

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Action Item
October 18, 2023

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.09981, School and District Accountability

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1008.34(6), F.S.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

School and district grades are calculated annually and provide an easily understandable metric to measure the performance of a school and district. Section (s.) 1008.34, Florida Statutes (F.S.), establishes the statewide school and district grading system for all public schools in the state. Specifically, s. 1008.34, F.S., defines which schools should be calculated, what components are included in the school grades calculation, and how and which schools earn a grade of A-F. Additionally, the statute requires the State Board of Education to adopt in rule a school grading scale that sets the percentage of points needed to earn a school grade.

The proposed rule will incorporate changes made during the 2022 and 2023 legislative sessions, and it will incorporate technical edits to include the new statewide, standardized assessments. In the 2022 legislative session, SB 1048 (CH. 2022-16, L.O.F.) amended s. 1008.34(7), F.S., to require the Department of Education to align the initial informational baseline school grading scale so that the percentage of schools that earn an "A," "B," "C," "D" and "F" is statistically equivalent to the 2021-2022 school grades results.

Additionally, in the 2023 legislative session, HB 1537 (CH. 2023-39, L.O.F.) amended the school grades formula to include a standalone grade 3 English Language Arts component for schools comprised of grade levels that include grade 3. Beginning in the 2023-24 school year, a new school grade component will be calculated for schools comprised of grade levels that include grade 3 that reflects the percentage of eligible students who score an Achievement Level 3 or higher on the grade 3 statewide, standardized English Language Arts (ELA) assessment.

During the 2022-2023 school year, the statewide assessment program began implementing assessments aligned to the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards in ELA and Mathematics. The rule must be updated to incorporate technical edits to remove references to the Florida Standards Assessments.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-1.09981, F.A.C.

Facilitator/Presenter: Juan Copa, Deputy Commissioner; Division of Accountability, Research, and Measurement