

ENTITY ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Review: \_\_\_\_\_

## A-F SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY APPEALS COMMITTEE

### DISCUSSION, FINDINGS, AND CONCLUSION OF A-F LETTER GRADE APPEAL

NON EXPEDITED REVIEW       EXPEDITED REVIEW

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-241(l)<sup>i</sup>, the State Board of Education A-F School Accountability Appeals Committee (Committee) reviewed the appeal to modify the Arizona Department of Education's (ADE) determination of school performance letter grade. The Committee submits the following findings and conclusions.

I. The Committee reviewed the following documents<sup>ii</sup>:

- 1) Written narrative (required)
- 2) Longitudinal data related to school performance
- 3) Longitudinal data related to student performance
- 4) Official documentation in support of appeal
- 5) Documentation relevant to school improvement plan
- 6) Other:

\_\_\_\_\_

The Committee also considered the following:

- 1) Evidence of implementation of School Improvement Plan
- 2) Appellant testimony
- 3) Witness testimony on Appellant's behalf
- 4) Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) None of the above. Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Appellant-School claims of mitigating factors:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### A. Applicable Mitigating Factors and Circumstances

To determine whether a mitigating factor is present, the selected sub-category must be agreed upon by a majority of the Committee.

- 1) Environmental Issues or Events
- 2) Adverse Testing Conditions
- 3) School or Community Emergency
- 4) School Tragedy

5) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Was this event:

- 1) Unrelated to school/student performance
- 2) Outside the school's control
- 3) Timing reasonably related to student performance
- 4) Substantial cause of overall school performance

C. Did the school take reasonable steps to minimize the situation's impact on assessment outcomes?

- 1) Yes
- 2) No
- 3) The opportunity did not exist for the school/LEA to minimize impact on students.

If yes, then what steps were taken?

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II. Conclusion

A. Overall Performance Determination

The mitigating factor(s) outlined above:

- 1) Was/Were completely irrelevant to the school's originally assigned letter grade.
- 2) Slightly impacted performance but was/were not enough to impact the assigned letter grade.
- 3) Negatively impacted the school's overall performance causing a lower letter grade than would be otherwise anticipated.

B. Final Appeal Decision

1) Granted (additional explanation if provided):

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The Committee adopts one of the following courses of action:

Adjust the assigned A-F letter grade from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_.

Deny the request (additional explanation if provided):

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C. Conclusion: Roll-Call Vote

<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>GRANT</b>	<b>DENY</b>
<i>State Board Member</i>		
<i>State Board Member</i>		
<i>State Board Member</i>		
The Committee adopted the conclusion by a vote of ____ to ____.		

Additional Notes:

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<sup>i</sup> A.R.S. § 15-241(l) states that “the state board of education shall establish an appeals process to allow a school or local education agency to appeal the school’s or local education agency’s final letter grade based on mitigating factors identified by the board.”

<sup>ii</sup> Evidence under review should be attached to these findings in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99.