED** be observed (75 Mich. 143). All ballots cast under statutory requirements are formal and final. There can be no such thing as an informal ballot. If on a first ballot a person receives a majority of all the votes cast, there is an election and the vote can not be repeated (78 Mich.

635). Officers who were chosen unanimously (*viva voce*) at a regularly called meeting, and who have qualified and are acting, are officers de facto and the public interest demands that they shall not be disturbed (75 Mich. 143).

School officers cannot be elected by a bare plurality vote.

PLURALITY VOTE DOES NOT ELECT. In electing officers the district acts in its corporate capacity, and no corporate action can be had without the concurrence of the majority (Atty. Gen., July 18, 1877).

The moderator, director, and assessor shall constitute the

TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS. district board. Meetings of the board may be called by any member thereof, by serving on the other members a written notice of the time and

place of such meeting at least twenty-four hours before such meeting is to take place; and no act authorized to be done by the district board is valid, unless voted at a meeting of the board. A majority of the members of the board at a meeting is necessary for the transaction of business (5058).

ELIGIBILITY TO DISTRICT OFFICES.

Any qualified voter in a school district who has property liable to assessment for school taxes, is eligible to election or appointment to office in such school district, unless such person be an alien.

ACCEPTANCES.

Within ten days after their election or appointment, the several officers of each school district file with the director written acceptances of the offices to which they have been respectively elected or appointed, and such acceptances are entered in the records of the district by said director (5057, 5133). In township districts the officers file acceptances within five days after being notified, and such notification is made within five days after election or appointment.

VACANCIES.

A district office may become vacant by:

1. Death of the incumbent.

2. Resignation.

3. Removal from office.

4. Removal from the district.

5. Conviction of any infamous crime.

6. Election or appointment being declared void by a competent tribunal.

7. Neglect to file acceptance of office, or to give or renew any official bond as required by law.

Temporary absence of an officer does not create a vacancy

in the office. If his family continues to reside in the district, he retains his residence. (Atty. Gen., Feb. 8, 1882.)

FILLING OF VACANCIES.

In case any one of the district offices becomes vacant, the two remaining officers shall immediately fill such vacancy, or in case two of the offices become vacant, the remaining officer shall immediately call a special meeting of the district to fill such vacancies.

In case any vacancy is not filled as herein provided within

twenty days after it shall have occurred, or in case BY BOARD OF SCHOOL IN-SPECTORS. twenty days after it shall have occurred, or in case all the offices in a district shall become vacant, the board of school inspectors of the township to which the annual reports of such district are made shall fill such vacancies.

Any person elected or appointed to fill a vacancy in a district

office shall hold such office until the next succeeding office. Ing office. annual meeting, at which time the voters of the district shall fill such office for the unexpired

portion of the term (5055).

In graded districts the trustees have power to fill any vavacancy in cancy that may occur in their number, until the next annual meeting (5133). The same is true in case of a vacancy on the township board of education (Act 176, 1891).

POWERS AND DUTIES OF DISTRICT BOARD.

It is impossible to enumerate in detail all of the many duties which the officers of a district are called upon to perform. Below is given a summary of their most important duties, followed farther on by a similar summary of the powers and duties of each individual school officer:

1. To purchase a record book and such other books, blanks, and stationery as may be necessary to keep a record of the pro-

ceedings of the district meetings and of meetings RECORD BOOKS of the board, the accounts of the assessor, and for AND STATIONdoing the business of the district in an orderly ERY. manner (5059, 24 Mich. 353).

2. To purchase or lease, in the corporate name of the district,

such sites for school houses as have been lawfully SCHOOL SITES. designated; to build, hire, or purchase such school

houses as may be necessary, out of the fund provided for that purpose; and to make sale of any site or other property of the district, when lawfully directed by the qualified voters (5060).

3. To estimate the amount necessary to be raised, in addition

AMOUNTS TO RE RAISED.

to other school funds, for the entire support of such schools, including teachers' wages, fuel, and other incidental expenses, and for deficiencies of

the previous year for such purposes. In districts having less than thirty scholars, such estimate, including the district's share of the primary school interest fund and one-mill tax, must not exceed the sum of fifty dollars a month for the period during which school is held in such district; and when such amount has been estimated and voted by the district board, it is reported for assessment and collection, the same as other district taxes. When a tax has been estimated and voted by the dis-

TO BORROW MONEY.

trict board under the provisions of this section, and is needed before it can be collected, the district board may borrow to an amount not exceeding the amount of said tax (5061).

4. Between the first and third Mondays in September in each year, to make out and deliver to the town-ANNUAL RE-PORT TO ship clerk of each township in which any part of TOWNSHIP the district is situated, a report in writing CLERK. of all taxes voted by the district during the preceding year, and of all taxes which said board is authorized to impose, to be levied on the taxable property of the district (5062).

5. To apply and pay over all school moneys belonging to the district, in accordance with the provisions of law SCHOOL FUNDS. regulating the same.

6. To present to the district at each annual meeting, a report

in writing containing an accurate statement of all ANNUAL REmoneys of the district received by them during PORT TO DIS-TRICT. the preceding year, and of the disbursements made by them, with the items of such receipts and disbursements, such report to contain a statement of all taxes assessed upon the taxable property of the district during the preceding year, the purposes for which such taxes were assessed, and the amount assessed for each particular purpose. Said report is entered by the director in the records of the district (5064).

7. To hire and contract with such duly qualified teachers as

CONTRACT WITH TEACH-ERS.

may be required, all contracts to be in writing and signed by a majority of the board on behalf of the district (5065).

8. To have the care and custody of the school house and

other property of the district, except so far as the CUSTODY OF same, by vote of the district, be specially confided SCHOOL PROPERTY. to the custody of the director, including all books purchased for the use of indigent pupils; to open the school house for public meetings, unless by a vote at a district meeting it shall be determined otherwise: Provided, That said board may exclude such public meetings during the five school days of each week of any and all school terms, or such parts thereof as in their discretion they may deem for the best interest of the schools (5066).

9. To specify the studies to be pursued in the schools of the district (5067).

10. On making a selection of text-books, to keep a record

RECORD OF TEXT-BOOKS ADOPTED.

thereof in their proceedings; and text-books once adopted shall not be changed within five years, except by the consent of a majority of the qualified voters of the district present at an annual meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

11. To require each teacher in the public schools of such district, before placing the school register in the INSTRUCTION hands of the director, to certify therein whether AND HYGIENE. or not required instruction in physiology and hygiene has been given in the school or grade presided over by such teacher; and it is the duty of the director of the district to file with the township clerk a certified copy of such certificate. Any school board neglecting or refusing to comply with this requirement is subject to fine or forfeiture, the same as for neglect of any other duty pertaining to the office. This applies to all schools in the state, including schools in cities or villages, whether incorporated under special charter or under the general laws (Act 165, 1887).

12. To purchase at the expense of the district, such textbooks as may be necessary for the use of children, when parents are not able to furnish the same, and to include the amount of such purchase in the

report to the township clerk or clerks, to be levied in like manner as other district taxes (5068).

13. To have the general care of the school, and to make and enforce suitable rules and regulations for its suspension. servation of the property of the district. Said board may authorize or order the suspension or expulsion from the school of any pupil guilty of gross misdemeanor or persistent disobedience, whenever, in its judgment, the interests of the school demand it (5069). (See also Chap. X.)

14. To admit to the district school non-resident pupils, in its discretion, and to determine the rates of tuition of such pupils and collect the same, which tuition shall not be greater than fifteen per cent more than the average cost per capita for the number of pupils of school age in the district (Act 131, 1895).

15. To have charge of any library which may have been es-

tablished in the district (5142). It may also donate or sell any library book or books belonging to the district, to the board of school inspectors of

the township or townships in which the district is wholly or partly situated (5148).

16. To purchase text books for all the pupils of the district, FREE TEXT-BOOKS. uhen authorized by the voters of the district (Act 147, 1889).

17. To purchase a flag and flag-staff for each school house, such flag not to be smaller than four feet two inches by eight feet (Act 56, 1895).

Board of Education of Graded Schools.

The graded school board is composed of five members elected at the annual meeting for a term of three years. At the time of the organization into a graded district, one member is elected for a term of one year, two for terms of two years, and two for terms of three years.

As in the case of officers of primary districts, these school officers must be elected by ballot and hold office

HOW ELECTED. until their successors are elected and qualified. A majority vote is also necessary. The board elects

from its own number the director, moderator, and assessor for one year.* In case of a failure of the board to agree in the appointment of its officers, the school inspectors of the township or city are authorized to make the appointment (5133).

POWERS AND DUTIES.

Besides having the same powers that are possessed by school

^{*} Nore.—Many times in districts organized by special enactment school officers are known by other titles; as president, secretary and treasurer. Unless such special acts plainly prescribe the duties of such officers, the duties belonging to the moderator, director, and assessor are performed by the president, secretary, and treasurer, in the order named respectively.

officers of primary school districts, the officers of graded districts are authorized:

1. To classify and grade the pupils attending school in such district, and cause them to be taught in such schools or departments as they may deem expedient (5134).

2. To establish in such district a high school, when ordered

by a vote of the district at an annual meeting, and to determine the qualifications for admission to such school and the fees to be paid for tuition in

any branches taught therein; *Provided*, That, when the parents or guardians of non-resident pupils pay a school tax in said district, the same shall be credited on their tuition a sum not to exceed the amount of such tuition, and they shall only be required to pay tuition for the difference between the amount of the tax and the amount charged for tuition (Act 21, 1891).

3. To audit and order the payment of all accounts of the the 'director for incidental or other expenses incurred by him in the discharge of his duties; but no more than fifty dollars may be expended by the director in any one year for repairs of the buildings or appurtenances of the district property, without the authority of the board of trustees.

4. To employ all qualified teachers necessary for the several schools, to determine the amount of their compensation, and to require the director and moderator to make contracts with the same on behalf of the district, in accordance with the provisions of law concerning contracts with teachers.

5. To employ such officers and servants as may be necessary,

for the management of the schools and school JANITORS, ac. property, and to prescribe their duties and fix their compensation (5134),

Board of Education of Township Districts.

The board of education of a township district consists of two trustees, with the clerk and school inspectors of HOW ELECTED. the township. Said trustees are elected by ballot

at the annual township meeting of the township, upon the same ticket and canvassed in the same manner as the vote for township officers. Within five days after the annual election the township clerk is required to give written notice of their election to the persons elected trustees, and within five days thereafter said trustees so elected shall take and subscribe the oath of office prescribed by the constitution of this state, before any officer authorized to administer oaths, and file the same with the township clerk.

The term of office of the trustees of said district commences

TERM OF

on the second Monday following the annual township election at which they are elected, and continues for two years and until their successors are

elected and qualified.

ORGANIZATION.

The members of the board of education meet on the third Monday of April of each year, at the office of the township clerk, and organize. The school inspector of the township whose term of office will soonest

expire, is president of the board and entitled to vote in all cases. In the absence of the president at any meeting, a majority of the members present may choose one of their own number president pro tem.

The township clerk of said township is ex officio clerk of

CLERK.

said board of education and entitled to vote. In case of the absence of said clerk, the board may choose some suitable person to perform his duties.

The board on said third Monday of April in each year elects from its own number a treasurer, who holds his office for one year and until his successor is elected and qualified. The board may at any time

fill a vacancy in the office of treasurer; *Provided*, That the person appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of treasurer shall hold the office for the unexpired portion of the term only. The treasurer of said board within five days after his appointment must file with the clerk of the board the constitutional oath of office. He must also, before entering upon the duties of his office, give a bond to said district in such sum and with such sureties as said board shall determine and approve, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties, and must honestly account for all moneys coming into his hands belonging to said district. He has the keeping of all school and library moneys, and can not pay out the same without the authority of the board upon warrants or orders drawn upon him, signed by the clerk and countersigned by the president.

MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of the board are held on the third Mon-		
	day of April, August, and December in each year.	
REGULAR.	No notice of such meeting is required. Any two	
	members is sufficient to adjourn any meeting from	
time to time until a quorum is present.		
Special meetings of the board may be called at any time on		
	the request of the president, or any two members	
SPECIAL.	thereof, in writing, delivered to the clerk, and the	
	clerk upon receiving such request shall at once	
notify each member, if within the district, of the time of hold-		
ing such meeting, which shall be at least three days subsequent		
to the time of receiving such request by the clerk.		
All meet	tings of the board shall be held at the township	
	clerk's office, unless otherwise ordered by a resolu-	
WHERE HELD.	tion of the board; and all records and papers of	

the district shall be kept in the custody of said clerk and shall be open to the inspection of any taxpayer of said district.

49

POWERS AND DUTIES.

All the duties required of school inspectors, in townships organized under the primary school law, are performed by the township board of education. The township board of inspectors, therefore, has no separate existence in such townships. The following are the principal duties of township school officers:

1. To designate and purchase school house sites.

- 2. To erect buildings and furnish the same.
- 3. To employ legally qualified teachers.
- 4. To provide books for district library.

5. To make by-laws relative to the taking of the school census.

6. To make all necessary reports and transmit the same to the proper officers.

7. To make needful regulations and by-laws relative to school visitation, length of school terms, and purchase of books for indigent children (Act 176, 1891).

Director.

The director is the chief officer of the primary district and upon him falls much of the labor and responsibility of the district board. We give below many of his principal duties:

1. To act as clerk, when present, of all meetings of the district and of the board.

2. To record the proceedings of all district meetings, and the minutes of all meetings, orders, resolutions, and other proceedings of the board, in proper record books.

3. To give the prescribed notice of the annual district meeting, and of all special meetings.

4. To draw and sign warrants upon the township treasurer for all moneys raised for district purposes or apportioned to the district by the township clerk, and orders upon the assessor for all moneys to be disbursed by the district, and to present them to the moderator, to be countersigned by that officer.

Each order shall specify the object for which and the fund upon which, it is drawn.

5. To draw and sign all contracts with teachers, when directed by the district board, and present them to the other members of the board for further signature.

6. To provide, in his discretion, the necessary appendages for the school house, and keep the same in good condition and repair during the time of school. (See also Chap. X.)

7. To keep an accurate account of all expenses incurred by him as director, such account to be audited by the moderator and assessor and, on their written order, to be paid out of any money provided for the purpose.

8. To present at each annual meeting an estimate of the expenses necessary to be incurred during the ensuing year by the director, and for payment of the services of any district officer.

9. To preserve and file copies of all reports made to the school inspectors; and safely to preserve and keep all books, papers and other documents belonging to the office of director (or to the district, when not otherwise provided for) and to deliver the same to his successor in office.

10. To take a census of the district within the ten days next previous to the first Monday in September in each year. This work may be done by any person appointed by the district board.

11. At the end of the school year and previous to the second Monday in September in each year, to deliver to the township clerk, to be filed in his office, a report to the board of school inspectors of the township, showing:

(a) The whole number of children belonging to the district between the ages of five and twenty years, according to the census taken as aforesaid.

(b) The number attending school during the year under five, and also the number over twenty years of age.

(c) The number of non-resident pupils of the district that have attended school during the year.

(d) The whole number that have attended school during the year,

(e) The length of time the school has been taught during the year by a qualified teacher, the name of each teacher, the length of time taught by each, and the wages paid to each.

(f) The average length of time scholars, between five and twenty years of age, have attended school during the year.

(g) The amount of money received from the township treasurer and apportioned to the district by the township clerk.

(h) The amount of money raised by the district, and the purposes for which it was raised.

(i) The kind of books used in the school.

(j) Such other facts and statistics in regard to the schools and the subject of education, as the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall direct.

12. In fractional districts to make an annual report to the clerk of the township in which the school-house is situated, and also to report to the clerk of each township in which the district is in part situated, the number of children between the ages of five and twenty years living in that part of the district lying in such township (5073).

