BP 0520 School Accountability/School Improvement

Note: Section 6316 of the No Child Left Behind Act requires districts receiving Title I funds to use state and local assessments or indicators to annually review the progress of each school receiving Title I funds to determine whether the school is making "adequate yearly progress" (AYP) as defined by the state. The State of Alaska has determined that it will access AYP for each school, district, and the statewide education system. AYP is measured by criteria set forth at 4 AAC 06.805, 06.810 and 06.812. These criteria include student performance on statewide assessments and graduation rate or school attendance. For a school or district to make AYP, all identified student groups (i.e., economically disadvantaged students, students from major racial and ethnic groups, students with disabilities and English learners) must meet the statewide achievement goal, or else the percentage of nonproficient students must be reduced by at least 10 percent with the group showing improvement on other academic indicators. At least 95 percent of each student group must participate in state assessments. Note: The following policy reflects the Alaska Systems for School Success which measures both school performance and school progress and results in a school designation of Comprehensive, Targeted, or Universal. The school rating may result in required interventions as well as specific supports.

The School Board is committed to the successful performance of the District and its schools. Successful performance is indicated through student academic achievement, student progress over prior year performance, strong attendance and graduation rates, and participation and achievement in college and career readiness exams. The Superintendent shall implement the following requirements for schools that have not achieved adequate yearly progress school and district accountability as determined by the Department of Education and Early Development.

If any District school is identified for improvement receives a Comprehensive or Targeted designation, the Superintendent or designee shall, develop, and implement a school improvement plan in accordance with federal and state law. This school plan School and District improvement plans shall be presented to the Board for approval approved by the School Board and submitted to the Department.

School Choice for Students Enrolled in a School Identified for Improvement, Corrective Action, or Restructuring

Note: This section applies to only those students enrolled in a school that receives Title I funds and has been identified by the State Board of Education for school improvement, corrective action, or restructuring according to federal and state law. NCLB final regulations, effective November 2008, require school districts to notify parents at least 14 calendar days before the start of the next school year the option to transfer their children to another public school and the available school choices. Note: A parent that elects to transfer his or her student under the school choice provisions is entitled to district-provided transportation to the transfer school.

However, transportation is not required if the school is more than 50 miles from the student's home, or if the student's home and the school are not connected by road. 4 AAC 06.855.

Students attending a school that has failed to make adequately yearly progress for two or more consecutive years may transfer to another public school within the District, if any, that has not been identified for improvement. At least 14 calendar days before the start of the school year, parents will be notified of the option to transfer their children to another public school and the available school choices. If possible, the district will offer a choice of more than one school and will consider the parents' preferences among the schools offered.

The district will not use lack of capacity to deny parents the option to transfer. The lowest-achieving students from low-income families will be given priority for school transfer. All students transferring are entitled to enroll in classes and activities in the same manner as all other students in the school.

A student who transfers to another school under this policy may remain at that school until the student completes the highest grade offered at the school. The District shall provide transportation only until the end of the school year in which the transferring school ceases to be identified for school improvement. All notices provided to parents/guardians and transfer requests are governed by State and federal law.

If there are no district schools available into which a student may transfer, or district-provided transportation is unavailable, the Superintendent or designee shall, to the extent practicable, establish a cooperative agreement with other districts in the area or offer supplemental educational services to qualifying students.

Supplemental Educational Services

Students from qualifying low-income families shall be provided supplemental educational services as provided in federal and state law if they attend any District school that: has been designated as Level 3 or higher by the Department. The District will provide annual notice to parents of the availability of supplemental educational services, explain its benefits and identify and describe the services of state-approved providers available within the district. Upon request, the district will assist parents in choosing a provider.

Supplemental educational services include tutoring and other high-quality research-based supplemental academic enrichment services. These services are in addition to instruction provided during the school day and should enable students to attain proficiency on assessments, as well as increased academic achievement.

The Superintendent or designee shall (enter into/prepare for Board approval) a written agreement with each provider selected by a parent. The agreement shall be prepared in accordance with law.

Note: The required terms of the agreement between the district and supplemental service provider are found at <u>4 AAC 06.860</u>. Districts are advised to consult this regulation and confer with your attorney in preparing the written service agreements.

Website Unless the Department approves an alternative improvement planning process, the District shall prepare the school improvement plan for a school designated for Comprehensive support and improvement or Targeted support and improvement. The District shall use a computerized self-assessment and improvement program selected by the Department that addresses each of the following domains of successful schools:

- (1) curriculum;
- (2) assessment policy and practice;
- (3) instruction;
- (4) school learning environment;
- (5) professional development policy and practices;
- (6) leadership.

School Interventions

The Superintendent or designee shall implement comprehensive interventions for any school identified as a Comprehensive school by the Department. The comprehensive interventions will use turnaround principles that accomplish the following: provide strong leadership; ensure effective teachers; redesign the school calendar to include additional time for student learning and teacher collaboration; improve the instructional program; use student data to inform instruction; establish a school environment that improves safety and discipline; and provide mechanisms for family and community involvement.

Targeted interventions will be implemented to meet the specific needs of schools identified by the Department as Targeted schools. A plan and timeline to implement the targeted interventions shall be created by the Superintendent or designee. Interventions should consider each of the turnaround principles for Comprehensive schools, some or all of which may be appropriate for the school or targeted subgroups. Decisions should be data-driven.

The District will utilize state provided supports in implementing comprehensive or targeted interventions.

School Success

The Board believes that all of its schools can be high performing and high progress schools. The district will annually recognize those schools identified as reward schools by the Department.

Parent Notification

Note: NCLB final regulations, effective November 2008, require school districts to publish information on their websites regarding school choice and supplemental educational services. The following language sets forth the required information.

The Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, shall publish on the district's website, and keep current, the following information:

The number of students eligible for The Superintendent or designee shall communicate with the parents of children attending schools designated as Comprehensive or Targeted schools. The information should be in an understandable and uniform format, and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. Parents should be promptly advised of:

- 1. What the designation means, and that participated in how the school choice;
- 2. The number of students eligible for and that participated in SES;
- 3.1. A listcompares in terms of approved SES providers that serve academic achievement to other schools in the district and the locations of their services state:
- 2. A list of available schools The reasons for choice the designation;
- 3. Information about how the parents can become involved in addressing the academic issues that led to the designation; and
- 4. Any action taken to address the problems that led to the designation, including: an explanation of what the school is doing to address low achievement; an explanation of what the district and Department are doing to help; and a description of interventions being taken by the district.
- 4. The information in item 4 above shall also be disseminated to the public. Information provided to parents will be sent through direct means such as mail or email. Communications must respect the privacy of students and their families.

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTE

<u>14.03.123</u> School and District Accountability

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 06.800 - .899 School and District Accountability

UNITED STATES CODE

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, <u>20 U.S.C. § 6316, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301, et. seq.</u>, as amended by the No Child Left BehindEvery Student Succeeds Act of 2001 (<u>P.L. 107-110</u>)P.L. 114-95, December 10, 2015)

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Southeast Island School District