

State of Alaska

House Finance Subcommittee

Department of Education and
Early Development

July 25, 2013



Purpose

- Provide overview of standards, assessment, evaluation, and accountability
- Identify connection to Elementary & Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver
- Present information regarding state and districts funding and costs related to ESEA

Standards & Assessment

Standards

- New English Language Arts & Math Standards
 - First review of Alaska Standards February 2010
 - Meetings to revise standards conducted with 229 Alaska stakeholders from 7 regional areas
 - Regulations to change standards out for 6 month public comment period in December 2011
 - Fairbanks, Bethel, Mat-Su, Juneau Community Meetings held Spring 2012
 - ELA & Math Standards adopted in June 2012

Connection to ESEA Waiver

- Adoption of college & career ready standards in language arts and mathematics following State's adoption process
- Assurance from State university that students who met these standards will not need remedial coursework at the postsecondary level

Assessment

- Implement period prior to new assessment
 - Two or three years for implementation prior to assessing
- Necessary regulation changes, no new regulations

Assessment

New assessments replace the current Standards Based Assessments (SBAs) in grades 3-10 in reading, writing and mathematics (Alternate will also change)

Assessment	Who takes:	Required by:
<i>Standards Based Assessment (SBA)</i>	<i>Grades 3-10</i>	<i>ESEA & Alaska Statute</i>
<i>Alternate</i>	<i>Grades 3-10, students with disabilities unable to take SBA</i>	<i>ESEA</i>
English Language Proficiency	All students who are not English language proficient	ESEA
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)	Grade 4 and 8 sample group, bi-annually	ESEA
Developmental Profile	Kindergarten or entering grade 1	Alaska Statute
High School Graduation Qualifying Examination (HSGQE)	Grade 10, and higher until passage	Alaska Staute
Workkeys	Grade 11, 12 optional	Alaska Administrative Code

Assessment

- **Assessment options**
 - Join and use an assessment consortium assessment
 - Build an assessment
 - Purchase a published assessment
- **Request For Proposals (RFP) for:**
 - Services necessary to deliver a consortium assessment with cost options to:
 - Provide a custom developed assessment or a published assessment aligned to the Alaska standards
 - Anticipate release of RFP in August 2013
- **Technology Readiness**

Assessment

- Consortium Option
 - Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
 - Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
- SBAC
 - Determined that Alaska Content Standards could be sufficiently assessed
 - Advisory state rather than a governing state, clearly keeping options open to other potential approaches

Assessment

- Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
 - Summative assessment
 - Grades 3-8 and 11, with the option of adding 9 and 10
 - Comprehensive assessments, similar to current program
 - Computer-based, adaptive tests, with paper-pencil versions available for up to three years at state expense
 - College & career readiness
 - Interim and formative assessments available at an additional costs
 - Designed to provide instructional feedback regarding progress through-out the year

Assessment

- What we know about costs?
 - SBAC provides the assessment (items and test engine for electronic testing) and analysis
 - Vendor required for wrap-around services, including: administration, scoring, reporting, data analysis tools, etc.
 - Current SBA costs are approximately \$50.43 per student.
 - Estimated costs for SBAC and wrap-around services are approximately \$49.24
 - Use of the RFP process will provide definitive cost data

Connection to ESEA Waiver

- Implement new assessments in 2015
 - Waiver requires assessments of college and career ready standards by 2015

Educator Evaluation

Educator Evaluation

- Education Summit November 2008
- Forming of Teacher Quality Working Group
 - Provide input regarding a statewide framework for teacher and administrator evaluation
 - 42 members
 - 13 meetings between November 2009 and April 2012

Educator Evaluation

- Process
 - 1975 regulations for educator evaluation
 - 1996 Statutes requiring educator evaluations tied to standards
 - Review of research regarding effective teaching and leadership practices
 - Regulations put out for public comment June 2012
 - Regulations adopted December 2012

Educator Evaluation

- Two significant changes
 - Consideration of Alaska cultural standards
 - Inclusion of student learning data as part of evaluation

Connection to ESEA Waiver

- Adoption of guidelines for local teacher and principal evaluation
- Involvement of teachers and principals in the development of guidelines
- Evaluation systems that
 - Use multiple valid measure to determine performance levels, including the use of student growth data
 - Include useful feedback to guide professional development
 - Are used to inform personnel decisions

School Accountability

School Accountability

- Growth & Proficiency Index already in regulations
- State System of Support in regulations for accountability and support to Tier 3 districts
- Majority of accountability regulations driven by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requirements

Connection to ESEA Waiver

- ESEA Flexibility Waiver permitted a State-based system of differentiated recognition, accountability, and support
- Required
 - Setting ambitious but achievable annual measurable objectives
 - Consider student achievement in at least language arts and math, and in graduation rate
 - Take into account student growth
 - Identify and require interventions in Priority (1-star, Title I) and Focus (1 & 2-star, Title I) Schools
 - Publicly recognize Reward Schools

Connection to ESEA Waiver

- Flexibility permitted from
 - Making Adequate Yearly Progress determinations for schools and districts
 - Meeting AMO targets
 - For 2013, 94.28 % proficient in language arts; 91.53 % proficient in math
 - Improvement, corrective action, or restructuring for Title I schools not meeting AMOs
 - Improvement or corrective action for districts not meeting Adequate Yearly Progress

Alaska School Performance Index

	K – 8	9 – 12
Academic Achievement	35%	20%
School Progress	40%	40%
Attendance Rate	25%	10%
Graduation Rate	N/A	20%
ACT/SAT/WorkKeys	N/A	8%
Participation WorkKeys	N/A	2%

Star Ratings

Number of Stars	ASPI Points
5 Stars	94 – 100
4 Stars	85 – 93.99
3 Stars	65 – 84.99
2 Stars	55 – 64.99
1 Star	0 – 54.99

Annual Measurable Objectives

- Targets set
 - In reading, writing, and math
 - For all-students group and for subgroups
 - For State, districts, and schools
- Goal
 - To reduce by $\frac{1}{2}$ over a 6-year period the number of non-proficient students
 - Reduction in equal increments over 6 years
- AMO targets met if
 - Schools, district or state target is met
 - Graduation rate and participation rate are met

Star Ratings & AMOs

- Used to
 - Identify priority schools, focus schools, and reward schools
 - Identify schools and districts that need to created targeted plans for improvement

ESEA Flexibility Waiver Process

ESEA Waiver Process

- Did not apply during first two rounds
- Analysis of other states' applications and application approvals during Spring 2012
- Decision to apply made in May 2012
- Public meetings and hearings held May through August 2012
- Application submitted in September 2012
- Negotiated from November 2012 to April 2013
- Accountability regulations put out for public comment March 2013
- Accountability regulations adopted June 2013

Funding

Funding

- Funding under the Elementary & Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) to:
 - The department, which is provides to grants to districts
 - Funding in school districts

Elementary & Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

As Amended by No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

United States Department of Education Grants

Component / Program	Federal ESEA	Positions by Program
Student and School Achievement		
ESEA Title 1 Grants to LEAs	37,200.0	7
Title I-Part C Migrant Education	7,400.0	5
Title I-Part D Neglected & Delinquent	250.0	
Title I-Part 1003(g) School & District Improvement	1,500.0	
Improving Teacher Quality	11,500.0	2
Math and Science Partnerships	800.0	1
Language Acquisition	1,100.0	1
Title IV 21st Century Community Learning	5,714.0	2
State Assessments	3,600.0	8
Education for Homeless Children & Youth	164.0	1
Total ESEA	\$69,228.0	27