

STAFFING OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

28. (1.) Subject to the provisions hereinafter contained, the number of teachers and of student assistants in any school other than a district high school, and in the primary department of a district high school, shall be the number shown in Schedules I and II of clause 4 hereof for the grade of school shown in column (2) of the schedules.

(2.) The number of teachers in the secondary department of a district high school shall be the number shown in Schedule III of clause 4 hereof for the grade of school shown in column (2) of that schedule.

(3.) In separate boys' and girls' schools and in schools from which the pupils transfer to a junior high school when promoted from S4 or S5 the total number of assistants shall be the same as is prescribed in subclause (1) hereof for a mixed school of the same average attendance, but the numbers of male and female assistants of each grade may be modified in such manner as the Minister shall determine.

(4.) On the 1st February in each year the Board shall determine the number of teachers and of student assistants aforesaid in accordance with the grade of school or department:

Provided that, until the Minister is satisfied that student assistants are available, one assistant of Grade 1 may be substituted for a student assistant in each school of Grade VA upwards, and a pupil teacher may be substituted for each of the other student assistants.

29. *Increases and Decreases in Staffs.*—If at the beginning of any quarter it is found that the attendance in any school or in the primary or secondary department of any district high school has increased so that the averages for two consecutive quarters are both greater than the maximum for the grade in which the school or department is placed by four in the case of schools below grade IV or D, and by ten in the case of other schools, the Board may, with the approval of the Senior Inspector, add an assistant to the staff of the school, provided that in any special case of increasing attendance not equitably provided for herein the Board may, with the approval of the Minister, increase the staff at an earlier date.

30. If at the beginning of any quarter it is found that the attendance in any school or department has decreased so that the averages for two consecutive quarters are both less by four in the case of a school of Grade IIIA or IIIB, or by seven in the case of any other school, than the minimum for the grade in which the school is placed, the staff shall be reduced as the Senior Inspector shall direct:

Provided that the Board may reduce the staff of any school or department at any time as soon as it is satisfied that the average attendance has fallen below the minimum of the grade or subgrade of the school or department, as the case may be: Provided further that if at the end of the quarter first mentioned it is found that the average for the quarter is at least equal to the minimum of the grade in which the school or department is placed, the staff may be maintained till the end of the subsequent quarter, and so on from quarter to quarter till the 1st February next ensuing.

31. Nothing in the two preceding clauses shall be deemed to affect the salary of any member of the staff who shall not have been appointed or removed thereunder.

32. As soon as under the provisions of the Act and of these regulations a reduction in the staff of a school is imminent it shall be the duty of the Board to give notice to every teacher whom it is necessary to discharge in order to carry out such reduction.

33. *Main and Side Schools.*—No main or side school, taken separately, shall have a smaller number on its staff than if it were a mixed school of the same average attendance; and the Board shall appoint such additional assistants of Grade I or student assistant (if any) as are necessary to conform to this requirement.

34. *Modification of Staffs.*—An assistant of Grade 1 may, with the approval of the Minister previously obtained, be substituted for two student assistants.

35. Subject to the approval of the Minister, an uncertificated teacher who has completed not less than one year's service as an adult teacher may be appointed as an assistant of Grade 1 to the staff of any school in lieu of a student assistant. Such an appointment shall not in general be for a term of more than one year.

36. If circumstances make it appear expedient that a modification of the staffing of a school or department otherwise provided by these regulations is reasonable or necessary, the Minister may authorize the Board to modify the staffing in such manner and for such period as he thinks fit. Any teacher appointed in accordance with such modification shall be paid such salary and allowance as the Minister may approve: