

Academically High-Performing School Districts Criteria for Designation

Chapter 2007-194, Laws of Florida (Section 1003.621, F.S.)

Section 1003.621, F.S., states it is the intent of the Legislature to recognize and reward school districts that demonstrate the ability to consistently maintain or improve their high-performing status. School districts that satisfy the eligibility criteria and receive the academically high-performing designation are provided flexibility in meeting specified requirements in statute and rules of the State Board of Education.

As shown in Table 1, Brevard School District has met the eligibility criteria specified in statute for designation as an Academically High-Performing School District. The school district was initially designated academically high performing in 2007-08 and will be maintaining its second year of designation. The table shows that for the most recent year for which school grades are available, Brevard School District met the two academic criteria required by s. 1003.621, F.S.:

- Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, earned a grade of “A” under s. 1008.34(7), F.S., for 2 consecutive years; and
- Has no district-operated school that earned a grade of “F” in the most recent grading period under s. 1008.34, F.S.

Brevard School District has also met two additional requirements specified in s. 1003.621, F.S., for designation as an academically high-performing school district:

- Class size compliance – The district complies with all class size requirements in s. 1, Art. IX of the State Constitution and s. 1003.03, F.S., in the most recent year for which class size was calculated. Eligibility is based on 2008-2009 class size data, including adjustments to compliance made as a result of the appeals process.
- Audit compliance – The district has no material weaknesses or instances of material noncompliance noted in the most recent annual financial audit conducted pursuant to s. 218.39, F.S.

TABLE 1
ACADEMICALLY HIGH-PERFORMING SCHOOL DISTRICT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

SCHOOL DISTRICT	DISTRICT GRADED “A” FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS		DISTRICT OPERATED “F” SCHOOLS IN MOST RECENT YEAR	DISTRICT COMPLIES WITH CLASS SIZE REQUIREMENTS	MOST RECENT FINANCIAL AUDIT FINDINGS		DISTRICT PREVIOUSLY DESIGNATED ACADEMICALLY HIGH PERFORMING	
	2006-07	2007-08	2007-08	2008-09	Finding	Year Ended	2006-07	2007-08
Brevard	A	A	0	Yes	No material noncompliance; no material weakness; unqualified audit opinion.	06/30/08	No	Yes

If designated, Brevard School District will join the following school districts that the State Board of Education designated in April 2009 as Florida’s 2008-09 Academically High-Performing School Districts: Alachua, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Gilchrist, Leon, Martin, Nassau, Okaloosa, St. Johns, Seminole, Wakulla, and Walton.