

BP 0520 SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY/SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

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/Chief School Administrator] shall implement requirements for school and district accountability as determined by the Department of Education and Early Development.

If any district school receives a Comprehensive or Targeted designation, the [Superintendent/Chief School Administrator] or designee shall develop and implement a school improvement plan in accordance with state law. School and District improvement plans shall be approved by the School Board and submitted to the Department.

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:

- curriculum;
- assessment policy and practice;
- instruction;
- school learning environment;
- professional development policy and practices;
- 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/Chief School Administrator] 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

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 how the school compares in terms of academic achievement to other schools in the district and state;
2. The reasons for 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.

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

14.03.123 School and District Accountability

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 06.800 - .899 School and District Accountability

UNITED STATES CODE

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301, et. seq., as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95, December 10, 2015)

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