Every Student Succeeds Act: Opportunities for Delaware

Alliance for Excellent Education

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ASSESSMENTS: STATE AND LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

- Statewide, annual assessments: grades 3-8 and once in high school
- At least 95 percent of all students, and 95 percent of each subgroup of students, must be assessed (must be included in accountability system)
- Up to 1 percent of students (students with the most severe cognitive disabilities) may take an alternate assessment



ASSESSMENTS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR STATES AND DISTRICTS

- Balanced assessment systems, including projects, portfolios, and performance tasks
- Funding, including for assessment audits
- Locally-selected, nationally recognized high school assessments
 - > Districts must notify parents if they request approval to use a locally-selected high school assessment
- Innovative assessment and accountability pilot
- Stakeholder engagement



POP QUIZ

- 1) ESSA requires 95 percent of students to be tested annually. This means:
 - a) 95 percent of the students enrolled in all public schools in the state
 - b) 95 percent of all students in each subgroup in the state
 - c) All of the above
- 2) True or False: In order to incorporate performance tasks that measure higher order thinking into the statewide assessment, a state must join the innovative assessment pilot.
- 3) True or False: A district may only use the SAT or ACT as the "locally selected, nationally recognized high school assessment."



ASSESSMENTS: ITEMS TO CONSIDER

- Are the assessments *fully aligned* with challenging academic content standards and do they measure higher order thinking skills?
- Do the assessments provide *meaningful differentiation* among student performance?
- Do the assessments provide data that informs instruction?



ACCOUNTABILITY: STATE REQUIREMENTS

- State and local plans must be developed with timely and meaningful consultation with teachers, principals, charter school leaders, parents, other school personnel, and others
- Set long-term goals and interim progress measures that "take into account the improvement necessary on such measures to make significant progress in closing statewide proficiency and graduation rate gaps"



ACCOUNTABILITY: STATE REQUIREMENTS

- Multiple measure accountability systems:
 - Proficiency in ELA and Math
 - Graduation Rates (high schools)
 - Additional academic indicator or growth (elementary/middle)
 - > English language proficiency
 - One or more indicators of school quality or student success*
- Academic indicators must carry "much greater weight"



ACCOUNTABILITY: OPPORTUNITIES

- Goal setting for graduation and proficiency rates
 - ➤ No more AYP; set ambitious but achievable goals
- Multiple measure accountability systems:
 - Indicator of school quality or success
 - Weight of each indicator
 - > Flexibility to use extended-year graduation rates
- N-size (moving away from the use of supersubgroups)//
- Stakeholder engagement



POP QUIZ

- 1) True or False: ESSA eliminates AYP and replaces it with state-set goals and targets.
- 2) True or False: Under ESSA, multiple accountability measures are permitted, not required.
- 3) Which of the following indicators may be used in the State Accountability and Improvement System as an indicator of school quality or success?:
 - (A) Postsecondary education enrollment, remediation, and/or persistence rates
 - (B) Advanced Placement enrollment, performance, and completion
 - (C) Chronic absenteeism
 - (D) A and B only
 - $\langle (E) A, B, and C \rangle$



DELAWARE STATE SUCCESS FRAMEWORK: METRIC WEIGHTS – ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Area/Measures	Weight	Points
Academic Achievement	30%	150
Proficiency ELA	10%	50
Proficiency Math	10%	50
Proficiency Science	5%	25
Proficiency Social Studies	5%	25
Growth	40%	200
Growth in ELA	20%	100
Growth in Math	20%	100
On Track to Graduation	10%	50
Average Daily Attendance	10%	50
College and Career Readiness	20%	100
Growth to Proficiency in ELA	10%	50
Growth to Proficiency in Math	10%	50
Total	100%	500

DELAWARE STATE SUCCESS FRAMEWORK: METRIC WEIGHTS – HIGH SCHOOLS

Area/Measures	Weight	Points
Academic Achievement	25%	125
Proficiency ELA	7.5%	37.5
Proficiency Math	7.5%	37.5
Proficiency Science	5%	25
Proficiency Social Studies	5%	25
Growth	45%	225
Growth in ELA	22.5%	112.5
Growth in Math	22.5%	112.5
On Track to Graduation	20%	100
On Track in 9 th Grade	5%	25
4-year Cohort Graduation Rate	10%	50
5-year Cohort Graduation Rate	3%	15
6-year Cohort Graduation Rate	2%	10
College and Career Readiness	10%	50
College and Career Preparation	10%	50
Total	100%	500

ACCOUNTABILITY: ITEMS TO CONSIDER

- Should the state accountability system use a *dashboard* or an *index*?
- Is *subgroup performance* masked?
- Average daily attendance vs. *chronic absenteeism*?
- Are the "other" indicators in the accountability system *meaningful, measurable*, and *actionable*?