13. To perform such other duties as may be required of the director by law or by the district board.

Moderator.

It is the duty of the moderator of each school district:

1. To preside, when present, at all meetings of the district and of the board.

2. To countersign all orders legally drawn by the director upon the assessor for moneys to be disbursed by the district, and all warrants of the director upon the township treasurer for moneys raised for district purposes, or apportioned to the district by the township clerk.

3. To cause an action to be prosecuted in the name of the district on the assessor's bond, in case of any breach of any condition thereof.

4. To perform such other duties as may be required of the moderator by law.

Assessor.

It is the duty of assessor of each school district:

1. To execute to the district and file with the director, within ten days after his election or appointment, a bond in double the amount of money to come into his hands as such assessor during his term of office, as near as the same can be ascertained, with two sufficient sureties, to be approved by the moderator and director, conditioned for the faithful application of all moneys that shall come into his hands by virtue of his office, and to perform all the duties of his said office as required by the provisions of this act. Said bond shall be filed with the director, and in case of

any breach of the condition thereof, the moderator shall cause a suit to be commenced thereon in the name of the district, and any moneys collected thereon shall be paid into the township treasury, subject to the order of the district officers, and shall be applied to the same purposes as the moneys lost should have been applied by the assessor.

2. To pay all orders of the director, when lawfully drawn and countersigned by the moderator, out of any moneys in his hands belonging to the fund upon which such orders may be drawn.

3. To keep a book in which all the moneys received and disbursed shall be entered, the sources from which the same have been received, and the persons to whom and the objects for which the same have been paid.

4. To present to the district board at the close of the school

year a report in writing, containing a statement of all moneys received during the preceding year and of each item of disbursements made, and exhibit the voucher therefor.

5. To appear for and on behalf of the district in all suits brought by or against the same, when no other directions shall be given by the qualified voters in district meeting, except in suits in which he is interested adversely to the district; and in all such cases the moderator shall appear for such district, if no other direction be given as aforesaid.

6. At the close of his term of office to settle with the district board, and deliver to his successor in office all books, vouchers, orders, documents, and papers belonging to the office of assessor, together with all district moneys remaining on hand.

7. To perform such other duties as may be required of the assessor by law. –

CHAPTER VI.

TEACHERS.

Legal Qualifications.

No contract with any person not holding a legal certificate of qualification authorizing him to teach, is valid; and all contracts with a person holding a legal certificate terminates, if the certificate expire by limitation and is not immediately renewed (5065). All persons who expect to teach must procure the necessary certificate from some duly constituted authority. There are several ways by which teachers may receive certificates. We first mention those granted by the county board.

COUNTY CERTIFICATES.

The regular examinations of teachers in all counties of the state are held at the county seats on the last Thursday and Friday of March, and the third Thursday and Friday of August in each year. In nearly all of

the counties are held two other regular public examinations on the third Thursdays and Fridays of June and October in each year.

Examiners in counties containing more than one hundred

fifty school districts, may hold one other public examination for each twenty-five districts in the county. By this plan the counties of Kent and Oakland are entitled to three extra examinations; the counties of Allegan and Lenawee to two; and the counties of of Berrien, Genesee, Hillsdale, Jackson, Saginaw, St. Clair, Van Buren, Washtenaw, and Wayne to one. The dates for such extra examinations are fixed on the third Fridays of February, April, and September (Act 66, 1895).

Three grades of county certificates are granted, as follows:

First grades are granted from the examinations of March

and August and are valid for four years. The ex-FIRST GRADE amination is in algebra, botany, geometry, general CERTIFICATE. history, physics, arithmetic, grammar, United

States history, civil government, geography, reading, penmanship, orthography, school law, theory and art of teaching, physiology and hygiene with reference to the effects on the human system of alcoholic drinks, stimulants, and narcotics.

All county certificates must be signed by the commissioner and at least one examiner (Act 34, 1893).

Without the indorsement of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, first grade certificates are valid only in counties where granted.

To secure this indorsement the papers written by successful

INDORSE-MENT.

applicants must be forwarded by commissioners within ten days to said superintendent for examination and approval. If he approves and signs the certificate, it becomes valid throughout the state.

Second grades are granted from the four regular examinations and are valid throughout the county where

SECOND GRADE granted for three years. Candidates may select any two of the four studies-algebra, botany, gen-

eral history, and physics-and are required to write on all the other branches excepting geometry.

Third grades are granted from any public examination and

THIRD GRADE CERTIFICATE.

are valid throughout the county where granted for one year. The branches required in an examination for a third grade certificate are all those, excepting the first five mentioned, in the first grade list.

For the purpose of limiting the number of third grade certifi-

CLASSES

cates which may be granted to a person in the public schools, third grade certificates are divided into two classes known as A and B. Certificates of

class A are granted to teachers of three years experience in primary department (first four grades) of graded schools. Certificates of this class license the holder to teach only in primary departments. The number which may be granted to a person is not limited. Certificates of class B are the regular third grade certificates and license the holder to teach in any school of the county; but no more than three certificates of this class can legally be granted to the same person (Act 34, 1893). The purpose of this law is to require teachers to progress and secure higher grades of certificate. The questions for these two classes of third grade certificates vary somewhat to correspond with the kind of work required of the teachers.

All questions for county examinations are prepared by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and furnished to the commissioner under seal, to be opened in the presence of the candidates for certificates.

The standard of examinations to be followed is left entirely to the discretion of the examining board, so that

STANDARD OF EXAMINATION. the success or failure of applicants depends more on the closeness or liberality of the marking than upon the character of the questions furnished.

Besides the certificates mentioned, the county commissioner has power, upon personal examination satisfactory

CERTIFICATES. to himself or herself, to grant certificates which shall license the holder thereof to teach in a speci-

fied district for which it is granted; but such certificate does not continue in force beyond the time of the next public examination, and in no case can a second special certificate be granted to the same person, and it does not in any way exempt the teacher from a full examination (Act 34, 1895). The object of a special certificate is to bridge over the time between the commencement of a school term and the next meeting of the examining board (71 Mich. 361). Educational qualifications are not the only qualification of teachers. After July 4, 1895, no board of exam-CITIZENSHIP of TEACHERS. iners can legally grant a certificate to any person

who, having arrived at the age of twenty-one years, is not a citizen of the United States (Act 66, 1895). The law also directs the examining board to grant certificates to successful applicants who have attained the age of seventeen years (Act 34, 1893).

The moral character of the applicant is another question

which examining boards must carefully consider. Certificates may be withheld from persons who, though possessing all the educational qualifications,

are unfit to teach in the public schools. The supreme court, in the case of Sturdevant vs. the Board of Examiners, refused to interfere with the decision of the examiners, and decided that the board was better able to determine the qualifications of applicants than the court. From another decision we quote, "A man who habitually violated his duty by profanity and Sabbath breaking, was of bad moral character" (45 Mich. 484).

RENEWALS OF CERTIFICATES.

The only Michigan law in existence authorizing boards of examiners to renew certificates, is the provision found in Act No. 34 of the law of 1893. It reads: "The board of examiners shall have the right, however, to renew without examination the certificates of persons who shall have previously obtained an average standing of at least 85 per cent. in all studies covered in two or more previous examinations, and who shall have been since that examination continuously and successfully teaching in the same county." This seems so plain as to require no explanation, but numerous inquiries addressed to the department of public instruction suggest that it is not interpreted alike by teachers and examiners. We, therefore, in the absence of any court decisions, venture the follow-

ing interpretation: 1st. The standings on each certificate must average 85 per cent. 2d. The board does not have the right under this provision to renew the certificate of an applicant who has not been teaching continuously and successfully during the two years just preceding. 3d. The law is simply permissive and not mandatory on the examiners.

REVOKING OF CERTIFCATES.

The board of examiners may suspend or revoke any teacher's certificate issued by them for any reason which would have justified said board in withholding the same when given—for neglect of duty, for incompetency to instruct or govern a school, or for immorality—and the said board may, within their jurisdiction, for immorality or incompetency to instruct and govern a school, suspend the effect of any teacher's certificate that may have been granted by other lawful authority: *Provided*, That no certificates shall be suspended or revoked without a personal hearing, unless the holder thereof shall, after a reasonable notice, neglect or refuse to appear before the said board for that purpose (Act 147, 1891).

CITY CERTIFICATES.

The officers of every school district which is or shall hereafter be organized in whole or in part in any incorporated city in this state where special enactments shall exist in regard to the licensing of teachers, shall employ only such teachers as are legally qualified under the provisions of this act: *Provided*, That in cities employing a superintendent, the examination of teachers shall be conducted by such superintendent or by a committee of the board of education of such school district, and certificates issued at such time and in such a manner as the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Board of Education in such city shall prescribe. Cities having a special and thoroughly equipped normal training department under control of a special training teacher, such school having a course

of not less than one year, shall be exempt from the provisions of this section as to the examination of teachers (Act 66, 1895).

COLLEGE CERTIFICATES.*

The state board of education is empowered to grant teachers' certificates without examination to any person who has received a bachelor's, master's, or doctor's degree from any college in this state having a

course of study of not less than four years, actually taught in such college, in addition to the preparatory work necessary for admission to the university of Michigan, upon a recommendation from the faculty of such college, stating that in their judgment the applicant is entitled to received such certificate. Such college must also have a course in the science and art of teaching of at least one college year of five and a half hours per week, which shall have been taken by said aplicant and shall include a thorough examination by the college granting such diploma, as to qualification and fitness for teaching.

Provided, that if said person furnishes to said board satis-

LENGTH OF CERTIFICATE.

factory proof of having successfully taught for three years in the schools of this state, said certifi-

cate shall be a life certificate. If such proof is not furnished said board, then such certificate shall be for four years only, and a life certificate may at any time thereafter be issued by said board upon the filing of such proof. Such certificate shall entitle the holder to teach in any of the schools of this state without examination, provided a copy of the same is filed or recorded in the office of the legal examining officer, or officers of the county, city, township, or district in which said person is to teach, and shall be annulled only by the state board of education, and by it only for cause.

It shall be the duty of said board of education carefully to

^{*}Note.-In June, 1895, the colleges having approved courses were Adrian, Albion, Hillsdale, Olivet.

examine any course of study in the science and APPROVAL OF APPROVAL OF art of teaching that may be submitted to it by the trustees of any college and, if satisfactory, to furnish such trustees with a written certificate approving the same. If, at any time the said board of education concludes that any college, whose graduates may desire to WITHDRAWING receive such certificate, is not giving such instruction in the science and art of teaching and in the other branches as shall be approved by it, then said board shall so determine by a formal resolution and shall give notice thereof to the trustees of such college; and thereafter no teachers' certificates shall be given by said board to the graduates of such college, until said board shall be satisfied that proper instruction in the science and art of teaching and in other branches is given by such college, and the board shall

certify such fact to the trustees of such college (Act 136, 1893).

UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATES.

The faculty of the department of literature, science, and the arts, of the university of Michigan, shall give to every person receiving a bachelor's, master's, or doctor's degree, or a teacher's diploma for work done in the science and the art of teaching from said university, a certificate, which shall serve as a legal certificate of qualification to teach in any of the schools of this state, when a copy thereof has been filed or recorded in the office of the legal examining officer or officers of the county, township, city, or district.

Such certificate shall not be liable to be annulled except by the said faculty of the university; but its effect may be suspended in any county, township, city or district, and the holder thereof may be stricken from the list of qualified teachers in such county, township, city, or district, by the legal examining officer or officers of the said county, township, city, or district, for any cause and in

the same manner that such examining officer or officers may be by law authorized to revoke certificates they have given. and such suspension shall continue in force until revoked by the authority suspending it (Act 144, 1891).

STATE CERTIFICATES.

The state board of education holds two meetings each year. at which they examine teachers and grant certificates to such as have taught in the schools of the state at least two years, and who, upon a thorough and critical examination in every study required for such certificate, are found to possess eminent scholarship, ability, and good moral character. Such certificates, signed by the members of said board, impressed with its seal, entitle the holder to teach in any of the public schools of this state without further examination, and are valid for life unless revoked by said board. No certificate shall be granted except upon the prescribed examination (Act 194, 1889).

The branches required in an examination for state certifi-

cates are chemistry, zoölogy, rhetoric, literature, PRESCRIBED geology, in addition to those required for first grade certificates.

The said state board of education may, in its discretion. endorse state teacher's certificates or normal FROM OTHER school diplomas granted in other states, if it be STATES. shown to the satisfaction of such board that the examinations required or courses of study pursued are fully

equal to the requirements of this state (Act 73, 1895).

Teachers' Institutes.

All boards or officers authorized by law to examine applicants for certificates shall collect, at the time of ANNUAL FEES. examination, from each male applicant an annual fee of one dollar, and from each fémale applicant an annual fee of fifty cents; and the director or secretary of any school board that shall employ any teacher who has not

paid the fee hereinbefore provided, shall collect, at the time of making contract, from each male teacher so employed, an annual fee of one dollar, and from each female teacher so employed, an annual fee of fifty cents.

All persons paying a fee as required by this section, shall be given a receipt for the same; and no person shall be required to pay said fee more than once in any school year (5187). The requirements of this law apply to all teachers, whether applicants for certificates or employed by school boards (Atty. Gen., March 21, 1884).

All such fees collected by the director or secretary of any school board are paid over to the county commissioner of schools of the county in which they were collected, on or before the fifteenth day of March.

June, September, and December, accompanied by a list of those persons from whom they were collected (93 Mich., 281). And all such fees, together with all those that are collected by the county commissioner of schools are paid over by him to the treasurer of the county in which they were collected, on or before the last day of March, June, September, and December in each year, accompanied by a complete list of all persons from whom said fees were collected; and a like list, accompanied by a statement from the county treasurer that said fees have been paid to him, shall be sent by said commissioner to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. All moneys paid over to the county treasurer as provided by this act, shall be set apart as a teachers' institute fund (5188).

The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall annually appoint a time and place in each organized county for holding a teachers' institute, make suitable arrangements and give due notice of the same: *Provided*, that in organized counties having less than one thousand children between the ages of five and twenty years, the holding of the institute shall be optional with the said superintendent, unless requested to hold such institute by fifteen

teachers of the county in which such institute is to be held. However, if there shall not be a sufficient number of teachers in any county to make such request, then teachers of adjoining counties who desire to attend such institute may unite in the required application to said superintendent. Also, the said superintendent may, in his discretion, hold an institute for the benefit of two or more adjoining counties, and draw the institute fund from each of the counties thus benefited (5189).

The Superintendent of Public Instruction, in case of inability

THE CONDUCTOR. personally to conduct any institute or to make the necessary arrangements for holding the same, is authorized to appoint some suitable person for that purpose, who shall be subject to the direction of the superintendent.

Every teacher attending any institute held in accordance with the provisions of this act, shall be given by CERTIFICATE OF ATTEND-ANCE. Sions of said institute such teacher was in attendance; and any teacher who closes his or her school in order to attend the institute, shall not forfeit his or her wages as teacher during such time as he or she attended it, and the certificate provided shall be evidence of such attendance (5190).

For the purpose of defraying the expenses of rooms, fires,

DEFRAYING

lights, or other necessary charges, and for procuring teachers and lecturers, the said superintendent or the person authorized by him to conduct

the institute, may demand of the county clerk of each county for the benefit of which the institute is held (who shall thereupon draw an order on the county treasurer of his county for such sum) an amount necessary to defray these expenses but not exceeding the institute fund in the county treasury; and the treasurer of said county is hereby required to pay over to

said superintendent or conductor, from the institute fund in his hands, the amount of said order (5191).

