

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action Item

September 15, 2009

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.09981, Implementation of Florida's System of School Improvement and Accountability

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1008.34, Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main focus of the rule revision relates to the implementation of procedures to calculate school grades for high schools. During the 2008 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 1908 revised the governing statute related to school grades – significantly changing the way school grades would be calculated for high schools. As stipulated in the law, beginning in the 2009-10 school year, 50 percent of the high school's grade will be based on the existing FCAT-related factors and the remaining 50 percent will be based on factors that include:

- A school's graduation rate;
- As valid data become available, the performance and participation of students in Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Dual Enrollment, Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), and industry certification;
- The postsecondary readiness of the students as measured by the SAT, ACT, or College Placement Test (CPT);
- The high school graduation rate of at-risk students; and
- Growth or decline in the data components from year to year.

The rule identifies the steps necessary for calculating and reporting the new components for the Next Generation high school grading system. In addition to the high school grading procedures, the rule also addresses other changes relating to the overall school grades procedures. Those are:

- Change the minimum cell size for the writing and science components of school grades reducing the minimum number of students needed for a school's calculation to be reported and included in school grades from the current 30 students to 10 students.
- Define new procedures for determining the percent of proficient students in writing for school grades (required because of a change in the number of scorers assigned to FCAT writing essays).
- Define procedures to include alternate assessment results for students with disabilities in learning gains for school grading beginning in 2009-10, as required by Section 1008.34(3)(b)1.b., Florida Statutes.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-1.09981, Implementation of Florida's System of School Improvement and Accountability and Revising High School Grading Requirements PowerPoint Presentation

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