

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Compliance Commission Recommendations for Field Testing and Special Studies Appeals for the 2011-12 School Year

Type of Executive Summary:

Consent Action Action on First Reading Discussion Information

Policy Implications:

- Constitution _____
- General Statute #115C-174.12 (b1)
- SBE Policy # TCS-B-000
- SBE Policy Amendment
- SBE Policy (New)
- APA # _____
- APA Amendment
- APA (New)
- Other SBE Directive

Presenter(s): Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Tammy L. Howard (Director, Accountability Services)

Description:

On August 16, 2011, LEAs were notified of participation in field tests and special studies for the 2011-12 school year. LEAs were permitted to file an official appeal requesting that a school be excluded from a specific field test sample based on a written justification submitted by the LEA superintendent along with a Request for Appeals form. Requests for Appeals were collected by the Division of Accountability Services and presented to the Compliance Commission for Accountability at a conference call meeting held September 15, 2011.

Resources:

Staff from the Test Development Section and the Testing Policy and Operations Section of the Division of Accountability Services, staff from NCSU TOPS, the LEA Test Coordinators, Regional Accountability Coordinators, Compliance Commission for Accountability, and the NCDPI leadership will serve as the resources needed in the implementation of the field testing, sample generation, and the processing of field testing appeals. In addition, the resources of the selected public school districts and schools will be required to implement the field testing process.

Input Process:

The SBE received the list of field tests/special studies for the 2011-12 school year in the June 14, 2011 Friday Update.

Stakeholders:

Selected North Carolina public schools, selected LEA and school support personnel, selected public school students, parents, General Assembly, State Board of Education, NCDPI leadership, and support staff

Timeline For Action:

This item is being presented for Action on First Reading at the October SBE meeting.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the SBE approve the Compliance Commission's recommendations regarding the appeals.

Audiovisual equipment requested for the presentation:

- Data Projector/Video (Videotape/DVD and/or Computer Data, Internet, Presentations-PowerPoint preferred)
- Specify: _____

Audio Requirements (computer or other, except for PA system which is provided)
Specify: _____

Document Camera (for transparencies or paper documents – white paper preferred)

Motion By: _____ Seconded By: _____
Vote: Yes _____ No _____ Abstain _____
Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Postponed _____ Revised _____

*Person responsible for SBE agenda materials and SBE policy updates: Lucy Medlin, 919-807-3771

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Policy Manual

Policy Identification

Priority: Twenty-First Century Systems

Category: Advisory Committees

Policy ID Number: TCS-B-000

Policy Title: Policy delineating the purpose and composition of the State Board of Education's Compliance Commission for Accountability

Current Policy Date: 12/02/2010

Other Historical Information: Previous board dates: 07/10/1997, 07/11/2002, 03/06/2003, 10/07/2004

Statutory Reference:

Administrative Procedures Act (APA) Reference Number and Category:

- (a) The purpose of the Commission shall be to advise and to make recommendations to the State Board of Education through the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction on testing issues and other issues related to school accountability and improvement.

The State Board, after discussing issues related to testing and accountability as presented by the Department of Public Instruction, may request that the Compliance Commission further discuss such issues and make recommendations to the Board.

Issues to be considered:

- (1) proposed changes to the state's accountability program
 - (2) the testing code of ethics
 - (3) test security and administration
 - (4) auditing procedures to ensure integrity of the testing and accountability program
 - (5) the relationship of testing to other aspects of schooling, and
 - (6) other issues related to testing and accountability as deemed appropriate by the State Board of Education.
- (b) The Commission shall also be designated as:
- (1) the Appeals Committee of the ABCs Accountability Program. The Commission in this capacity will hear and make recommendations to the State Board of Education on schools appealing the growth standards of the ABCs Accountability Program.
 - (2) The Commission shall also be designated to consider requests from schools that desire to be exempt from participating in field test(s) and shall make a recommendation to the State Board of Education on such a request.

