

TITLE 126  
PROCEDURAL RULE  
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

SERIES 58  
SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE RECOGNITION (2650.55)

**§126-58-1. General.**

1.1. Scope. -- The purpose of this Schools of Excellence Recognition Policy is to establish rules and procedures for publicly recognizing outstanding schools in the state of West Virginia. Additionally, rules and procedures are outlined for the recognition and honoring of teachers, students, parents, or members of the school community who contribute to a school receiving schools of excellence status.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §§18-2F-1 and 18-2-F-2.

1.3. Filing Date. -- November 17, 1989.

1.4. Effective Date. -- December 29, 1989.

**§126-58-2. Applicability.**

W. Va. Code §18-2F-1 authorized the State Board of Education to promulgate rules outlining criteria for the identification of schools of excellence. Rules and guidelines for selecting schools of excellence are to be developed by the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and eighty nine.

W. Va. Code §18-2F-2 authorized the State Board of Education to promulgate rules outlining appropriate methods of recognizing and honoring teachers, students attending schools of excellence, and parents or community members who have contributed excellence in education at the school.

**§126-58-3. Guidelines.**

3.1. Each year the state board shall select one high school, one middle school, and one elementary school within each regional

educational service agency district and one vocational school selected on a statewide basis to be awarded school of excellence status.

**§126-58-4. Time Sequence for Selection.**

Schools applying for schools of excellence recognition will follow the application procedures outlined in the following:

a. On or before September 1 of each year, county superintendents will receive the necessary materials for schools to apply for schools of excellence recognition.

b. On or before October 1 county superintendents may nominate one elementary, one middle, and one secondary school to represent their respective county in the Schools of Excellence Recognition Program.

c. On or before February 1 of the current school year, eligible schools will submit their application for Schools of Excellence Recognition to the State Department of Education.

d. On or before May 1 of the current school year, applications for Schools of Excellence Recognition will be reviewed by a selection committee established by the department of education. The selection committee will consist of broad representation from the public school system, business, higher education, and the lay community. The selection committee will recommend those schools to be recognized to the State Superintendent of Schools and all selections will be final. The selection committee reserves the right to verify any information contained in the written application received from eligible schools.

e. The selection committee will recommend one elementary, one middle, and one secondary school from each Regional Educational Service Agency district to the State Superintendent of Schools for recognition. Also, one vocational school will be recommended on a statewide bases for recognition.

f. The State Department of Education will annually review and revise criteria to be included in the Schools of Excellence application.

**§126-58-5. Selection Criteria.**

Schools will be selected as Schools of Excellence based upon the following criteria:

a. The quality and degree of implementation of advanced or innovative instructional programs as judged by the selected committee after review of a written application, and

b. The degree of parent involvement in the development and implementation of instructional programs for their children.

c. The degree of community involvement in the development and implementation of programs at the school.

d. School performance related to the improvement in achievement, attendance and dropout rates.

e. Selection criteria will be reviewed and revised annually by the department of education. Each year selection criteria will reflect state-wide educational needs that are supported by data and state board of education priorities for school improvement.

**§126-58-6. Rewards.**

Schools recognized as schools of excellence and students, parents, teachers, and other community members who contributed to excellence at the school will be recognized and/or rewarded.

a. All schools determined to be eligible for application for Schools of Excellence Recognition will receive a Certificate of Merit from the State Department of Education.

b. Schools of Excellence will receive a grant award and a Certificate of Excellence from the State Department of Education. The amount of the grant award given to schools of excellence will be contingent upon annual state appropriations.

c. County school districts shall be responsible for developing procedures for recognizing teachers, students, parents, and other community members who contribute to schools of excellence recognition.