In case the institute fund in any county is insufficient to defray the necessary expenses of any institute state AID. held under the provisions of this act, the auditor general shall, upon the certificate of the superintendent that he has made arrangements for holding such institute and that the county institute fund is insufficient to meet the expenses thereof, draw his warrant upon the state treasurer for such additional sum as said superintendent shall deem necessary for conducting such institute, which sum shall not exceed sixty dollars for each institute of five days' duration (5191a).

The superintendent is authorized to hold, once in each year.

GENERAL

an institute for the state at large, to be denominated a state institute; and for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses of such institute.

the auditor general shall, on the certificate of said superintend, ent that he has made arrangements for holding such institute, draw his warrant upon the state treasurer for such sum as said superintendent shall deem necessary for conducting such institute, which sum shall not exceed four hundred dollars and shall be paid out of the general fund: Provided, That not more than eighteen hundred dollars shall be drawn from the treasury, or any greater liability incurred in any one year, to meet the provisions of this law (5192).

The Superintendent of Public Instruction or the conductor drawing money from the county treasurer, shall, at the close of each institute, furnish to the county treasurer vouchers for all payments from the same; and he shall return to the county treasurer whatever of the amount may remain unexpended, to be replaced in the institute fund (5193).

5

65

Teachers' Associations.

Any fifteen or more teachers, or other persons residing in the state, who shall associate for the purpose of promoting education and science and improvements in the theory and practice of teaching, may form themselves into a corporation under such name as they may choose, providing they shall have published in some newspaper printed at Lansing or in the county in which such association is to be located, for at least one month previous, a notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting for such association, and shall file in the office of the secretary of state a copy of the constitution and by-laws of said association (4385).

Such association may hold and possess real and personal

FUNDS.

* property to the amount of five thousand dollars, but the funds or property thereof shall not be used for any other purpose than the legitimate business

of the association in securing the objects of its corporation (4386).

Upon becoming a corporation, they shall have all the powers

POWERS. and privileges and be subject to all the duties of a corporation (4387).

TEACHERS' CONTRACTS.

A teacher's contract must be in writing, and must state the wages agreed upon and the length of the term.

The teacher must be required to keep a correct list of the pupils and the age of each attending the school. He shall keep a record of the number of days each pupil is present, and furnish to the director a correct copy of the same at the close of the school.

The contract must be filed with the director and a duplicate FILING OF CON- copy furnished to the teacher (5065).

TRACT.

A contract with a teacher who does not hold a certificate that is valid within the county, is void. If the certificate expires during the period for which the contract is given, said contract becomes void, un-

less the teacher immediately secures a new certificate. The word "immediately" in the foregoing sentence should be construed to mean that the certificate be renewed before the teacher continues with the work of the school.

All contracts for teaching must be construed as subject to vacations on legal holidays.* No deduction from teachers' wages on account of such vacation can be made (39 Mich. 484). Holidays should always be counted as days taught. The employment of teacher by the day instead of by the month or year, does not make it the duty of teachers to make up time lost in the observance of holidays.

If a teacher is employed for a definite time and, during the period of his employment, the district officer closes the schools on account of the prevalence of contagious diseases and keeps them closed for a

time, the teacher is entitled to full wages during such period (43 Mich. 480; 39 Mich. 484; 62 Mich. 153). In schools closed on account of a loss of the school house by fire or storm, the teacher can collect his wages (75 Mich. 143).

Contracts made previous to annual meeting are valid. The legislature contemplated that schools should generally open on the beginning of the school year and that teachers would have to be contracted with in season. Neither the newly elected trustees nor the voters at the annual meeting, have the power to impair the obligation of a contract made before such annual meeting (44 Mich. 500; 98 Mich. 43; 88 Mich. 374).

^{*} NOTE.—The legal holidays in this state are January 1, February 22, May 30, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas. Whenever a legal holiday falls on Sunday, the next day is observed instead.

When a contract with a teacher has been agreed upon at a board meeting, it is the duty of the director and SIGNATURES the moderator to sign it. It is not in the power of

the officers to defeat the action of the board by refusing to sign a contract authorized by it (93 Mich., 43). A contract signed by two members of the board without calling a meeting and consulting with the other member, is void (47 Mich., 626). It is not imperative that a contract be signed by all three of the officers, and one signed by a majority of the board is presumed to be valid, especially if the officers draw and pay orders without protest (61 Mich., 299). It should also have the teacher's signature.

While it is the duty of the director to sign and file a teach-

CONTRACT. WALIDITY OF CONTRACT. er's contract, his refusal to perform his duty in this respect does not impair the validity of a contract, if otherwise properly authorized and exe-

cuted (46 Mich., 316). A contract valid on its face and carried with the acquiescence of all concerned, can not be subsequently repudiated (62 Mich. 153; 77 Mich. 610).

Contracts made between the district board and teacher must

be authorized at a regular meeting of the board (47 Mich., 626). After a contract has been duly authorized at a meeting of the board, it may be signed at the convenience of the officers (30 Mich., 249).

No power is now conferred by statute upon the voters at a CHOICE OF MALE OR FEMALE TEACHER. Mich., 374).

All teachers whether qualified or unqualified, are entitled to CONTRACTS WITH TEACH-ERS NOT LEG-ALLY GUALI-FIED. ALLY GUALI-FIED. August by qualified teachers, but necessities may arise where this cannot be done. A district may be unable to find a qualified teacher. Where the employment of an un-

qualified teacher is a necessity, the school district is authorized to employ one who has not the proper certificate, (if the school board is satisfied that the teacher is otherwise qualified), and to pay such teacher out of the moneys belonging to the district; but the primary school moneys and mill-tax cannot be applied to that purpose (37 N. W., 570). The liability of a school district to pay a teacher for services actually rendered, has been maintained by the following authorities: 55 Vt, 61; 13 Neb., 52; 47 Mich., 226; 10 N. W., 349; 61 Mich., 299; 28 N. W., 105. Teachers who do not hold a properly signed contract and who are permitted by the district board to teach, can **TEACHERS CAN** collect such wages as a court will allow, which is

generally the average rate of wages paid in adjoining school districts.

Corporal Punishment.

Our school law is silent on this subject. The decisions of the courts uniformly sustain teachers in the administering of punishment to a reasonable degree. Teachers should exercise much discretion and punish only when all other methods fail. Many of our best educators are opposed to corporal punishment under any circumstances. Below is given a list of cases on which decisions have been made: 4 Gray, Mass., 36; 14 Johns., Ind., 119; 50 Iowa, 145; 4 Ind., 291; 19 Vt., 102; 27 Me. 266; 32 Vt., 114; 50 Iowa, 152.

Extent of Teachers' Authority.

This is a much disputed question. Generally speaking, the authority of the teacher does not extend beyond the school premises; but conduct of pupils which injures the school and has a tendency to bring the teachers' authority into contempt, may be dealt with by the teacher, even if outside of school house and away from school premises (32 Vt. 114; 31 Iowa, 562).

CHAPTER VII.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL.

Michigan has a comprehensive law for compelling children to attend school. Previous to 1895 the authority of truant and district officers has been limited, and a general enactment was passed by the legislature giving additional power to those dealing with parents who are indifferent concerning the education of the children, or with truants who baffle the authority of their parents (Act 95, 1895).

Ages of Compulsory Education.

Every parent, guardian, or other person in the state of Michigan having control and charge of any child between the ages of eight and fourteen years, and in cities between the ages of seven and sixteen years, is required to send such child to the public school for a period of at least four months in each school year (except that, in cities NUMBER OF having a duly constituted police force, the attend-MONTHS AT-TENDANCE. ance at school shall not be limited to four months), beginning on the first Monday of the first term commencing in his or her district after September 1, 1895, and of each year thereafter. Such attendance must be consecutive, and each and every pupil between the ages specified must have attended school the entire four months previous to the thirtieth day of June in each year.

PUPILS EXEMPTED.

1. Those who are being taught in private schools in such branches as are usually taught in public schools.

2. Pupils who have already acquired the ordinary branches of learning taught in public schools.

3. Children physically unable to attend school, if such fact is certified to by a reputable physician.

4. Those living more than two miles from any school house.

Truant Officer.

The district board or board of education in each school dis-

WHEN AP-POINTED. trict which has been organized as a graded school district or as a township district, previous to the

tenth day of September of each year, appoints a truant officer for the term of one year from and after the first Monday of September of each year.

In townships whose districts are organized under the primary

School law, the chairman of the township board of school inspectors is the truant officer and per-

forms all the duties of truant officer, so far as the provisions of this law applies to the territory over which he has jurisdiction.

In cities having a duly organized police force, it is the duty of the police authority, at the request of the school authorities, to detail one or more members of said force to perform the duties of truant officer.

The compensation of the truant officer is fixed in graded school districts by the board which appoints, and in townships by the township board; and in no case can such compensation be less than one dollar

and fifty cents per day for time actually employed under direction of the district board in performance of his official duties. The compensation of truant officers is allowed and paid in the same manner as incidental expenses are paid by such boards.

It is the duty of the truant officer to investigate all cases of truancy or non-attendance at school, and to render all services within his power to compel children to attend school; and, when informed of continued

non-attendance by any teacher or resident of the school district, he shall immediately notify the persons having control of such children that, on the following Monday, such children must present themselves with the necessary text-books for instruction in the proper school of the district. The notice also informs said parent or guardian that attendance at school must be consecutive at least eight half days of each week until the end of that term, except in cities having a duly constituted police force, where attendance in school shall be continuous.

Penalty on Parents.

In case any parent, guardian, or other person having charge of children fails to comply with the provisions of this law, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars, or by imprisonment in the county or city jail for not less than two nor more than ninety days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court.

Ungraded Schools.

In all city school districts having a school census of five hundred or more pupils, the school board or officers having in charge the schools of such districts may establish one or more ungraded schools for the instruction of juvenile disorderly persons. They may, through their truant officer and superintendent of schools, require such children to attend said ungraded schools or any department of their graded schools, as said board of education may direct.

Juvenile Disorderly Persons.

The following classes of persons between the ages of eight and fourteen years, and in cities between the ages of seven and sixteen years, are deemed juvenile disorderly persons, and

shall, in the judgment of the proper school authorities, be assigned to the ungraded school or schools:

1. Habitual truants from any school in which they are enrolled as pupils.

2. Children who, while attending any school, are incorrigibly turbulent, disobedient, or insubordinate, or are vicious or immoral in conduct.

3. Children who are not attending any school and who habitually frequent streets and other public places, having no lawful business, employment, or occupation.

It is the duty of the truant officer, in case of a violation of

VIOLATION OF LAW. of this law, within one week after having given the notice to the parent or guardian as specified above, to make a complaint for such refusal or

neglect, against said parent, guardian, or other person having the legal charge and control of such child, before a justice of the peace in the city, village, or township where the party resides, except in cities having recorder's or police court. And said justice of the peace, police judge, or recorder's court, shall issue a warrant upon said complaint and shall proceed to hear and determine the same; and, upon conviction thereof, said parent, guardian, or other person, as the case may be, shall be punished by the fine and imprisonment above mentioned. It is the duty of all school officers, superintendents, or teachers, to render such assistance and furnish such information as they have at their command, to aid said truant officer in the fulfillment of his official duties.

COMMITMENT TO REFORMATORY.

When, in the judgment of school boards of primary and township school districts, or the superintendent of city schools and the truant officer, it becomes certain that all legal means have been exhausted in their attempts to compel the attendance at school of a juvenile disorderly person, the truant officer shall, in case the person in parental relation to the child neglects or refuses to do so, make a complaint against such juvenile disorderly person before a court of competent jurisdiction, that said child is a juvenile disorderly person.

The justice of the peace or court shall issue a warrant and proceed to hear such complaint; and, if said justice of the peace or court shall determine that said child is a juvenile disorderly person, then said

justice of the peace or court shall thereupon and after consultation with the county agent of corrections and charities, sentence such child, if a boy, to the Industrial School for Boys at Lansing, for a term not extending beyond the time when said child shall arrive at the age of seventeen years, unless sooner discharged by the board of control of said institution; or, if a girl, to the Industrial Home for Girls at Adrian, for a term not extending beyond the time when said child shall arrive at the age of seventeen years, unless sooner discharged by the board of control of said institution: *Provided*, That the sentence may be suspended, in case of the first offence.

CHAPTER VIII.

TEXT BOOKS AND LIBRARIES.

The district board is authorized to specify the studies to be pursued in the schools of the district, and each school board making a selection of text books for use in the district is directed to keep a record of the same.

Adoption of Text Books.

Text books once adopted can not legally be changed within five years, unless a majority of the voters of the district shall consent at a regularly called district meeting (5067). If, after five years the school board does not make another adoption, the books formerly adopted continue to be the legally adopted books of the district. After a school board has adopted a certain text book and sev-

eral copies of it have been received and sold to the patrons, the board has no right to reconsider the resolution adopting such book (88 Mich. 371).

BOOKS FOR POOR CHILDREN.

The district board may purchase at the expense of the district, such text books as may be necessary for the use of children, when parents are not able to furnish the same; and they shall include the amount of such purchase in the report to the township clerk or clerks, to be levied in like manner as other district taxes (5068).

Free Text Books.*

SECTION 1. From and after June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety, each school board of the state

PURCHASED BY shall purchase, when authorized, as hereinafter

provided, the text books used by the pupils of the schools in its district in each of the following subjects: orthography, spelling, writing, reading, geography, arithmetic, grammar (including language lessons), national and state history, civil government, and physiology and hygiene; but text books once adopted under the provisions of this act shall not be changed within five years: Provided, That the text book on the subject of physiology and hygiene must be approved by the state board of education, and shall in every way comply with section fifteen of act number one hundred and sixty-five, of the public acts of eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, approved June ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, and that all text books used in any district shall be uniform in any one subject.

SEC. 2. The district board of each school district shall select

the kind of text books on subjects enumerated in section one, to be taught in schools of their re-SELECTED. spective districts: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall require any change in text books now in use in

The board shall cause to be posted in a conspicuous place,

HOW

such district.

^{*} NOTE.—We print in full Act No. 147, Public Acts of 1889, which is the free text book law of the state. Michigan has nearly 700,000 children of school age, about 500,000 of whom are attending school. There are about 7,200 districts in the state; and, up to September, 1894, only about 400 had availed themselves of the benefits of this law. Let the student estimate the cost each year to each pupil, and multiply the amount by 500,000 to get the estimated yearly cost of text books to the pupils of the state. Now, supposing text books can be bought 10 per cent. cheaper, and, being actually worn out in the service of the pupils, last 15 per cent. longer, what would be the saving in each year, if all districts furnished free text books? Another question: Should not the sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth words in section two be changed from "the first" to "each"? to "each"?

NOTICE TO VOTERS at least ten days prior to *the first* annual school meeting from and after the passage of this act, a notice that those qualified to vote upon the ques-

tion of raising money in said district shall vote at such annual meeting to authorize said district board to purchase and provide free text books for the use of the pupils in said district. If a majority of all the voters, as above provided, present at such meeting shall authorize said board to raise by tax a sum sufficient to comply with the provisions of this act, the district board shall thereupon make a list of such books and file one copy with the township clerk and keep one copy posted in the school; and due notice of such action by the district shall be noted in the annual report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The district board shall take the necessary steps to purchase

LOANING OF BOOKS. such books for the use of all pupils in the several schools of their districts, as hereinafter provided. The text books so purchased shall be the property

of the district purchasing the same and shall be loaned to pupils free of charge, under such rules and regulations for their careful use and return as said district board may establish: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall prevent any person from buying his or her books from the district board of the school in which he or she may attend, and that nothing herein contained shall prevent any district having once adopted or rejected free text books, from taking further action on the same at any subsequent annual meeting.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the district board of any school district adopting free text books provided CONTRACT WITH DEALER. for in this act, to make a contract with some dealer or publisher to furnish books used in said district at a price not greater than the net wholesale price of such books: *Provided*, that any district may, if it so desires, authorize its district board to advertise for proposals before making such contract.

