



ESSA IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

ESSA Subcommittee Meeting – Accountability

Date, Time: Thursday, September 15, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: 135 South Union Street, Suite 215

ALSDE Facilitator: Angela Martin

Members present: Christian Becraft, Holly Box, Ryan Cantrell, Margaret Clarke, Rep. Terri Collins, Martha Peek

Members absent: Sheila Hocutt Remington

Summary: The ESSA Accountability Subcommittee heard a presentation from Mr. David Griffith, a Research and Policy Analyst from the Thomas B. Fordham Institute. Members discussed the current n-count of 20 for use in disaggregating data by subgroups and conducting a comparison using an n-count of 30. The group decided no action was needed to keep the current n-count of 20. Members decided upon the indicators below to be used within the ESSA Accountability System.

- Student Achievement for all public schools
- Learning Gains for all public schools
- Reporting 4- and 5-Year Graduation Rate for all public high schools
- Attendance for all public schools for School Quality and or/success
- College- and Career-Readiness for all public high schools for School Quality and or/success

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 5, 2016, 10 a.m. with the Standards, Assessments and EL work group, 135 South Union Street, Suite 215

Detailed Notes

All notes below are comments with committee members and the ALSDE facilitator.

Angela Martin welcomed the ESSA Accountability Subcommittee to the meeting and introduced Mr. David Griffith, from the Fordham Institute as a guest speaker.

- Mr. Griffith spoke on the topic of “Accountability under the Every Student Succeeds Act”. His topics for discussion were:
 1. The goals of school rating systems
 2. What’s happening in Alabama
 3. The dreaded “school quality” indicator
- After Mr. Griffith concluded his presentation, Mrs. Martin brought up for discussion the current n-count of 20.
 - Mrs. Martin relayed to the group that participants from the ESSA tour as well as professional organizations and various groups had questions concerning why Alabama is using an n-count of 20 and not 30, as allowed by the ESSA.
 - After discussion of the use of 20 versus 30 for the n-count, it was decided that the n-count would remain at 20, for disaggregation purposes.
- Mrs. Martin also provided some research to the group from other states showing various data that could be included in the ESSA Accountability System for Alabama.
- The following indicators were voted on and will be included in the Alabama ESSA Accountability System:
 - Student Achievement for all public schools
 - Learning Gains for all public schools
 - Reporting 4- and 5-Year Graduation Rate for all public high schools
 - Attendance for all public schools for School Quality and or/success
 - College- and Career-Readiness for all public high schools for School Quality and or/success
- The committee members shared the concept of creating a seamless accountability using the A-F Report Card Indicators.
- The group also left open the possibility of adding surveys as a valid and reliable measure of School Quality / Student Success.

Action Items:

- Members will research other states weighting of indicators within the accountability system.
- Members will research other states actions taken in response to low participation on state administered assessments.
- Angela Martin will research further the possibility of using surveys within the School Quality / Student Success indicator.
- Handout: <http://www.ecs.org/ec-content/uploads/ESSA-Quick-guides-on-top-issues.pdf>

