



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Board Staff

DATE: November 24, 2014

RE: A–F Criterion-based Measuring Method, Option D

The State Board of Education (“Board”) has been presented with draft language for the new A through F accountability rule. Several items in the draft rule require the Board to make certain policy clarifications before the rule can be finalized. Those areas of clarification in the draft rule are outlined below:

1. Currently “high growth” is defined as growth at least equal to the 66th percentile. Under Option D, growth encompasses a range of percentiles. Once the Option D growth Table is finalized, then “high growth” can be defined in accordance with the table.
2. Currently, “low growth” is defined as equal to or less than the 34th percentile. Please see item #1.
3. The weights to be given to “growth,” to “performance,” to Graduation, and to College and Career Readiness, have not yet been determined.
4. In the current rule, the minimum number of students required to calculate growth is 10. Should this remain the same under the new rule, or should a larger minimum student cohort be required to calculate growth? When growth cannot be calculated, then the school is graded based on performance alone. However, 10 is a low number to make such a high stakes decision, and has potential reliability issues.
5. Under the proposed rule, College and Career Readiness points can equal as much as 400. The question is whether the Board wants to award as many as 400 points for College and Career Readiness. The Board may want to cap the total number of points that could be awarded. To address this issue, it is necessary to explain how College and Career Readiness points are calculated.
 - a. College and Career readiness points are calculated in part by using a fraction. This fraction has a denominator of 100% (the total possible percentage of CCR students), and a numerator of 25% (the current college and career readiness goal). The quotient of 100% divided by 25% equals 4.

- b. The quotient, 4, is used to calculate College and Career Readiness points as follows: multiply 4 by the actual College and Career Readiness rate.
- c. If the actual College and career Readiness Rate equals 100, then multiplying that by 4 yields 400 points. Hence, the question whether the Board wished to award up to 400 points for College and Career Readiness.