SEC. 4. The district board of every school district in the state adopting free text books under this act, shall

ANNUAL ESTI- make and prepare annually an estimate of the amount of money necessary to be raised to comply

with the conditions of this act, and shall add such amount to the annual estimates made for money to be raised for school purposes for the next ensuing year. Said sum shall be in addition to the amount now provided by law to be raised, which amount each township clerk shall certify to the supervisor of his township to be assessed upon the taxable property of the respective districts, as provided by law for raising the regular annual estimates of the respective district boards for school purposes, and, when collected, shall be paid to the district treasurer in the same manner as all other money belonging to said district is paid.

SEC. 5. On the first day of February next after the tax shall

have been levied, the director of said district may WHEN LEVIED. proceed to purchase the books required by the

pupils of his district, from the list mentioned in section one of this act, and shall draw his warrant, countersigned by the moderator, upon the treasurer or assessor of the district for the price of the books so purchased, including the cost of transportation.

SEC. 6. If the officers of any school district which has so

NEGLECT OF DUTY.

voted to supply itself with text books, shall refuse or neglect to purchase at the expense of the district, for the use of the pupils thereof, the text

books as enumerated in section one of this act, or to provide the money therefor as herein prescribed, each officer or member of such board so refusing or neglecting, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof before a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be liable to a penalty of not more than fifty dollars, or imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding thirty days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court:

Provided, That any district board may buy its books of local dealers if the same can be purchased and delivered to the director as cheaply as if bought of the party who makes the lowest bid to the district board, also that school districts in cities organized under special charters shall be exempt from the provisions of this act; but such districts may, when so authorized by a majority vote of their district boards, submit the question of free text books to the qualified voters of said districts. If a majority of the qualified electors vote in favor of furnishing free text books, such district boards shall have authority to proceed under the provisions of this act (Act 147, 1889).

Instruction in Physiology and Hygiene.

In order that proper instruction be given in the effect on the human system of stimulants and narcotics, the legislature has enacted laws which make it the duty of school boards to select suitable text books in physiology and hygiene, and likewise the duty of teachers to give instruction in this branch to all the pupils of the school.

In addition to the branches in which instruction is now required to be given in the public schools, instruction shall be given in physiology and hygiene with a special reference to the nature of alcohol and narcotics and their effects upon the human system. Such instruction shall be given by the aid of text books in the case of pupils who are able to read, and as thoroughly as in other studies pursued in the same school. The text books to be used for such instruction shall give at least one-fourth of their space to the consideration of the nature and effects of alcoholic drinks and narcotics, and the books used in the highest grade of graded schools shall contain at least twenty pages of matter relating to this subject. Text books used in giving the foregoing instruction shall first be approved by the state board of education.

The district board shall require each teacher in the public

CERTIFIED REPORT.

schools of such district, before placing the school register in the hands of the director, to certify therein whether or not instruction has been given

in the school or grade presided over by such teacher, as required by this law, and it shall be the duty of the director of the district to file with the township clerk a certified copy of such certificate. Any school board neglecting or refusing to comply with any of the provisions of this act, shall be subject to fine or forfeiture the same as for neglect of any other duty pertaining to their office. This act shall apply to all schools in the state, including schools in cities or villages, whether incorporated under special charter or under the general laws (Act 165, 1887).

PREVENTION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

Although not properly belonging under the general subject of text books, we mention under this head the printed matter sent out by the state board of health, quoting Act No. 146 of the Laws of 1895, which is brief and explains itself:

"There shall be taught in every year in every public school in

STATE BOARD

Michigan, the principal modes by which each of the dangerous communicable diseases are spread, and the best methods for the restriction and pre-

vention of each such disease. The state board of health shall annually send to the public school superintendents and teachers throughout this state, printed data and statements which shall enable them to comply with this act. School boards are hereby required to direct such superintendents and teachers to give oral and blackboard instruction, using the data and statements supplied by the state board of health.

Neglect or refusal on the part of any superintendent or teacher to comply with the provisions of this law shall be considered a sufficient cause for dismissal from the school by the school board. Any school board neglecting or refusing to comply with any of the provi-

sions of this actshall be subject to a fine or forfeiture, the same as for neglect of any other duty pertaining to their office. This act shall apply to all schools in this state, including schools in cities or villages, whether incorporated under special charter or under the general laws,"

Libraries. *

In the twelfth section of article thirteen of the constitution of the state, may be found the following provision for the establishment of libraries.

The legislature shall also provide for the establishment of at least one library in each township and city; HOW ESTABLISHED. and all fines assessed and collected in the several counties and townships for any breach of the penal laws, shall be exclusively applied to the support of such libraries, unless otherwise ordered by the township board of any township, or the board of education of any city: *Provided*, That in no case shall such fines be used for other than library or school purposes.

To carry into effect the above requirement, the legislature has from time to time enacted certain laws providing not only for libraries in townships, but in school districts.

TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES.

The law contemplates that a library shall be maintained in every organized township. The library is the property of the township, and all actions relating to township libraries are brought in the name of the township (5136). All persons who reside within the township have an equal right to the privileges of the library, excepting those who reside in districts that maintain a district library (5137).

The care of the township library is entrusted to the township board of school inspectors. The inspectors are held accountable for the proper care and preservation of said library, prescribe rules and

regulations concerning the same, may appoint a librarian whose term of office is one year, assess and collect fines for loss or injury of books, keep the books at some central or eligible place, and make annual reports to the Superintendent of Public Instruction giving such facts and statistics as said superintendent may require.

DISTRICT LIBRARIES.

Any school district, by a two-thirds vote at any annual meeting, may establish a district library. Such districts are entitled to an equitable proportion of the books from the township library, and also to a proportionate share of the library money of the township.

District boards have charge of district libraries, and are sub-

	ject to the same rules and regulations as to	
CARE OF DISTRICT	care of the library as are the township inspectors	
LIBRARY.	(Act 158, 1893).	

ANNUAL ADDITION TO LIBRARIES.

The annual report of the, Superintendent of Public Instruction is furnished to every township and district library.

LIBRARY FUNDS.

The clear proceeds of all fines for any breach of the penal laws of this state and for penalties, or upon any recognizance in criminal proceedings, and all equivalents for exemption from military duty, when collected in any county and paid into the county treasury, together with all moneys heretofore collected and paid into said treasury on account of such fines or equivalents, which are not already apportioned, shall be apportioned by the county treasurer among the several townships in the county before the first day of June in each year, according to the number of children therein between the ages of five and twenty years, as shown by the statement of the Superin-

82

tendent of Public Instruction; and this money shall be exclusively applied to the support of the township and district libraries, and to no other purpose (Act 15, 1895).

The qualified voters of each township have power at any annual township meeting, to vote a tax for the

VOTING OF TAX. annual township meeting, to vote a tax for the support of township libraries; and the qualified voters of any school district, in which a district

library has been established, have power at any annual meeting of such district, to vote a district tax for the support of the district library. When any tax for libraries has been voted, it is reported to the supervisor, levied, and collected in the same manner as other township and school district taxes (5147).

The Superintendent of Public Instruction annually and previous to the tenth day of May, transmits to the clerk of each county a statement of the townships in his county that are entitled to receive library

moneys, giving the number of children in each of such townships between the ages of five and twenty years, as appears from the reports of the boards of school inspectors for the school year last ending; the clerk files such statement in his office, and furnishes a copy of the same to the county treasurer (5145). The statements also indicate the various districts of the townships that are entitled to receive a portion of the moneys apportioned to the townships.

In case the board of school inspectors of any township or

district board of any school district, fails to make FORFEITURE. the required report, or in case it appears from

the reports so made that any township or district has failed to use the library money in strict accordance with the law, such township or district forfeits its share of the library moneys that are apportioned, and the same shall be apportioned to the several other townships and districts in the county. The constitution has provided that library moneys may be used for general school purposes, if the township board shall so determine (Art. 11, section 12),

CHAPTER IX.

SCHOOL REVENUES.

The moneys used for the support of the common schools are:

- 1. The interest from the primary interest fund.
- 2. The one-mill tax.
- 3. District school taxes.
- 4. Unappropriated dog tax.

5. Library moneys.*

6. Tuition of non-resident pupils.

Primary School Fund.

The establishment of this fund has been referred to in the first chapter of this book, and we give in this chapter a few facts concerning its distribution.

The fund is divided among the school districts of the state in proportion to the number of school children in HOW DIVIDED. each. Statements showing the number of school

children in each county, township, and district of the state are sent by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to the several county clerks, between the first and tenth days

of May and November of each year.

The money is transferred by the state treasurer to the county

treasurer, by him to the township or city treasurer, HOW TRANS-FERRED. who, in turn, transmits it to the assessor of the district (5029, 5030).

Primary money can be used for no other purpose than the payment of the wages of legally qualified teachers (5063), and only by districts in which five months

* NOTE.-This fund has been fully discussed in Chapter VIII.

84

of school were maintained during the school year ending the first of September just preceding (Act 15, 1895).

One-Mill Tax.

The supervisor assesses upon the taxable property of his township one mill upon each dollar of valuation, and reports the aggregate valuation of each district to the township clerk, who reports said amount to the director of each school district in his township, or to the director of any fractional school district a portion of which may be located in the township, before the first day of September of each year; and all moneys so raised are apportioned by the township clerk to the district in which it was

raised.

All money collected by virtue of this law during the year on any property not included in any organized PROPERTY IN UNORGANIZED district, or in districts not having, during the pre-DISTRICTS. vious school year, three months' school in districts of less than thirty children, or five months' school in districts of thirty and less than eight hundred children, or nine months' school in districts of eight hundred or more children, as shown by the last school census, is apportioned to the several other school districts of said township, in the same manner as the primary school interest fund. All moneys accruing from the the one-mill tax in any township, before any district shall have a legal school therein, belongs to the districts in which it was raised, when they shall severally have had a three months' school by a qualified teacher (5091).

The voters of the district have authority to appropriate any surplus moneys arising from the one-mill tax, after having maintained a school in the district at least eight months in the school year, for the pur-

pose of purchasing and enlarging school sites, or for building or repairing school houses, or for purchasing books for library,

globes, maps, and other school apparatus, or for any incidental expenses of the school (5052).

District Taxes.

These are moneys which are voted by the qualified voters of the district for general school purposes. The student is referred to that part of this book which relates to the powers of voters at district meetings for information concerning the raising of money by vote of the district.

After a tax has been voted, it is the duty of the supervisor to

HOW COL-LECTED. assess the taxes chargeable against each district, upon the taxable property of the district, and to place the same on the township assessment roll in the column for school taxes; and the same is collected and returned by the township treasurer in the same manner as township taxes. If any taxes provided for by law for school purposes are not assessed at the proper time, the same are assessed in the succeeding year (5090).

Surplus Dog Tax.

The statutes provide for an annual tax of one dollar upon every male dog and of three dollars upon every female dog. The money thus obtained constitutes a fund for the payment of damages sustained by owners of sheep, by reason of having sheep killed or injured by dogs.

If money remains of such fund (after satisfactory payment

APPORTION-MENT. of all claims aforesaid in any one year) over and above the sum of one hundred dollars, it is apportioned among the several school districts of such

township or city, in proportion to the number of children therein of school age. The apportionment must be based upon the whole number of children of school age residing in the township and must include all districts whether lying wholly or partly in such township. In case of a fractional district in

which the school-house is situated in a different township, the money belonging to such district must be paid over to the treasurer of the township in which the school house is situated, and by that treasurer paid to the district in the same way as in the case of the one-mill and other taxes (2128).

Tuition.

All persons above five years of age who are residents of any school district, have an equal right to attend any public school in the district. No separate school can be maintained at public expense for any person on account of race and color (5070). Persons who are more than twenty years of age are not barred from the privileges of school, and no tuition should be charged to such persons. Resident pupils should have an equal right to all the benefits of the school, and should be allowed to study any branch in any grade to "which they belong, without paying tuition (Att'y Gen'l, November 17, 1891).

The board of education has authority to determine the gradation and classification of pupils, and may prescribe the particular department or building where certain pupils shall attend.

The district board may admit non-resident pupils, and shall determine the rate of tuition of the same, which tuition shall not exceed fifteen per cent. more than the average cost per capita for resident pupils.

(Act 131, 1895). It is sometimes supposed that the voters of the district meeting have power to exclude non-resident pupils, but this power rests entirely with the school board.

Non-residents who pay a school tax in a district, are entitled

to have the amount of such tax credited on their DENT TAX. PAYERS. the amount of such tuition exceeds the school tax. (Act 21, 1891).

The rate of tuition to be charged foreign pupils, must be

RATE OF TUITION.

OF FARMS.

fixed by a resolution of the board, which must be duly entered in the record of the district. Charges

for tuition can not be collected in the absence of any resolution fixing the rate (25 Mich., 483).

Where a party resides in one district and rents a farm in another, he is not entitled to send his children RENTERS

to the district school in which he rents the farm (Att'y Gen'l, Sept. 16, 1893).

Children in alms houses at county expense must be ad- **INDIGENT** mitted to the schools of the district, the county **CHILDREN**. paying the tuition (Act 131, 1895).

Under the various provisions of the school law, the authority of a district to vote a tax upon its inhabitants is carefully limited; and there is no law authorizing a district to assess a tax to educate its children outside of the district (Att'y Gen'l, Oct. 16, 1891).

88

CHAPTER X.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

Introduction of the Kindergarten.

In addition to the duties imposed by law upon district boards in this state, they are also empowered to provide suitable rooms or apartments for kindergarten work, and to supply their districts with the necessary apparatus and appliances for the instruction of children in what is known as the kindergarten method.

In the employment of teachers it is competent for district boards to require qualifications for instruction of children in kindergarten methods. They may provide by contract with teachers for such instruc-

tion, specifying the hours and times therefor under such rules as the district board may prescribe.

All children residing within the district between the ages of four and seven are entitled to instruction in the titlep to its kindergarten department. This act is applicable to every public school organized by special act or by charter (Act 119, 1891).

Necessary Appendages.

The director of the district is authorized by law of DIRECTOR. To provide necessary appendages for the school house and to keep the same in good condition and repair during the time of school (5073). In this duty the director is independent of the vote of the district meeting, yet there has been much controversy as to where the authority of the

director ends, or what he may purchase without the consent of the district.

To settle this question so far as a few of the more needful pieces of apparatus are concerned, the legislature WHAT ARE of 1895 made an amendment to the section above NECESSARY APPENDAGES. referred to. It reads as follows: Necessary appendages within the meaning of the law, shall consist of the following articles, to wit: a set of wall maps (the grand divisions, the United States, and Michigan) not exceeding twelve dollars in price; a globe not exceeding eight dollars; a dictionary not exceeding ten dollars (Act 258, 1895); a reading chart not exceeding five dollars, and a case for library books not exceeding ten dollars; also looking-glass, comb, towel, waterpail, cup, ash-pail, poker, stove, shovel, broom, dustpan, duster, wash-basin, and soap (Act 15, 1895). It must not be supposed that only the articles mentioned in the law of 1895 should be considered as necessary apparatus such as the director has the right to purchase. Numerous decisions have been filed which show that directors have power to provide other useful appliances without obtaining authority from the district meeting.

* The word "appendage" as used in our school statutes, does not mean simply the school apparatus used inside the building, nor is it limited to such articles as brooms, pails, cups, etc.; but it must be construed in a broader sense, to include fuel, fences, and necessary out-houses (62 Mich., 101). Desks are necessary appliances (48 Mich., 404; Attorney General, July 31, 1877).

United States Flag.

