



Accountability Update

Florida Organization of Instructional Leaders

November 2, 2023



Accountability Policy Updates

Rule Update

- On October 18, 2023, the State Board approved amendments to Rule 6A-1.09981, F.A.C.

Purpose of the Amendment

- Incorporates changes made during the 2022 and 2023 legislative sessions.
- As part of the transition to new assessments and new performance standards, or cut scores, Senate Bill 1048 (2022) amended s. 1008.34, F.S., to require that the initial school **grading scale for 2022-2023 informational baseline grades** be set so that the percentage of schools that earn an “A,” “B,” “C,” “D” and “F” is **statistically equivalent to the 2021-2022 school grades results.**
- Additionally, House Bill 1537 (2023), amended s. 1008.34, F.S., to **include a standalone component for Grade 3 English Language Arts (ELA) achievement in the school grades calculation** beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

School Grades for the 2022-2023 Transition Year

- As outlined in state law, **the 2022-2023 school grades**, which will incorporate the new assessment results and new cut scores for those assessments, **shall serve as an informational baseline** for schools and districts to work toward improved performance in future years.
- Because of the transition to new assessments, **learning gains** – which require two years of assessment data – **will not be part of the informational baseline 2022-2023 grades**.
- **No negative consequences** shall result from these grades, as they are purely informational.
 - For example, per state law, a school may not be required to select and implement a turnaround option based on these grades.
- Learning gains and consequences shall return for the 2023-2024 calculation of school grades (Summer 2024).

School Grades for the 2022-2023 Transition Year

Letter Grade	Pre-Existing Scale	2022-2023 Transition Scale
A	62% of the points or higher	Following the calculation of the baseline grades using the new assessment cuts points, school grade point thresholds will be established, by school type, so that the overall results mirror the 2021-2022 results of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32% of schools earning an “A,” • 25% of schools earning a “B,” • 37% of schools earning a “C,” • 5% of schools earning a “D” and • 1% of schools earning an “F.”
B	54% to 61% of the points	
C	41% to 53% of the points	
D	32% to 40% of the points	
F	31% of the points or less	

- As required by state law, once learning gains data become available at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year, the State Board shall review the school grading scale and determine if the scale should be adjusted for the 2023-2024 school grades calculation (Summer 2024).

Focus on 3rd Grade ELA Achievement

- This amendment conforms with the statutory requirement to, beginning with the 2023-2024 school grades calculation, **add a stand-alone component measuring the ELA achievement of Grade 3 students.**
- The inclusion of a Grade 3 ELA achievement component in school grades, in addition to the existing overall ELA achievement component, will likely **increase a school's focus on literacy in the primary grades.**
- As data has shown, **Grade 3 ELA achievement is a predictor of future success.**
- With this new component of school grades providing a new incentive for high achievement, **improvements in Grade 3 ELA performance should occur, paving the way for better outcomes for all Florida students.**

Accountability Transition

- Mirrors the “hold harmless” approach used during 2014-15 when the state transitioned from the FCAT 2.0 to the FSA.
- With the cut scores for FAST/B.E.S.T. assessments now adopted by the State Board, the 2022-2023 informational baseline grades will be released in the coming weeks.
- Due to the absence of learning gains, school improvement ratings will not be calculated for the 2022-23 school year.

Designations

- Schools that improve to a “C” or higher during 2022-23 year may exit turnaround status.
- School districts and charter school systems designated as “High-Performing” may not lose their designation based on their 2022-23 grades.

Virtual Instructional Providers

- Pursuant to s. 1002.45(7)(a)2., F.S., Virtual Instruction Providers (VIP) district (provider-based) and school (contracted district-based) grades will be implemented in 2022-23.

Appeals

- Preliminary Grade released [will update when known]
- 30-Day appeals window opens [will update when known]
- Appeals due [will update when known]

Value-Added Model (VAM)

Reminder

- Since amended in 2017, state law - s. 1012.34(7)(b), F.S. - made VAM Scores purely optional for use in a teacher's evaluation.
- Per state law - s. 1012.34(3)(a)1., F.S., - the “performance of students” component of an educator’s evaluation is to be comprised of “data and indicators of student performance, as determined by each school district.”
- As always, districts are under no obligation to use these data in teacher evaluations.

Transition Year for VAM

- For the 2022-23 school year, due to the transition from FSA to FAST, VAM scores were **not** calculated.
- Files were provided to districts containing 3-year and 2-year aggregate scores from 2022-23 for optional use earlier this year.

Looking Ahead

Reminder - Progress Monitoring

- Beginning with the 2022-23 school year, the end-of-year comprehensive progress monitoring assessment (PM3) is the statewide, standardized assessment in English language arts (ELA) and Math.
- PM1 and PM2 are for informational purposes and will not be incorporated into district, school or teacher accountability metrics.
- When they resume in 2023-24, learning gains will continue to be based on end-of-year comparisons (PM3 to PM3).

School Grades - Escalator Clause

- Pursuant to s. 1008.34(3)(c)1., F.S., beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the State Board must adjust the scale if the percentage of schools earning a grade of “A” or “B” in the current year represents 75 percent or more of all graded schools within a particular school type, which consists of elementary, middle, high and combination.
- The adjustment must reset the minimum required percentage of points for each grade of “A,” “B,” “C” or “D” at the next highest percentage ending in the numeral 5 or 0, whichever is closest to the current percentage.

Additional Resources

- Accountability website
 - <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/>
- Accountability rules
 - <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/accountability-rules.shtml>
- Know Your Schools
 - <https://edudata.fldoe.org/>
- DJJ education program website
 - <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/exceptional-student-edu/juvenile-justice-edu.shtml>