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT: STATE REQUIREMENTS

- Every three years, identify schools for "Comprehensive Support and Improvement":
 - The lowest performing 5 percent of Title I schools
 - All high schools with graduation rates at or below 67 percent
 - > Schools with very low-performing subgroups that are not improving
- Annually identify schools for "Targeted Support and Improvement":
 - > All schools with consistently underperforming subgroups
- Use 7 percent of Title I allocations for school improvement activities



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT: STATE AND LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

- States approve and monitor LEA plans for Comprehensive Support and Improvement
- LEA plans must:
 - > Be informed by all accountability indicators
 - > Include evidence-based interventions
 - > Be based on a school-level needs assessment
 - > Identify resource inequities and
 - > Be approved by the school and LEA



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT: OPPORTUNITIES

• States determine how school improvement funds get distributed to LEAs (formula or competitive grants)

• LEAs select components of the needs assessment

• LEAs select evidence-based interventions (approved by the state) for comprehensive support and improvement schools



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT: OPPORTUNITIES

• States determine exit criteria, timeline (less than 4 years), and additional action for comprehensive support and improvement schools

• Schools determine interventions (in partnership with stakeholders, approved by LEAs) and LEAs determine the timeline and additional action (if needed) for targeted support and improvement schools



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT: OPPORTUNITIES

- May set aside 3 percent of Title I funds for "direct student services," including personalized learning, advanced course work, CTE that leads to an industry-recognized credential, etc.
- Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants:
 - > 5 percent set aside for state activities
 - > Priority for comprehensive and targeted support schools
- Differentiated improvement for alternative schools
- Stakeholder engagement



EXAMPLE OF EVIDENCE-BASED REFORM: SMALL SCHOOLS OF CHOICE

- District-wide strategy to close large, failing high schools and open small schools
- Rigorous evidence from a random assignment-like experimental design
- Improved high school graduation and college enrollment/ rates for all students, with increased results for students of color



POP QUIZ

- 1) True or False: ESSA requires federally-determined interventions in low-performing schools.
- 2) Which of the following schools will be identified for comprehensive support and improvement?:
 - (A) high schools with a graduation rate of 67% or less
 - (B) the bottom 5% of schools
 - (C) schools with consistently underperforming subgroup(s) of students
 - (D) A and B only
 - (E) A, B, and C
- 3) True or False: States select the evidenced-based interventions used in comprehensive and targeted support and improvement schools.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT: ITEMS TO CONSIDER

- What is the *effectiveness* of the intervention (degree, population, impact on achievement, etc.)?
- What is the *context* of implementation?
- Is the intervention *sustainable*?
- How will the intervention be *monitored*?



Timeline

2015-16 School Year: Bill Passage and Initial Rulemaking

	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July
						esses. evelops egulations.	Negotiate rulemakir (NPRM) m	ig panel		NPRM sent to Congress for review.		NPRM is open for public comment.
2016-17 School Year: Transition August Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. March April May June July											July	
		USED Rulemaking ESEA Waivers Final null and void. regulations released.			States Develop and Submit Plans States must continue interventions in identified schools (i.e., focus and priority schools).							
	Competitive grant programs take effect.				New President & Secretary				Formula grant programs take effect.			
2017-18 School Year: New Systems in Place												
	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July
New Accountability Systems Take Effect*												

^{*} It is not clear from the legislation when states will first be required to identify a new set of schools based on their accountability systems under ESSA (i.e., will the identification be based on 2016-17 data or 2017-18 data). We hope to have more clarity on the timeline from the U.S. Department of Education in the coming months.



DISCUSSION