While a flag for a school house may be considered as a "necessary appendage" within the meaning of the school law, we give under separate heading the whole of Act No. 56 of the

^{*} NOTE.—For decisions relative to the purchase of charts by the director see 36 Mich., 404 and 94 Mich., 262.

Laws of 1895, the passage of which was advocated by the members of the Grand Army of the Republic of the state:

An act to provide for the purchase and display of United States flags in connection with the public school buildings within this state:

Section 1. The People of the State of Michigan enact, That the board of education or the board of school trustees in the several cities, townships, villages, and school districts of this state shall purchase a United States flag, of a size not less than four feet two inches by eight feet, and made of good flag bunting "A," flag staff, and the necessary appliances therefor, and shall display said flag upon or near the public school building during school hours, and at such other times as to the said boards may seem proper; and that the necessary funds to defray the expenses to be incurred herein shall be assessed and collected in the same manner as moneys for public school purposes are assessed and collected by law.

School Census.

The school age in Michigan is from five to twenty years and the age of compulsory education from eight to fourteen, except in cities under police regulation where the compulsory age is from seven to sixteen. It is the duty of the director or such other person as the board may appoint, to take a census of the district during the ten days just previous to the first Monday of September in each year (5074). This is one of the important duties of school officers, and it is essential that the census be taken in all districts of the state at the same time (5046). From the census reports of September, is made the distribution of primary school moneys in May and November of the next year.

Children in almshouses, prisons, or asylums, are not included in the census; nor are Indian children, unless their parents are liable to pay taxes in the district.

The correctness of the census must be verified by the oath or affirmation of the person taking the same, and a copy sent to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Penalties and Forfeitures.

The law is very explicit in stating the powers and duties of all individuals connected with our school affairs, and is equally explicit in regard to the treatment of any one who seems regardless of the welfare of our schools. Below is a list of the various penalties and forfeitures.*

DISTURBING OF DISTRICT MEETING.

If at a district meeting any person shall conduct himself in a disorderly manner and, after notice from the person presiding, shall persist therein, the chairman may order him to withdraw and, if he refuses, may order any constable or other person, to take him into custody until the meeting adjourns; and any person who refuses to withdraw on being so ordered, and also any person who wilfully disturbs such meeting by

REFUSAL TO WITHDRAW. rude and indecent behavior, or by profane or indecent discourse or any other disturbance, shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not

less than two nor more than fifty dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding thirty days. Any justice of the peace, recorder, or police justice of the township, ward, or city where such offense shall be committed, shall have jurisdiction to try and determine the same (5051).

DISTURBING A SCHOOL.

Any person who disturbs school by rude and indecent behavior, or by profane or indecent discourse or any other disturbance, shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not less than

^{*} Note.-For penalty on parents or guardians, see Chapter VII. on compulsory attendance.

two nor more than fifty dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding thirty days (5069).

NEGLIGENT OFFICIALS.

Any taxable inhabitant of a newly formed district receiving the notice of the first meeting, who neglects or refuses to serve and return such notice, and every chairman of the first district meeting, who wilfully neglects or refuses to perform the duties enjoined on him, shall respectively forfeit the sum of five dollars (5163).

Any person duly elected to the office of moderator, director, assessor, or trustee of a school district, who neglects or refuses without sufficient cause to accept and serve, or who, having entered upon the duties

of his office, neglects or refuses to perform any duty required of him by virtue of his office, shall forfeit the sum of ten dollars (5164).

Any person duly elected or appointed a school inspector,

INSPECTOR. who neglects or refuses without sufficient cause to qualify and serve, or who, having entered upon the duties of his office, neglects or refuses to perform any duty required of him by virtue of his office, shall forfeit the sum of ten dollars (5165).

If any board of school inspectors neglect or refuse to make and deliver to the township clerk the annual INSPECTORS. report, within the limited time, they shall be liable

to pay the full amount of money lost by their failure, with interest thereon, to be recovered by the township treasurer in the name of the township; and if any township clerk neglects or refuses to transmit the report herein mentioned within the limited time, he shall be liable to pay the full amount lost by such neglect or refusal, with interest thereon (5166).

Any county clerk who neglects or refuses to transmit to the

COUNTY CLERK.

Superintendent of Public Instruction the required reports, within the limited time, shall be liable to nay to each township the full amount which such

township or school district shall lose by such neglect or refusal. with interest thereon (5167).

Any township clerk who neglects or refuses to certify to the supervisor any school district taxes that have been TOWNSHIP reported to him, and any supervisor wilfully CLERK AND SUPERVISOR. neglecting to assess any such tax, shall be liable to any district for any damage occasioned thereby, to be recovered by the assessor in the name of the district (5169).

No school officer, superintendent, or teacher shall act as agent for any author, publisher, or seller of school SCHOOL OFFICERS AND books, or shall directly or indirectly receive any TEACHERS. gift or reward for his influence in recommending the purchase or use of any library or school apparatus or furniture; nor shall any school officer be personally interested in any way whatever in any contract with the district in which he may hold office. Any act or neglect herein prohibited, performed by any such officer, superintendent, or teacher, shall be deemed a misdemeanor (5170).

Safe Keeping of Public Moneys.

All moneys which come into the hands of any school officer,

pursuant to any provision of law authorizing such WHAT ARE officer to receive the same, are denominated public moneys.

It is the duty of every officer charged with the receiving, keeping, or disbursing of public moneys, to keep HOW KEPT. the same separate and apart from his own money,

and not to commingle the same with his own money nor with any other money.

No such officer shall, under any pretext, use or allow to be

PUBLIC MONEYS.

How USED. used, any such moneys for any purpose other than in accordance with the provisions of law; nor shall he use the same for his own private use, nor loan the same without legal authority.

In all cases where public moneys are authorized to be deposited in any bank or to be loaned for interest,

ACCRUING. the interest accruing belongs to and constitutes a general fund.

In no case shall any such officer, directly or indirectly, receive any pecuniary or valuable consideration as an inducement for the deposit of any public moneys with any particular bank, person, firm, or corporation.

These provisions apply to all deputies, clerks, agents and servants of such officers, and any person guilty of

PENALTY FOR VIOLATION.

MONEY

ORDERS

a violation of this law shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand

dollars or imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court: Provided, That nothing in this act contained shall prevent a prosecution under the general statute for embezzlement, in cases where the facts warrant a prosecution under such general statute.

Any officer who wilfully or corruptly draws or issues any

warrant, order, or certificate for the payment of money in excess of the amount authorized by law, or for a purpose not authorized by law, shall be

deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and may be punished as stated above.

Indebtedness and Expenses.

By wise provisions of law the expenses of districts for purchasing property, building houses, and maintaining schools is carefully restricted so that districts may not become unduly burdened.

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS.

Any school district may, by a two-thirds vote of the qualified electors present at any annual meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose, borrow money, and may issue bonds of the district to pay for a school-house site or sites, and to erect and furnish school buildings.

Districts having less than thirty children may have an in-

AMOUNT.

debtedness not to exceed three hundred dollars; districts having thirty children, five hundred dollars; districts having fifty children, one thousand

dollars; districts having seventy-five children, two thousand dollars (Act 4, 1893); districts having one hundred children, three thousand dollars; districts having one hundred and twenty-five children and an assessed valuation of not less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, five thousand dollars; districts having two hundred children, eight thousand dollars; districts having three hundred children, fifteen thousand dollars; districts having four hundred children, twenty thousand dollars; districts having five hundred children, twenty thousand dollars; districts having five hundred children, twenty-five thousand dollars; and districts having eight hundred children or more, thirty thousand dollars.

All children mentioned in this section must be of legal school TIME age, and the indebtedness of a district shall in no case extend beyond ten years for money borrowed.

In all proceedings under this section, the director, assessor,

VOTE BY BALLOT. and one person appointed by the district board constitutes a board of inspection, who shall cause a poll-list to be kept and a suitable ballot-box to be

used, which shall be kept open two hours. The vote must be by ballot and canvassed in the same manner as votes at township elections (5103).

TAXATION.

One of the powers of the district meeting is the voting of

taxes for the building of school houses and the AMOUNT FOR running expenses of school. The amount of taxes PURCHASING OR BUILDING. to be raised in any district for the purpose of purchasing or building a school house or houses in the same year that any bonded indebtedness is incurred, shall not exceed in districts containing less than ten children of school age, two hundred and fifty dollars; in districts having between ten and thirty children, five hundred dollars; and in districts having between thirty and fifty children, one thousand dollars. No legal subdivision of land shall be taxed for building a school house, unless some portion thereof shall be within two and onehalf miles of the school house site (5052).

The tax authorized to be raised for general school expenses, must not exceed one-half the amount authorized to be raised for building. In the estimates made by district boards of districts having less than thirty pupils, such estimate, including the district's share of the primary school interest fund and one-mill tax, shall not exceed the sum of fifty dollars a month for the period during which school is held in such district. In township districts the amount voted for purchasing school lots and for erecting school houses, shall not be greater than three mills on the dollar of all the taxable valuation of the real and personal property in said township (Act 176, 1891).

Suits and Judgments Against Districts.

Justices of the peace have jurisdiction in cases against school districts, when the amount claimed or matter in controversy does not exceed one hundred dollars (5107). When any suit is brought against a school district, it must be commenced by summons, a copy of which shall

MENCED.

7

be left with the assessor of the district at least eight days before the return day (5108). No execution shall issue on any judgment against a school

NO EXE-

district, nor shall any suit be brought thereon; but the same shall be collected in the manner prescribed in this act (5109).

Whenever any final judgment shall be obtained against a school district, the assessor of the district shall certify to the supervisor of the township and to the director of the district, the date and amount

of such judgment, with the name of the person in whose favor the same was rendered (5110).

If the assessor fails to certify the judgment, it is lawful for

FAILURE the party obtaining the same to file with the supervisor the certificate of the justice or clerk of the court, rendering the judgment showing the facts which should have been certified by the assessor (5111).

The supervisor receiving either of the certificates of a judg-

ASSESSMENT OF AMOUNT. ment, shall proceed to assess upon the taxable property of the district, the amount with interest from the date of the judgment to the time when

the warrant for the collection will expire, placing the same on the next township assessment roll in the column for school taxes; and the same proceedings shall be had, and the same shall be collected and returned, in the same manner as other district taxes (5112).

School House Sites.

The qualified voters of any school district, when lawfully

LOCATION

assembled, may designate by a vote of two-thirds of those present such number of sites as may be

desired for school-houses, and may change the same by a similar vote at any annual meeting. When no site can be established by such inhabitants, the school inspectors of the township or townships in which the district is situated determine where such site shall be; and their determination

shall be certified to the director of the district and shall be final, subject to alteration afterward by the inspectors, on the written request of two-thirds of the qualified voters of the district, or by two-thirds of the qualified voters agreeing upon a site, at a district meeting lawfully called (5118).

Whenever a site for a school house shall be designated, determined, or established in any manner provided by law, and such district shall be unable to agree with the owner or owners upon the compensation

to be paid, or in case such district shall, by reason of any imperfection in the title to said site, arising either from break in the chain of title, tax sale, mortgages, levies, or any other cause, be unable to procure a perfect, unincumbered title, the district board of such district shall authorize one or more of its members to apply to the circuit judge, circuit court commissioner, or any justice of the peace of the city or township in which such school district is situated, for a jury to ascertain and determine the just compensation to be made for the real estate required by such school district for such site. The application must be in writing, state the necessity for using the same for school purposes, and describe the real estate in question (5115).

Suspension of Pupils.

District boards have authority to make and enforce suitable rules for the government and management of schools and the care of district property. Just what shall be considered suitable rules, must necessarily be left to the discretion of the board. Said board may authorize or order the suspension or expulsion from the school, whenever in its judgment the interests of the school demand it, of any pupil guilty of gross misdemeanor or persistent disobedience (5069). It will be observed that the power to suspend pupils, if possessed by the teacher, must be delegated to him by **POWER MAY BE DELECATED** the board. It sometimes occurs that teachers feel **TO TEACHER**. obliged to suspend a pupil before the board can be advised with. Such suspension should be for the day only (45 Wis., 150; 32 Vt., 224; 48 Cal., 36; 133 Mass., 103). Some courts have held that, in extraordinary cases, a teacher may expel a pupil in order to maintain proper control; and that, in case the board reinstates the pupil who becomes a menace to the proper discipline of the school, the teacher may quit the school and maintain an action for the amount of his wages (46 Vt., 452; 27 Vt., 755). Generally, the power to suspend rests with the board alone.

The rules of the board should not be unjust and require more than can legally be enforced. Suspension should be a last resort. A pupil cannot be expelled or suspended for a careless act, no matter how negligent, if it is not wilful or malicious (77 Mich., 605).

Method of Voting.

The method of voting at district meetings, as well as the majority required, depends upon the question under discussion. Though referred to in Chapter IV, we herewith append a summary as follows:

VOTING BY BALLOT.

This is necessary in the following cases:

- 1. To elect all school officers (5053, 5132).
- 2. To bond the district (5103).

A TWO-THIRDS VOTE.*

At district meetings this is requisite as follows:

^{*}Note.—A measure requiring a two-thirds vote of a district meeting cannot after adoption be rescinded by a mere majority vote (10 N. W. 349. See 47 Mich. 226.)

1. To authorize the district board to use money for any other purpose than that for which it was raised (5063).

2. To raise money by issuing bonds (5103).

3. To designate sites for school houses (5114).

4. To request inspectors to alter location of school site (5114).

5. To organize as a graded school district (5132).

6. To unite two districts into one graded district (5135).

7. To change from graded district to primary district (Act 84, 1891).

8. To establish a district library (Act 158, 1893).

Course of Study.

The arrangement of a course of study for the schools of the district is within the jurisdiction of the school board. The law is not very explicit as to what studies shall be included in established courses. Act No. 147 of the Laws of 1889, and Act No. 147 of the Laws of 1891, contain a mention of certain branches of study; and the law for the establishment of graded schools provides for high schools: but district boards must decide what branches shall be pursued in the schools of their districts. Having fixed a course of study, the board may require teachers and pupils to follow the same within reasonable limits. Music may be

included in the adopted course of study of a public MUSIC MAY BE INCLUDED. school, and necessary apparatus for teaching music may be purchased without a vote of the district (67 Mich. 262). Sectarian instruction is abolished from

READING

OF BIBLE.

all public schools (5063); and, while the reading of the bible may properly become a part of the daily program of the public school, the comment thereon

by the teacher should be of such a character that pupils and parents of all religious faiths may not detect the slightest traces of sectarian prejudice. (35 Wis. 59; 79 Ill. 567; 87 Ill. 303; 38 Me. 379; 95 Ill. 263; 23 Ohio, 211).

REVIEW QUESTIONS.

In answering some of the following questions the student will be obliged to consult Howell's Annotated Statutes, Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1894, and the Legislative Manual.

