

shall examine the expenditures, business methods, and accounts of county school boards and advise them on the same.

20. The state superintendent of schools shall, subject to the rules and regulations of the state board of education, pass upon all proposals for the purchase of grounds, school sites or buildings, or for the sale of the same, and also upon all plans and specifications for the remodeling of old school buildings or the construction of new school buildings costing three hundred dollars (\$300) or more. In case the construction is to be done by the county board itself, it shall be illegal for the county board to proceed until the plans and specifications shall have been approved in writing by the state superintendent of schools; in case the construction is to be done by contract, the contract shall be invalid without the written approval of the state superintendent of schools.

20A. The state superintendent of schools shall certificate, subject to the rules and regulations of the state board of education and the provisions of sections 53, 54 and 55 of this article, all teachers in the public schools of the State.

20B. The state superintendent of schools shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, and submit for approval and adoption by the state board of education, courses of study for the different grades and kinds of elementary schools, high schools and normal schools, and also college courses for teachers.

21. The state superintendent of schools, acting under the rules and regulations of the state board of education, shall be responsible for the administration of the state department of education, and shall have general supervision of all the professional and clerical assistants of the department. He shall nominate to the state board of education all the professional and clerical assistants of the department and may recommend their dismissal for immorality, misconduct in office, insubordination, incompetency or wilful neglect of duty. But the qualification of all appointments, their tenure and compensation, except as may hereinafter be provided, shall be determined by the state board of education.

21A. The state department of education shall hereafter be provided with the following professional assistants. Such professional assistants as are employed at the time this section shall take effect shall be eligible for reappointment to the positions which they now hold: