



Arizona State Board of Education

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December 5, 2017

The State Board of Education met on December 4th for its last meeting of the year and welcomed its newest member, Christine Burton.

The Board's next meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2018 and the entire 2018 schedule can be found [here](#).

Below are highlights of the December meeting:

A-F School Letter Grades: Data and Coding Findings and Actions

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) issued a report on the data and coding validation period regarding A-F letter grades. ADE's full report can be found [here](#). Based on ADE's findings, the Board took action to do the following:

- Reopen the window to submit College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI) *only* for those schools identified through the data and coding validation period. ADE will contact eligible schools;
- Award bonus points *after* the cut score has been set;
- Round points at the final calculation of points earned prior to calculating the percentage earned;
- Cap CCRI points at 20 points and 2 bonus points; and
- Direct ADE to work on creating a Student Growth to Target (SGT) score for accelerating students in the 8th grade.

Any changes described above will be applied when the Board finalizes the 2016-2017 letter grades.

A-F School Letter Grades: Technical Advisory Committee

The recently created Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), a group of data and analytics experts from across the K-20 spectrum, issued its first report to the Board on the A-F Accountability System. The TAC's findings address n-count, growth, proficiency, K-8 acceleration/readiness measures, English language learners (ELL) and free and reduced lunch. The full report can be found [here](#).

Based on its report, the Board directed TAC to further analyze, model and present recommendations to the Board at its January 29, 2017 meeting, on the following issues:

Board Members: **President: Tim Carter** **Vice President: Luke Narducci**
Superintendent of Public Instruction: Diane Douglas
Calvin Baker **Christine Burton** **Dr. Rita H. Cheng**
Janice Mak **Jared Taylor** **Dr. Daniel Corr** **Michele Kaye** **Patricia Welborn**
Executive Director: Alicia Williams



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- Growth: The TAC identified a “ceiling effect” that effectively caps growth scores for students who earn an 89 or higher score on SGT. The TAC will investigate the effect of awarding these students points;
- K-8 Acceleration/Readiness Measures: Currently, the K-8 Acceleration/Readiness Indicator is calculated using a denominator of 10. The TAC will investigate the effect of calculating the score using the total points a school is eligible to receive in the denominator, capped at 10;
- ELL n-count: The TAC will investigate the effect of lowering the n-count for ELL;
- Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL): The TAC will continue to study the correlation of letter grades to FRL and provide additional information on a more sophisticated indicator of risk; and
- Non-Typical School Configurations: The TAC will continue to work on a model to issue letter grades to non-typical schools that merges outlier grades and prorates the letter grades.

Proposed Certification Rules

The Board opened rulemaking on the following rules governing educator certification:

- R7-2-612: Career and Technical Educator (CTE) Certificates
 - Simplifies and clarifies rules for CTE certification.
- R7-2-612.01: Specialized Career and Technical Educator Certificates
 - Makes changes to conform to statute.
- R7-2-611: Special Education Teaching Certificates
 - Exempts certain paraprofessionals from capstone experiences to allow them to become certified and therefore paid teachers.
- R7-2-614: Other Teaching Certificates
 - Allows individuals to convert an emergency teaching certificate to a new certificate referred to as a “District or Charter Standard Certificate”.
 - Makes changes to the Temporary Exchange Teaching Certificate to conform to statute.
- R7-2-609.01: Middle Grades Certificate
 - Creates a Middle Grades Teaching Certificate for grades 5-9.

The rules may be found [here](#). Individuals seeking to provide public comment on these rules can submit to the Board’s email inbox at inbox@azsbe.az.gov. A public hearing on the rules will be held on January 3, 2018 at 3 P.M. at the Board’s office at 1700 W Washington Street, Executive Tower, Suite 300, Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

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