1. By whom are school districts formed and numbered?

2. What are specific taxes?

3. What is meant by a fractional district?

4. How are vacancies in state offices filled ?

5. How is the primary school fund raised?

6. About how much money is apportioned in each year among the school districts of the state?

7. Should all instruction in our public schools be given in the English language?

8. What is done with lands which escheat to the state from a defect of heirs?

9. How many months of school must be maintained during aschool year to entitle districts to primary school money?

10. How many members compose the board of regents of the state university?

11. What is the length of a regent's term of office?

12. Who is president of the university?

13. Is the president of the university a member of the board of regents?

14. Of how many members is the state board of education composed?

15. What is the length of the term of office of a member of the board of education ?

16. What is the salary of the Superintendent of Public Instruction?

17. Of what state boards is the superintendent a member?

18. What provision was made in the constitution for the establishment of an agricultural college?

19. Mention some of the duties of the Superintendent of Public Instruction?

20. To whom does the law require the printed school laws to be furnished?

21. On what dates is the apportionment of primary school money made?

22. What is the legal school age in the state?

23. For what reasons may the state superintendent cause a school district to forfeit public money?

24. Who makes statements for the distribution of library funds?

25. What compensation is allowed to members of the state board of education ?

26. Where are the state normal schools located?

27. Are state normal school diplomas legal certificates to teach?

28. How many state examinations are held in each year?

29. How may certificates granted in other states be made valid in this state?

30. Are holders of diplomas from Michigan colleges legal'y qualified to teach ?

31. How many members in the county board of examiners?

32. When is the commissioner chosen and for how long?

33. What is the salary of commissioner in the various counties of the state ?

34. What amount must be named in the commissioner's bond?

35. What is required of commissioner before he receives an order for his salary ?

36. What qualifications are required of persons who are eligible to hold the office of commissioner?

37. How are vacancies in the office of commissioner filled?

38. How are vacancies in the office of examiner filled?

39. Is an examiner authorized by law to grant a special teacher's certificate?

40. By whom are assistant visitors of schools appointed?

41. What compensation do assistant visitors receive?

42. Mention six of the principal duties of the commissioner.

43. Have members of examining boards the legal right to engage in summer normal school work?

44. How is the commissioner limited in office expenses?

45. Can an examiner be elected by a plurality vote?

46. What compensation does an examiner receive?

47. Of how many members is the township board of inspectors composed ?

48. What school offices may be held by women?

49. With whom are the triplicate annual reports of the inspectors filed?

50. Mention some of the information that must be contained in the inspector's annual reports.

51. Give some of the school duties of the township clerk.

52. How is the number of meetings of the board of inspectors limited?

53. What compensation is allowed to school inspectors?

54. What yearly salary does the clerk of the Upper Peninsula township district receive?

55. What is the maximum size of primary school districts?

56. Have the inspectors authority to change the boundaries of a school district which has been organized by special legislative enactment?

57. By whom are changes in the boundaries of fractional districts made?

58. When may a school district be said to be legally organized?

59. How many days notice must be given of a meeting to change boundaries of a school district?

60. How many notices must be posted for change of boundaries?

61. How may two or more primary districts be consolidated?

62. How may a district be divided into two or more districts?

63. Have the inspectors the right to destroy a district by detaching its territory?

64. How may a primary district organize into a graded district?

65. Under what conditions may inspectors make an alteration in the boundaries of a graded district ?

66. How may two primary districts organize into one graded district?

67. May a graded district change to a primary district?

68. How many township school districts are there in Michigan ?

69. How many primary districts?

70. How many graded districts?

71. In the Upper Peninsula, how are township districts organized?

72. Of how many members is a township board of education composed?

73. Mention several of the advantages of the township system over the district system.

74. What are some of the reasons why the township should not be the unit in school matters.

75. Has the township system been successfully tried in other states? If so, where?

76. Is the township system unpopular in states where it has been established? If so, in what states?

77. What is the date of the annual school meeting?

78. When and how are the members of township boards of education elected ?

79. What is the time of taking the annual census of school children in *all* the districts of the state?

80. How may special school meetings be called?

81. How many days' notice must be given for all district meetings?

82. Has the district board the authority to determine the number of months of school to be taught in the district during the year?

83. Can a board of supervisors legally appoint one of their own number as member of the board of examiners?

84. What must be included in all notices of special school meetings?

85. What is the date of the annual school meeting in township districts of the Upper Peninsula?

86. Have the voters or the district board the authority to determine whether the school shall be taught by a male or a female teacher ?

87. Have the voters or the district board the authority to determine the maximum salary that shall be paid to teachers?

88. Have the voters or the district board the authority to admit non-resident pupils?

89. Who selects school house sites, the school board or the voters ?

90. What is the highest amount of money for sites or building purposes, that can be raised by taxation in any one year in districts having ten children of school age? Thirty children? Five hundred children?

91. How is the tax for repairs and apparatus limited ?

92. What is the minimum number of months required to be taught in districts having 800 children?

93. What is the minimum number of months required in all districts?

94. What is the penalty on districts whose officers do not provide for the required number of months of school?

95. For what purposes may the surplus of the one-mill tax be appropriated ?

96. Who are legal voters at school meetings?

97. In what districts are women barred from voting?

98. How many trustees in the district board of graded school districts ?

99. How many children of school age must a district contain to be organized into a graded district?

100. How many votes at a district meeting are required to change to a graded district ?

101. How may a person who is not a legally qualified voter in the district, be prevented from voting if he offers to do so?

102. If a vote is not taken by ballot, how may voters be challenged?

103. How may a disorderly person be expelled from a district meeting?

104. What penalty may be inflicted upon a person for disturbing a district meeting ?

105. What officers are elected at the first school meeting of a newly organized school district?

106. What is the length of the term of office of school officers?

107. Are school officers legally elected, if chosen in any other way than by ballot?

108. Is a plurality vote sufficient to elect a school officer ?

109. How may meetings of the district board be called ?

110. What persons are eligible to hold a district office ?

111. Within what time and in what manner must district officers accept their offices ?

112. State seven ways by which a district office may become vacant?

113. Does the temporary absence of a district officer from a district create a vacancy?

114. When one of the district offices becomes vacant, how may such vacancy be filled ?

115. When two of the district offices become vacant, how filled?

116. How are vacancies filled after an office has been vacant more than twenty days ?

117. How long does a person who is elected to fill a vacancy, serve?

118. How are vacancies in the board of education of graded or township districts filled ?

119. Upon what condition may a district board borrow money?

120. When must the report of the district board to the township clerk be made?

121. How is district taxation in districts having less than thirty children limited ?

122. Who has the authority to admit or exclude public meetings from the school house, the school board or the voters ?

123. Who determines the kind of text-books that shall be used in the district ?

124. How long do text-books once adopted continue to be the legal text-books of the district ?

125. How may indigent children be supplied with text-books?

126. For what reason may pupils be expelled or suspended from school?

127. What tuition may be charged to non-resident pupils?

128. What is the minimum legal size of school flags.

129. How are the executive officers of a graded district chosen?

180. How are the township district trustees chosen and how long do they serve ?

131. Who acts as president of the township school board? As clerk?132. What bond is required of the treasurer of township school districts?

133. On what dates are the regular meetings of the township school board held?

134. Where are such meetings held?

135. Mention some of the powers and duties of the officers of township districts ?

136. What officer appears for the district in suits brought for or against the same ?

137. What officer appears for the district in suits brought against the assessor?

138. Mention several of the specific duties of the director of a primary school district. Of moderator. Of assessor.

139. On what dates are the two required regular public examination of teachers held ?

140. On what dates are the two optional regular examinations held?

141. On what dates may extra public examinations be held in certain large counties ?

142. What counties are entitled to three extra examinations? Two? One?

143. What branches of study are required in examinations for first grade certificates? Second? Third? State?

144. By whom must all county certificates be signed?

145. Is the holder of a third grade certificate of class B legally qualified to teach in primary departments of graded schools?

146. Is the holder of a third grade certificate of class A legally qualified to teach in ordinary district schools of eight grades ?

147. How is the number of third grade certificates of class B limited ?

148. By whom are questions for teacher's examinations prepared ?

149. Who fixes the standard of examinations for county certificates?

150. By whom are special certificates granted ?

151, For how long are special certificates granted ?

152. What citizenship qualification is required of teachers?

153. In your opinion what constitutes good moral character in a teacher ?

154. Under what conditions may a teacher's certificate be renewed ?

155. What authority have examining boards for revoking certificates?

156. Must city teachers be legally qualified ?

157. What penalty is inflicted upon districts, if the officers employ teachers that are not holders of certificates ?

158. What colleges in this state have courses of study which have been approved by the state board of education ?

159. What are the conditions under which the board of education grant certificates to college graduates ?

160. For how long are college certificates valid? Do they ever become life certificates?

161. Are diplomas granted by the faculty of the university, legal teacher's certificates ?

162. How many state examinations are held in each year? What branches are required?

163. For how long are state certificates valid?

164. Are certificates or diplomas granted in other states valid in this state ?

165. What annual institute fee are teachers required to pay? Are any teachers exempt? Who collects the fee?

166. Who has the custody of the county institute fund?

167. Who conducts institutes and who appoints institute instructors?

168. May two or more counties unite in a teachers' institute ?

169. How much money may be drawn from the state treasury in any one year for the support of teachers' institutes ?

170. What is the largest sum that can be drawn from the state treasury for any one institute ?

171. How may a teachers' association become incorporated? What amount of property may an association hold?

172. By whom must a teacher's contract be signed ?

173. Mention some of the things that must be contained in a teacher's contract.

174. With whom must contracts be filed ?

175. Must teachers make up for time lost in the observance of legal holidays?

176. What are the legal holidays in this state?

177. When schools are closed by the district board on account of the prevalence of a contagious disease, must teachers lose the time ?

178. Are contracts made previous to the annual school meeting, valid?

179. Can school boards legally make contracts two or three years in advance ?

180. Must all the officers sign teachers' contracts?

181. What is the age of compulsory education in the primary and township districts of the state ?

182. What is the compulsory age in cities under police regulation ?

183. How many months in the year must all pupils between certain ages attend school ?

184. What pupils of the compulsory age are exempt from the provisions of the law for compulsory attendance ?

185. Who appoints the truant officer and what is the lowest compensation allowed him by law?

186. In cities who selects the truant officer?

187. What notice to parents are truant officers required to give ?

188. What penalty may be inflicted on parents who refuse to send their children to school ?

189. Can parents evade the compulsory law because of being too poor to buy text-books?

190. In what city school districts may the board establish ungraded schools ?

191. What children are considered as juvenile disorderly persons ?

192. What courts have jurisdiction over truancy?

193. Are superintendents required by law to assist the truant officer?

194. What sentence may be imposed upon juvenile disorderly persons? To what state institutions may they be sentenced?

195. What officer must be consulted before sentence is passed upon a juvenile disorderly person ?

196. Does the constitution of the state provide for the establishment of libraries ?

197. Who are entitled to the privileges of the township library?

198. Who has charge of the township library?

199. Who is custodian of the funds belonging to the township library?

200. Where must the township library be kept?

201. Who appoints the librarian?

202. How may a district library be established?

203. Who has charge of the district library?

204. How are library funds raised ?

205. Under what conditions may a district or township forfeit library money ?

206. When and by whom is the library apportionment made?

207. What amendment was made to the library law by the Legislature of 1895?

208. May library moneys ever be used for other purposes ?

209. May district officers ever sell the books of the library ?

210. How many township libraries are there in Michigan?

211. How many volumes in township libraries?

212. How many district libraries in Michigan?

213. How many volumes in district libraries?

214. Has your township or district a library? If so, in what condition is it?

215. Under our state law, what is meant by free text-books ?

216. When was our free text-book law passed?

217. What text-books may be purchased by school officers under the provisions of this law ?

218. By what vote of the district meeting may the purchase of free text books be anthorized ?

219. May a district that has once voted to furnish free text-books, return to the former plan of requiring pupils to furnish their own books?

220. What penalty may be inflicted upon school officers who refuse to obey the instructions of the district meeting as to the purchase of free text-books?

221. How many districts in Michigan furnish free text-books?

222. How, in your opinion, should text-books be supplied to pupils ?

223. Do you believe in state publication of text-books?

224. What provision is made by law for the teaching of the modes by which dangerous diseases are spread ?

225. Who furnishes the printed matter to the schools ?

226. Who is the principal officer of the state board of health? Where is his office ?

227. By whom is the state manual and course of study published ? Have you ever seen a copy of it ?

228. What is done with the surplus of the dog tax fund?

229. Which section of each township was set apart as a "school" section?

230. What are necessary appendages to a school house?

231. Which officer is authorized to provide necessary apparatus ?

232. Should a dictionary be considered as a "necessary appendage" such as a director may purchase without a vote of the district?

233. Select from the following list such articles as a director may purchase without the consent of the voters of the district meeting: maps, globe, organ, stove, desks, wall pictures, case for library books, towels, water-pail, books for library.

234. Are the following necessary appendages: line-fence, well, outhouses?

INDEX.

PAGES.	PAGES
Acceptance of office :	Appointment:
filed with and recorded by	of building committee 36
director 41	of commissioner in case of
neglect to file vacates office 41	vacancy 17
Accounts:	UI COMUNCION OF LASCHARS?
of director 47	institute
Action:	institute 64 of deputy Supt. of Public
against school district	Instruction
relative to obtaining site 99	of deputy made by Supt. of
Adjournment : of district meeting	Public Instruction, may
	be revoked
Admission of pupils : non-resident45, 47	of district officers in case of
to high school	vacancy of trustees 42
to kindergarten	of first meeting of district. 24
Age:	of librarian of township li-
school	of member of board of ex-
at which education is com-	aminers in case of va-
pulsory70	cancy
Agents for school books :	of person to take school
officers, superintendents,	census
and teachers not to act	of regents in case of va-
as	cancy, con. prov., art. xiii 8
Agricultural school:	of Supt. of Public Instruc-
to be provided, con. prov.,	tion in case of vacancy,
art. xiii	con. prov., art. viii
Aliens:	of truant officer
not eligible to office 41	Apportionment :
Alteration :	of library moneys
in boundaries of dis-	of primary school fund,
tricts	con prov., art. xiii 7
Annual meetings :	to districts by township
(See District meetings.)	clerk 23
Annulment of certificates :	duty of Supt. of Public In-
by county board of exam- iners 59	struction
	Assessment of taxes :
	(See Taxes.)
Appendages to school house :	
to be provided by di-	Assessor:
rector	acceptance of office 41
what are 90	a member of district
11 Ital at 0	board40, 46

Accessor Continue PAC	ES.
Assessor-Continued:	
a member of board of in- spection at election to	
vote bonds. and moderator to audit di-	96
and moderator to audit di-	
rector's accounts	51
bond required	53
penalty for neglecting duties	93
summons to be served on,	90
in suits	97
in suits	
suits to certify judgment	54
to certify judgment against district to super-	
visor	98
visor to successor all books, etc., belonging to	00
books, etc., belonging to	
district. to keep record of receipts	54
to keep record of receipts	
and expenditures.	53
to pay orders, legally drawn	53
to report receipts and ex-	00
penditures to district	
to report receipts and ex- penditures to district board.	53
Associations:	
teachers may form Asylums :	66
for deaf, dumb, blind, and	
insane, con. prov., Art.	
xiii	9
Ballot : election of officers to be by.	40
vote on issuance of bonds	40
to be by	96
to be by voting by	100
institutions for, con. prov.,	~
Art. xiii Board, district :	9
(See District board)	
Board of education :	
(See State board of educa-	
tion.)	
Board of education of graded schools :	
how elected and term of	
office	48
office	49
of township districts	48
organization of powers and duties46, 50-	48
Board of inspection :	54
at election to vote on issu-	
ance of bonds	96

i,		
	Page PAC	JES.
	Board of regents:	
	of university, con. prov.,	
	art. XIII.	8
	DUATU OI SCHOOL AXAMINARA	
1	(See County board of	
l	_ school examiners.)	
ł	Board of ashaal in mers.)	
	Board of school inspectors :	
	(See Township heard of	
ł	school inspectors.)	
I	Board of trustees in graded	
	school districts:	
1	election and term of office	
Į	election and term of omce	
ł	of.	- 48
I	omcers of	48
1	officers of meetings of powers and duties of	49
I	powers and duties of	50
1	vacancy in, how filled	42
ł	Boards:	44
1	whon on themined to	
1	when authorized to exam-	
I	ine teachers, to collect	
I	fees	62
ł	Bond:	
L		
L	of assessor of county commissioner of	53
L	of county commissioner of	
L	schools	16
Ł	Bonds:	
Ł	district vote on issuance	
L	district vote on issuance	
Į.	of96, limitation of amount	100
L	limitation of amount	96
L	time limit of	96
L	time limit of	100
Ł	Books of record :	
L	(See Records.)	
L		
Ł	Books, school :	
L	(See Text books.)	
	Boundarios of districts	
1	Boundaries of districts : alterations in26	-
	alterations in	, 29
	described in first notice	24
	township clerk to give no-	
	tice of change	27
		-
	Building committee:	
	voters may appoint	36
, i	Census of school districts :	
	when and how taken_ 32, 51,	01
1	Certificate:	01
	of inspectors establishing	
	of inspectors establishing	00
	siteof instruction in physiology	98
	or instruction in physiology	
	to be filled by teacher	45
	filed by director with	
	township clerk	45
	township clerk of dis-	
	trict taxes	23
		20