(c) Upon recommendation by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education shall approve appointments to the Compliance Commission consisting of 22 members in accordance with the procedures stated in SBE Policy TCS-B-002 (Advisory Committees), who shall represent the following categories effective:

(1)

- Four shall be teachers
- Five shall be principals representing elementary, middle and high schools.
- Four shall be from central office staffs, (at least one must represent Exceptional Children),
- Two shall represent local boards of education
- One shall represent NC Charter Schools
- Two shall be members of the business community
- One shall be a parent representative
- One shall represent higher education, and
- Two shall be at-large

To the extent possible, members will be appointed from the eight education districts (as defined in G.S. 115C-65) to keep the Commission balanced geographically and professionally.

(2) Terms of membership shall be for four years, be staggered, and shall run through December 31. Members may be reappointed by the SBE for one additional term.

(3) As Commission members are replaced, the SBE shall, to the extent possible, recommend and approve replacements to keep the Commission balanced geographically and professionally.

(4) A member of the State Board of Education as designated by the State Board membership shall sit on the Commission as a non-voting ex-officio member.

(d) The State Board of Education shall appoint a chair from the membership of the Commission. The Chair shall serve for two years.

(e) The Commission shall elect a Vice-Chair from its membership.

(f) The Commission shall meet at least annually. The State Board of Education shall determine if the Commission needs to meet to discuss an issue.

(g) The Department of Public Instruction, Division of Accountability Services, shall staff the Commission and shall develop the agendas for the scheduled meetings in conjunction with the Commission's Chair. Draft minutes of the Commission meetings shall be provided to the State Board of Education within one month following each meeting, with official approved minutes being shared with the SBE following approval by the Commission.

Field Test Appeals

(2011-12 School Year)

Charter School

1. Central Park School for Children (32K-000)
Science General Grade 5 - Online

Guilford County Schools

1. Doris Henderson Newcomers School (410-398)
Math General Grades 3 & 6
ELA General Grades 7 & 8 (not applicable as all students are first year in U.S. schools and are not expected to participate)
English II General – Online (not applicable as all students are first year in U.S. schools and are not expected to participate)
2. Gillespie Park Elementary School (410-385)
Math General
ELA General
Science General
3. High School Ahead Academy (410-396)
Reading Grade 8
4. Oak View Elementary School (410-505)
Reading Grades 3 & 4
NCEXTEND2 Grade 5
5. Colfax Elementary School (410-346)
Science General Grade 5
NCEXTEND1 Grade 5
NCEXTEND2 Grade 5

Wake County Schools

1. W. G. Enloe Magnet High School (920-412)
English II – Online
2. Fox Road Elementary School (920-415)
General Assessments

3. Charles R. Bugg Creative Arts and Science Magnet Elementary School (920-352)
 - Reading Grades 3 & 4 – Paper
 - NCEXTEND2* Reading Grades 3-5 – Online
 - NCEXTEND2* Math Grades 3-5 – Online
 - NCEXTEND2* Science Grade 5 – Online
 - NCEXTEND1* Reading Grades 3-5
 - NCEXTEND1* Math Grades 3-5
 - NCEXTEND1* Science Grades 3-5

Appeals for the nine (9) schools were reviewed by the Compliance Commission for Accountability during a conference call on September 15, 2011. The Compliance Commission for Accountability was unanimous in denying the appeals for all nine schools.

However, it was noted that where there are more than two field tests at one grade level, the school(s) will only participate in two of the assigned field tests, not three as indicated. This will be specified in the notification letter to the four schools with this occurrence. These schools will participate in all other field tests as assigned.

The Doris Henderson Newcomers School appeal was denied; however, consistent with eligibility criteria for students who are in their first year in a U.S. school, such students will not participate in the English language arts field tests. However, students will participate in the mathematics field tests, which is also consistent with eligibility criteria for students who are in their first year in a U.S. school.

In response to the appeals regarding capacity for online administrations, the Department did confirm it would assist schools in maximizing their participation potential in a reasonable manner.

Recommendation to the State Board of Education:

The Commission recommends the State Board of Education deny the appeals for all schools noted above.