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January 31, 2018

The State Board of Education met on January 29, 2018 for its first meeting of the year. The Board's next meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2018 and the entire 2018 schedule can be found here.

Below are highlights of the January meeting:

Election of Officers

Luke Narducci, who previously served as Vice President of the Board, was elected as President. Dr. Daniel Corr was elected as Vice President. To thank outgoing President Tim Carter for his service, the Board presented Mr. Carter with a special clock and thanked him for his work ethic, leadership and commitment to all of Arizona students as President of the Board.

2016-2017 A-F School Letter Grades

The Board's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), a group of data and analytics experts from across the K-20 spectrum, issued its second report to the Board on the 2016-2017 A-F Accountability System. In its report, the TAC made a recommendation to modify the student growth to target portion of the growth calculation and provided a recommendation for schools with non-typical configurations. The TAC also analyzed the K-8 Acceleration/Readiness Measures and the n-count for English Language Learners but recommended the Board not take action on those items at this time. The TAC's findings are summarized here, beginning on page 60.

Based on the TAC's findings and recommendations the Board voted at the January meeting to do the following:

- 1. Award points for "Exceeds Target" to students that have a Student Growth to Target (SGT) score of 89 points or above; and
- 2. Adopt the hybrid model for non-typical school configurations (specifics on the hybrid model are found here, on page 77).

The Board has already taken the following actions regarding the 2016-2017 letter grades:

3. Address issues identified in the data and coding validation period;



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- 4. Reopen the window to submit College and Career Readiness Indicators (CCRI) only for those schools identified through the data and coding validation period;
- 5. Award bonus points after the cut score has been set;
- 6. Round points at the final calculation of points earned prior to calculating the percentage earned; and
- 7. Cap CCRI points at 20 points and 2 bonus points.

Board staff is working with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to apply these changes to the 2016-2017 A-F Accountability System and to return to the Board with updated modeling and impact data to allow the Board to consider cut scores for finalization.

Communications to the field will be distributed as the Board nears finalization.

Social Science/History and Science Standards

ADE stated it intends to deliver the initial draft of the Social Science/History and Science standards to the Board this spring when the Department will also request opening a public comment period of not less than 60 days for public review of the draft standards.

Qualified Professionals List

The Board approved the list of qualified professionals eligible to conduct evaluations to verify certain disabilities. The list, which can be found here (page 107), was modified to include certified speech-language technicians as individuals eligible to conduct evaluations for speech/language impairment. Specific questions may be directed to Exceptional Student Services at ADE at (602) 542-4013 or ESSInbox@azed.gov.