PAGES. Certificates of qualification to	Citizen of United States PAGI	ES
teachers :	Citizen of United States :	
college, granted by state	Clerk :	5
board of education	of board of school in-	
fee to be paid on obtaining. 62	or board of school in-	0
from other states, endorsed	of district, director to be	2
by state board of educa-	of township (See The	5
	of township. (See Town-	
tion62 given by county board of	ship clerk.) Collection :	
examiners	of dama gos for not remark	
given by city board 59	of damages for not report- ing and assessing taxes.	•
given by faculty of univer-	of fines for injuring books.	9
sity	of institute fees from	8
given by state board of ed-	teachers	6
	of judgments against dis-	U
ucation15, 62 grades of and requisite	trict	9
qualifications to obtain_55-62	of penalties, etc	9
holder of must be citizen	of taxes.	78
of United States 58	Committee on building :	
holder of must be of good	voters may appoint	3
moral character	Compensation :	0
indorsement by Supt. of	for site, determined by	
Public Instruction 56	jury	9
list of teachers having18, 63	of members of county	
record to be kept by county	board of school exam-	
commissioner of schools 18	iners	2
renewal by board of exam-	of board of education	1
iners 58	of county commissioners	1
revocation or suspension	Compulsory education :	
01	age at which compulsory.	7
signed by commissioner	length of time to attend	_
and one examiner	school	7
two classes of third grade_ 57	who are truants under	73
Chairman :	this act Conductor :	
of board of school in-	of teachers' institutes	c.
spectors 21	Consolidation of districts :	6
of board of school in-	(See School districts.)	
spectors has supervision	Constitutional provisions :	
of schools	agricultural school, art.	
trict	xiii	0
trict	districts may be deprived	
orderly person	of public money, art.	
orderly person	xiii	1
to give oath to challenged	xiii escheats of land to the	
voter	state, art xiii	1
	free schools to be main-	
Challenge:	tained, art. xiii	
of voter at district meeting 39	institutions for deaf,	
Children :	dumb, blind, and insane,	
census list of	art. xiii. libraries to be provided,	
compulsory education of 70	inbraries to be provided,	
duties of truant officer	art. xm	1
with respect to	number months of school	
entitled to attend kinder-	maintained, art. xiii	1
garten	regents of the university,	
indigent, tuition of 88	art. xiii	

PAGES.	PAGES.
Constitutional provisions-Cont'd:	County comm'r of schools-Cont'd:
school funds, art. xiii	examinations, keep record
specific taxes, art. xiv 10	of 18
	overminations propero
state board of education,	examinations, prepare
art. xiii	schedule of
Supt. of Public Instruc-	file acceptance of office
tion, art. viii Supt. of Public Instruc-	and bond 16
Supt. of Public Instruc-	receive annual reports 19
tion, term of office, art.	receive institute fees 18
viii	receive instructions from
Supt. of Public Instruc-	Supt. of Public Instruc-
viii	tion 19
how filled, art, viii	County institute:
Supt. of Public Instruc-	(See Teachers' institute.)
tion, where to keep office 7	County treasurer:
tion, indere to meep state .	apportion library moneys.82,83
Contract:	apportion instary moneys.o., o
with teachers	pay teachers' institute fund on order of clerk 64
Corporal punishment :	fund on order of clerk 64
supreme court decisions 69	statements of apportion-
Corporate powers :	ment filed with 84
of teachers' associations 66	set apart institute fees as
County board of school ex-	institute fund
aminers :	vouchers for payment at
	teachers institute filed
	with
bers	Course of study:
duties of county commis-	to be prescribed for schools 101
SIULEF	Crimes and offenses:
election and term of office	disturbing district meeting 92
of	disturbing school 92
eligibility of	illegal use of moneys 95
how appointed	megai use or moneys
schedule of meetings for	Doof dumb and blind:
examinations to be pub-	Deaf, dumb, and blind:
lished 18	institutions for, con. prov.,
vacancies in board, how	art. xiii
filled 17, 21	Delivery of books, etc., to suc-
shall assist at examina	cessor in office:
tions 21	by assessor of district 54
County clerk :	by Supt. of Public Instruc-
duties in relation to appor-	tion 14
	Deputy Supt. of Public Instruc-
tionment of moneys	tion:
duties in relation to county	appointment and duties of 11
commissioner	Diplomas:
duties in relation to insti-	to graduates of state nor-
tute moneys	mal school 15
examination of candidates	Director:
for admission to 18	acceptance of office 41
neglect of duty	a member of district
County commissioner of schools:	a member of district board40, 46, 50
act as assistant institute	a member of board of in-
conductor 19	spection at election to
certificates, keep record	issue bonds
of 19 R2	and moderator to approve
of18, 63 counsel with teachers 19	
dution of	bond of assessor
duties of	draw and sign contracts
examinations, noru	with teachers 51

PAGES.	PAGES
Director-Continued:	District boards-Continued;
draw! and sign warrants	
and orders	to classify pupils
election and tarms of affect (0	
election and term of office 40	
give notice of meetings 50	books
have custody of school	to employ janitors
house and property 44	
of fractional districts, to	to establish rules for school 4
or fractional districts, to	to estimate amount for
whom to report	support of schools 49
penalty for neglect of	to fix rate of tuition to non-
duties	resident numile
reports of to be filed with	resident pupils
township alark	1 to have care and custody
township clerk	of school property 44
to be clerk of district 50	1 LU have charge of district
to file census list with	
township clerk 51	to make statement of
to file certificate of instruc-	
to his certificate of instruc-	finances at annual meet-
tiou in physiology with	ing43, 44 to prescribe text-books and
township clerk 45	to prescribe text-books and
to file copies of all reports. 51	course of study
to take annual school cen-	to masside Study
	to provide for instruction
sus 51	in physiology 45
to present estimate to an-	to purchase books for indi-
nual meeting 51	gent children 45
to present warrants and	to nurchoso flog and flog
orders to moderator to	to purchase flag and flag-
be countercianed	StallAG
be countersigned 50	to purchase record books,
to provide necessary ap-	etc 43
pendages 51, 89	to purchase text-books
to keep account of ex-	When outhowing a
penses	when authorized by
ponoco	when authorized by voters
to keep record of meetings 50	LU DUICHASE OF lease site
Disease:	for school house 43
prevention of communica-	to report taxes to be as-
ble	segood to be as.
Disorderly persons:	sessed 43
bisorderly persons.	to suspend or exper disord.
treatment of	erly pupils 45
Districts, school:	vacancy in, how filled 43
(See School districts.)	Vacancy in what to acce
District boards:	vacancy in, what to occa-
election and tenure of	sion 41
election and tenure of	when to exclude bunne
office of members40, 46, 48	meetings from school
may admit non-resident	
pupils 45.87	When may icoue her dr
pupils	when may issue bonds 96
	who are eligible to office 41
essary at meetings of 41	who to constitute40, 46, 48
meetings of 40	
to apply moneys according	District libraries :
to law 44	(See Libraries.)
to apply for jury in suits	District monthing
to obtain aits	District meetings :
to obtain site	annual, board to make
to audit accounts of direc-	financial report at 44
tor	annual, powers of voters
to borrow money 43	at at points of voters
to build, hire, or purchase	at
school houses	
school houses	heid 40
to call meetings of district 49	annual, when to be held 31

PAGES.	
District meetings-Continued:	E
brainoss to be trans-	
District meetings—Continued: business to be trans- seted 32, 40	
acted	
Chantenging votos at 39, 92	
acted	
	E
graded	1~
in district, township	E
in district, under special 32	1
act	
limit of taxes voted	
may vote on issuance of bonds	F
bonds	1 *
notice of	
notice of failure to give 33	E
notice of, failure to give 55	1 *
notice of, failure to give	
	E
special, may be called	
VUCEIS au, IT HO al CITET TO THE	I
District officers: 40	11
acceptance of office 40	
election and term of	
office	
acceptance of once	
duty	
plurality vote does not	
elect	
who are eligible to election 41	Ι,
District schools :	
(See Schools.)	
District taxes :	
(See Taxes.)	
Disturbing district meeting or	
school:	
DAURILY TOL	
Division of district:	
(See School district; also Township board of in-	1
Township board of m	
spectors.)	
Dog tax, surplus of : apportionment of 86	
apportioninent of	
Telescotion :	
Education:	
constitutional provisions, art. xiii	
Election :	
of county commissioner of	
schools 16	3
schools	
of members of county	
board of examiners 20	0
of members of state board	
of education, con. prov.,	
art. xiii	9
dilb. Alli	

I AGES.
Election—Continued:
of members of state board
of regents, con. prov.,
art. xiii8 of Supt. of Public Instruc8
of Supt. of Public Instruc-
tion, con prov., art. viii 7
Electors:
who are qualified 37
Eligibility to office:
English language: instruction to be conduct-
instruction to be conduct-
Escheats of land to the state:
constitutional provisions, art. xiii
art. xill
Estimates : of amount to be raised by
of amount to be raised by
tax
Examinations:
of applicants for contin-
of condidates for admis-
Examinations: of applicants for certifi- cate
Agricultural College 18
of inspectors' reports by
of inspectors' reports by county commissioner
questions for
Examiners: of teachers, to collect
fees 62, 63
fees62, 63 to pay fees to county treas63
urer
u101
Execution:
not to issue against school
district
Expenses:
estimate of, to be present-
estimate of, to be present- ed at annual meeting43, 51
of increators limited
of state institute, how paid
paid
Fees:
to be paid by teachers on
obtaining certificates 04
Females:
eligible to district offices 41 eligible to office of county
eligible to office of county
commissioner17 eligible to office of town-
eligible to office of town-
may vote at district meet-
ings 37

PAGES

PAGES. Fines : for breach of penal laws, con. prov., art. xiii. for breach of penal laws, 10 apportionment of ... 82 for disturbing district meeting______3 for disturbing school _____ ----- 39, 92 92 Flag and flag-staff : district board to purchase.46,90 Forfeitures : (See Penalties.) Formation: of districts (see School districts). of teachers' associations.... 66 Fractional districts: (See School districts.) Free schools: to be provided, con. prov., art. xiii..... 8 Free text books: district to vote on question of furnishing board to estimate amount necessary to purchase 78 board to make contract for furnishing board to incur penalty for failure to comply with law______board to purchase when 78 property of district..... Funds: prov., 7, 8 educational, con. art. xiii library, con. prov., art. 66 63 Geological survey, board of : Supt. of Public Instruction a member of..... 14 Graded school district : annual meeting of alteration in boundaries of 29 change to primary district 30 how classified 28 how organized _____29, 38 not limited to nine sections of land 29 two or more contiguous districts may organize 29

PAGES
Graded school district-Continued: trustees, consent to be ob.
tained in alterations of
boundaries
grades of certificates to
teachers
High achasta
High schools : may be established in cer-
tain cases
1
Indebtedness :
of districts. (See Bonds)95, 96
Insane :
institutions for, con. prov., art. xiil
art. xill
(See Board of inspection.)
inspectors, board of school
(See Township board of
school inspectors.)
Institutes : (See Teachers' institutes.) Institutions :
for deaf, dumb, and blind,
con. prov., art. xiji 9
Instruction: to_be_conducted in the
English language con
English language, con. prov., art. xiii 8 Supt. of Public Instruction
Supt. of Public Instruction
to have supervision 11 Interest :
on state fund for educa-
tional purposes con
tional purposes, con. prov., art. xiii
Janitors :
employed by district board 47 Judgments:
against school district 97
Jurisdiction :
in actions against districts 96
Jury:
in proceedings to obtain
site
penalties imposed upon 73
penalties imposed upon.
parents in certain cases. 72
to be sent to ungraded
school
120 001501010 72
Kindergarten :
act to apply to the schools. 89

PAGES.	PAGES.
Kindergarten-Continued:	Libraries-Continued:
children entitled to at-	funds, State Supt. to fur-
tend	nish statement of town-
duty of district board in regard to 89	ships, etc., entitled to
	township, care of
qualifications of teachers	township, librarian of 82
in	tax for support of
Land :	36
escheat to the state, con.	Maps:
prov., art. xiii8	of townships showing boundaries of districts 23
legislature may appropri-	Meetings:
ate same or money aris-	for examination of teach-
ing from sale of same,	org 55 59 62
for maintainance of agri-	ers5, 59, 62 joint, of school inspectors 25
cultural school, con.	when school house used for
prov., art. xiii	public
proceedings to obtain for	(See District meetings.)
school house sites	Members:
Laws:	of county board of school
relative to schools to be	examiners 20
published and furnished	of boards, district40, 46
to officers 12	of board of regents, con.
Lease:	prov., art. xiii
of school house site 35	of board of school inspec-
Legislature :	tors21 of board of trustees38, 48
to provide for agricultural	of board of trustees
school, con. prov., art.	of state board of educa-
xiii	tion, con. prov., art. xiii. 9
to provide for free schools, con, prov., art. xiii,	Moderator:
con. prov., art. xiii 8 Libraries :	
constitutional provisions,	a member of district board
art. xiii	and assessor to audit and
Liability :	pay directors' accounts. 51
of board of inspectors 93	pay directors' accounts 51 and director to approve
of county clerk	bond of assessor 53
of district officers	election and term of office
of parent for failure to	of40, 46
of parent for failure to send child to school 72	of 40, 46 penalty for neglect to ac-
of township clerk and	cept office or perform
supervisor	duties 93 to bring suit on assessor's
Librarian :	to bring suit on assessor's
to be appointed	bond 53
Libraries:	to countersign warrants
constitutional provisions, art xiii	
district board have charge	to preside and preserve orders at district meet-
of45, 50	ings
district, care of	Moneys:
district, what may estab-	accrued from one-mill tax,
lish 82	how used 36.85
funds, apportionment of 82	apportionment by State Supt., con. prov., art.
funds, forfeitures of	Supt., con. prov., art.
funds, penal fines to be ap-	xiii 7
plied to, con. prov., art.	apportionment to districts
xiii 10	by township clerk 23

PAGES.	PAGES.
Moneys-Continued:	Necessary Appendages:
board to apply according	(See Appendages.)
to law 44	
board to report to annual	of county clerk to transmit
meeting receipts and dis-	reports
bursements 44	of district officers
collected on account of	of inspectors in perform-
neglect of officers 93	ing duties
collected on assessor's	of parent or guardian to
bond, how applied 53	send child to school 72
county treasurer to apply	of supervisor and town-
for and pay	ship clerk in regard to
county treasurer to appor-	taxes
tion library moneys 82	Non-resident pupils:
library, apportionment	admission of45, 47, 87
of	Normal school:
library, derived from	(See state normal school.)
penal fines, con. prov., art. xiii	Notices:
	by State Supt. of appor-
	tionment
library, may be used for school purposes	of first meeting in new dis- trict 24
limitations as to borrow-	of formation of teachers' 24
not to be diverted except	association
by a two-thirds vote 36	tion of teachers 18
primary school interest	of meetings to be given by
fund, apportionment of 84	director
primary school interest	of special n.eetings
primary school interest fund, districts entitled	in proceedings to obtain
to receive 84	site
to receive84 primary school interest	to organize as graded school
fund, duties of State	district 29
Supt. in regard to	to parent or guardian that
primary school interest	child does not attend
fund, how constituted,	school
con. prov., art. xiii 7	to township clerk of taxes
primary school interest	to be levied 43
fund, used only for	Number months of school to be
teachers' wages	maintained:
primary school interest	constitutional provisions,
fund, when withheld	art. xiii 8
from districts, con. prov.,	0.13
art. xiii	Oath:
	by challenged voter at dis-
	trict meeting, if false
public, how kept	deemed perjury 39
	by deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction 11
public, interest accruing	of Public Instruction 11 of school officers 48
on	to be made to correctness
public, orders for payment	of census list
of, unlawful	Office:
township treasurer has	acceptance of to be filed 41, 48
keeping of all school and	term of district officers
library 49	
10	

PAG	ES.
Office-Continued:	
term of members of board	~ ~
of school examiners	20
term of members of state	
board of education, con.	
prov., art. xiii	9
term of regents of the uni-	
versity, con. prov., art.	8
term of State Supt. of	c
Dublic Instruction of	
Public Instruction, con.	2
prov., art. xiii Officers :	- 1
(See names of the several	
offices.)	
Official bonds :	
of assessor	53
of chairman of board of	00
inspectors	21
of county commissioner of	
schools	16
One-mill tax :	-
assessment, collection, and	
disposition of	85
disposition of how surplus may be ap-	
plied, sec. 12	8
Orders :	
on assessor, drawn and	
Signed by director	50
on assessor, countersigned	
by moderator	52
Organization :	
of graded schools	28
of primary district of township district	24
of township district	30
Parents and guardians:	
liability for not sending	

	liability for not sending
72	children to school
	proceedings against for
	failure to send children
73	to school
	required to send children
70	to school
•••	Penalties and forfeitures :
	for disturbing district
92	meeting
92	for disturbing school
34	for illegal man of anhlis
05	for illegal use of public
95	moneys
	on district for not main-
	taining three months'
	school, con. prov., art.
- 8	xiii
	on county clerk for not
93	transmitting reports

PAGE	s.
Penalties and forfeitures-Cont'd:	
on district officers for neg- lect of duty45, 78, 81, on inspectors for not quali-	
lect of duty45, 78, 81, 9	93
on inspectors for not quali-	
fying or neglect of duty on parent or guardian for failure to send child to	93
on parent or guardian for	
failure to send child to	
school	72
school on supervisor and clerk for	
neglect of duties	94
neglect of duties	
neglect of duty in forma-	
tion of new district	93
Perjury:	
false oath deemed	39
Physiology and hygiene:	
director to file copy of	
fouchor's continue to of in.	
struction with township	
clork 45	80
struction with township clerk	00
triat board to comply	
with statuto 45	80
touchon to contify whother	00
instruction has been	
mistruction has been	on
instruction has been given	DU
text books to be adopted	70
by district board	79
text books to be approved by state board of educa-	
	20
to be taught by all schools	79
to be taught by all schools	20
	79
Poll-list:	
kept when voting on issu-	0.0
	96
Poor children :	
to be furnished with text	
books	75
President of university :	
	~
art. xiii	9
Prevention:	~~
	80
Primary school interest fund:	
apportionment of	84
apportionment of when re-	
ports are defective	13
apportionment of when de-	
ficiencies may be paid constitutional provisions	13
constitutional provisions	
respecting, art. Xiii	7
school to be maintained	
three months to secure,	
con. prov., art. xiii	8
specific taxes, part of, con.	
prov., art. xiii	10

_ PAGES.
Primary school int. fund-Cont'd:
to be used only for teach- ers' wages
ers' wages
to obtain site for school
house 99
Property :
of district, care of 45
sale of, directed by voters 35 sale of, when may be by
inspectors 27 28
inspectors
Prosecution :
(See Action; Proceed- ings; Suits.)
ings; Suits.)
Public meetings: when may be excluded from school house
from school house 27 44
Public moneys :
(See Moneys.)
Punishmont ·
corporal
Pupils:
classification of
of
expulsion or suspension of
dents
who may be
Purchase :
of books for library50, 82 of books for poor chil-
dren
of books for records of
district 421
of necessary a p p e n d - ages51, 89 of school house or school
ages
site
5100
Qualifications :
of teachers
Questions:
for examinations of teach- ers
018
Record :
director to keep, of pro-
ceedings 50
of acceptance of office
of pupils, to be kent by
teacher
Regents:
of the university, con.
prov., art. xiii

PAG	ES.
Regents-Continued:	
duties of, con. prov., art.	9
xiii election and term of office	ย
01, con. prov., art. xiii	8
Register:	Ŭ
of school, kept by teacher.	66
Regulations :	
at election to vote for issu-	96
ance of bonds for government of schools	- 90 - 45
for libraries	. 83
Report :	,
liability of officers for fail-	
ure to of board at annual meet-	93
or board at annual meet-	
ing of chairman of board of	44
school inspectors	22
of county commissioner	18
of director, to whom made in fractional districts	
in fractional districts	52
of director to inspectors	51
of director to inspectors of township clerk, of taxes of Supt. of Public Instruc-	23
tion annual	11
tion, annual of supervisor, of taxes as-	11
sessea	86
Residents :	
notified of first meeting in	~
new district petition for organization	24
of new district 30	31
of new district	or
district meetings.	37
district meetings rights of, to attend school.	87
Revenues:	
of schools	84
Revocation of teachers' certifi- cates :	
by board of school exam-	
iners	61
iners	
tion	62
State of much others	
Sale of property :	35
directed by district when by inspectors	ар 28
School:	NO
admission of non-resident	
pupils45, 47, agricultural to be provided	87
agricultural to be provided	
for, con. prov., art. xiii board to establish regula-	9
tions for	00
tions for	00
of study	01

PAGES.	1.1
School-Continued:	18
board to prescribe text-	1
books	18
closed on account of preva-	1~
lence of contagious dis-	
eases	
months, con. prov., art.	
xiii 8	
xiii may be graded 38, 47	
penalty for disturbing 92	
revenues	
sectarian instruction in	18
abolished	12
suspension or exputsion of pupils from	
pupils from	
time necessary to be main-	
tained	
to be free, con. prov., art.	18
xiii	
ungraded to be established 72	
School board :	16
(See District board.)	
School books:	
(See Text books.)	
School census:	
time of taking not to be	
changed	
when and how taken 51	
School districts : cannot be dissolved	
cannot be dissolved	18
primary 26	
primary26 consent of tax payers27	
consolidation of	18
debts formerly due	
division of property 28	
failure to organize 25	
form and size 24	
fractional, formation of 25	
graded 28 individuals set off 27	
individuals set off 27	
legally organized	
notice of alteration 27	
notice of meeting for 26	
notice of first meeting in. 24	
organization of	
ment for	
ment for	
taxpayers in	
unorganized territory 25	
School examiners :	Is
(See County board of	1~
school examiners.)	

FAG.	ES.
School funds :	
(See Moneys.)	
School houses:	
appendages to, director to provide	90
board to provide	43
board to provide bonds may be issued to	40
build	96
build limitations of indebted-	
ness for building	96
site for, to be purchased or	
leased 43.	98
ness for building site for, to be purchased or leased	97
School oncers :	
in primary districts, how	
elected must be chosen by ballot plurality vote does not elect	40
must be chosen by ballot	40
plurality vote does not	
	40
School year :	
when to commence	29
Sites for school houses :	
hoard to purchase or	
lease	43
bonds issued for purchase	
lease 35, bonds issued for purchase of 36, compensation for, how de-	96
compensation for, how de-	
termined in certain cases	.99
location of	98
notice of meeting to	
change	32
tax for	35
Specific state taxes :	
how applied, con. prov.,	
art. xiv	10
State board of education:	
constitutional provisions	
constitutional provisions for, art. xiii	9
have care of state normals.	14
examine and approve text	
books in physiology	15
grant certificates to gradn-	
ates of certain colleges	15
grant diplomas to gradu-	
ates of state normals	15
indorse certificates granted	
in other states15, maintain school at state	62
maintain school at state	10
normals prescribe course of study	15
prescribe course of study	14
for normal schools	14
term of office and salary of	14
members	14
State certificates: when granted by state	
board of education	15

PAGES.	PAGES.
State certificates—Continued:	Supt. of Public Instruction-Cont'd:
granted in other states, in-	to approve first grade cer-
dorsed by state board 15	tificates
granted to graduates of	to be a member and secre-
state normal schools 15	tary of state board of
granted to graduates of	education
certain colleges 15	to be a member of state
granted to graduates of certain colleges	board of goological sur
tional observator	board of geological sur-
tional character,	vey 14
to be visited by Supt. of	to deliver official books,
Public Instruction 11	etc., to successor 14
State normal schools :	to have general supervi-
to be under care of state	sion of public instruction 11
board of education, con.	to hold county teachers'
prov., art xiii	institute annually 14
diplomas and certificates	to make annual report to
to graduates 15	governor 11
training school in 15	to meet with governing
State teachers' institute :	board of each education-
to be held annually	al institution 11
State university:	to prepare all examination
supervision of, con. prov.,	duestions 13 57
art. xiii	questions
	boards of school exam-
Studies:	iners 13
to be prescribed 101	to publish and transmit
Suits:	laws and forms to officers 12
and judgments against dis-	
trict 36 97	to send examination ques-
trict	tions to examiners 13
trict	to visit state institutions 11
trict	vacancy in office, how
on assessor's bond	filled, con. prov., art.
	viii
summons in, served on assessor	Supervisor:
	liable for not assessing
when moderator may ap-	taxes
pear in for district 54	to assess judgment against
Supt. of Public Instruction:	school district
appointments made by	to assess one-mill tax 85
may be revoked 11	to assess tax for support of
duties of, con. prov., art.	libraries
xiii	to assess school tax
duties of, relative to ap-	township clerk to certify
portionment of primary	taxes to
school moneys, con.	Surplus:
prov., art. xiii	of dog tax
election and term of office	of school moneys, how
of, con. prov., art. viii 7	apportioned 85
office of, where located, con, prov., art, viii	Suspension: of pupils from school45, 99
	power of move be dolo
salary of	power of may be dele-
to appoint boards of VIS-	gated to teacher
itors 14 to appoint conductors of	rules for must be reason-
to appoint conductors of	able 100
teachers' institutes 14	Taxes:
to appoint deputy superin-	amount for purchasing of
tendent 11	building

123

.

PAGES.	PAGES.
Taxes-Continued:	Teachers-Continued:
district, how collect 86	must be citizens of United
estimated and reported by	States
district board 43, 78	must be of good moral
failing to be assessed, lev-	character 58
ied next year	to be furnished with copy
ied next year	of contract
children 45	to file certificate of instruc-
for school purposes	tion in physiology, with
limit of in certain cases35, 43	director 45
of a district, when divided,	to keep school register 66
to be apportioned 28	The charal accessio tions .
one-mill, assessment, etc.,	Teachers' associations :
of	formation and incorpora- tion of
one-mill, how surplus may	tion of 66
be applied	Teachers' institutes :
report of by board to	aid from state treasurer 65
township clerk	arranged by state supt14, 63
report of by township clerk	conductor of 64
to supervisor	counties may be united in. 64
specific, constitute a part	expenses of, how paid 64
of primary school fund,	funds for support of, how
con. prov., art. xiv 10	raised 63 state institute, to be held
supervisor to assess	state institute, to be held
surplus dog, apportion-	annuany
ment of	state institute, expenses
Teachers:	paid from state treasury. 65
allowed legal holidays 67	vouchers for expenses 65
certificates, fees to be paid	where held
in obtaining	Term of office:
certificates, grades of and	of district officers 40, 46, 48
qualifications necessary. 56	of members of board of
certificates, given by city	school examiners
board 59	of members of state board
certificates given by coun-	of education, con. prov.,
ty board of school exam-	art. xiii
iners 56	of regents of the univer-
certificates, given by fac-	sity, con. prov., art. xiii. 9
ulty of university 61	of Supt. of Public Instruc-
certificates, given by state	tion, con. prov., art. viii. 7
board of education 60	of township officers
certificates, revoked or	
suspended	Text books:
close school to attend insti-	free, adoption of by dis-
tute 63	triet
contracts with44, 47, 51, 55, 66	free, board contract with dealer. 77
contracts valid, made pre-	
vious to annual meeting. 67	free, board estimate
contracts with, necessary	amount necessary to pur-
to entitle teacher to pay. 67	chase
examination of by county	for foilure to comply
board of examiners 55	for failure to comply with law
examination of by state	
board of education	free, board purchase when anthorized
extent of authority	
legal qualifications55, 58 list of to be furnished18, 63	free, loaned to pupils 77 free, property of district 77
1150 01 00 00 1011115110018, 03	rice, property of district it

PAGES. Text books-Continued: on physiology and hygiene, approved by state board children_____45, 75 to be prescribed by district board 44 Township board of education : (See Board of education in township districts.) Township board of school inspectors : chairman and clerk of..... 21 chairman to be treasurer of and give bond..... 21 charge of schools. duties of in forming new 21 -30 penalty for neglect to qualify or perform duties powers and duties of...... reports to be made in 93 21 triplicate_____ reports, full financial_____ 22 99 when may appoint officers who to constitute board.... 46 21 Township clerk : a member and clerk of board of inspectors..... 23 clerk of township board of education..... duties of 21 election and term of office to apportion moneys to districts..... to be furnished with a list of teachers..... 51 to give notice of formation of new district 27 to prepare map of township showing districts to receive reports and communications..... 23 to transmit chairman's address..... 23 Township district : how organized..... 30 Township treasurer duties in relation to fractional districts..... 87 warrants on to be signed by director and moderator 78

Du	
Training school at normal :	ES.
Training school at normal : maintained by state board	
of education. Treasurer of board of school in-	15
spectors :	
(See Chairman of board of	
school inspectors.)	
Treasurer of district :	
(See Assessor.) Truants :	
sent to reformatory	73
sent to reformatory tried by justice or recorder	73
ungraded schools provided	
who shall be deemed	72 72
Truant officers :	14
compensation and duties	
of when appointed	71
Trustees :	71
election of 38	48
election of	, 10
Tuition:	
of non-resident pu-	017
pils45, 47	, 01
Ungraded schools:	
juvenile disorderly per-	
juvenile disorderly per- sons to be sent to University of Michigan :	72
constitutional provisions, art. xiii diplomas and certificates to graduates	
art. xiii	8, 9
diplomas and certificates	
United States flag :	61
(See Flag.)	
Vacancy:	
in district offices, how occa-	42
in office of regent, con.	44
sioned and filed41, in office of regent, con. prov., art. xiii in office of Supt. of Public Instruction, con. prov., art viii	8
In office of Supt. of Public	
art. viii.	7
visiting poards :	•
appointed by Supt. of Pub- lic Instruction	
	14
challenge of	39
in graded districts, elec-	00
in graded districts, elec- tion of trustees in primary districts, ap-	38
noint chairman	34
point chairman in township districts, who	04
are qualified	38
limitations of authority	88

SCHOOL LAW OF MICHIGAN.

Voters-Continued: PAGES.	Warrants-Continued: PAGES.
powers of at district meet- ings	on state treasurer for primary school interest
Voting : in regard to	fund
Vouchers:	barred from voting
for payments at teachers' institute	trict offices
	of commissioner
Warrants:	of school inspector
of director upon treasurer. 78	trict meetings 37

3

.



.









