

Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____ J. _____

Date: October 26, 2005

Topic: Final Review of Revisions to Remediation Recovery Guidelines

Presenter: Mrs. Shelley Loving-Ryder, Assistant Superintendent for Assessment and Reporting

Telephone Number: (804) 225-2102 E-Mail Address: Shelley.Loving-Ryder@doe.virginia.gov

Origin:

Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

Board review required by

State or federal law or regulation

Board of Education regulation

Other: Previous Board Action

Action requested at this meeting

Previous Review/Action:

No previous board review/action

Previous review/action

date September 21, 2005

action First review

Background Information:

The *Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* permit students who have failed certain Standards of Learning (SOL) tests to participate in remediation recovery programs. Section C of 8 VAC 20-131-30 states the following:

In kindergarten through grade 8, students may participate in a remediation recovery program as established by the Board in English (Reading, Literature, and Research) and mathematics or both. In grades nine through twelve, the remediation recovery program shall include all retakes of end-of-course mathematics tests only. However, students in the ninth grade who are participants in a remediation recovery program may be retested on the eighth grade English (Reading, Literature, and Research) and mathematics SOL tests.

In November 2000, the Board of Education adopted guidelines for implementing the *Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia*. These guidelines further defined the participation of students in remediation recovery programs and permitted students who failed the reading and/or mathematics SOL tests in grades 3-8 or end-of-course mathematics tests to retake the failed test at the next available test administration.

To comply with the requirements of the federal *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, annual Standards of Learning tests in reading and mathematics will be administered to students in grades 3-8. Based on the current remediation recovery guidelines, students who fail a reading or mathematics test in grades 3 or 5 and participate in a remediation recovery program would retake the failed test as well as taking the reading and mathematics tests for grade 4 or grade 6.

Summary of Major Elements:

The Board of Education is asked to adopt revisions to the *Guidelines Governing Regulations Establishing Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* to 1) avoid double testing for students participating in remediation recovery programs and 2) clarify the inclusion of scores of students participating in remediation recovery in the pass rates used for accrediting schools. The proposed revisions, which are included in the attachment, would be in effect for the 2005-2006 school year only. A complete revision to the guidelines will be required once the revisions to the *Standards for Accrediting Public Schools in Virginia* are approved by the Board.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education adopt the proposal.

Impact on Resources:

The impact on resources is not expected to be significant.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

N/A

Remediation Recovery Guidelines

~~Students in grades K-8 are not required to retake Standards of Learning (SOL) tests unless they are retained in grade and have not previously passed the test or they are placed in a remediation recovery program developed by the local school board. Students in high school are not required to retake end-of-course SOL tests unless the student previously failed the course and the test of the student needs to earn verified credit for graduation.~~

Remediation recovery is a voluntary program that schools may implement to encourage successful remediation of students who do not pass certain SOL tests in reading and/or mathematics for grades K-8 and high school mathematics. ~~Remediation recovery programs are limited to grades K-8 English (Reading, Literature, and Research) and mathematics tests and high school mathematics tests and high school mathematics only.~~

The Board of Education does not expect that every student who fails an SOL test be placed in a remediation recovery program. **However, students who ~~retake an SOL test must have participate in a remediation recovery program must have participated in some form of remediation to be eligible to be retested under remediation recovery~~included in the program.**

Students who have failed either the grade 8 reading or mathematics test or a high school mathematics test and have participated in a remediation recovery program are expected to retake the applicable SOL test at the next regularly scheduled administration. The score of a student who passes a grade 8 reading or mathematics test will be counted in the school's pass rate for the purposes of accreditation. If the student retakes and passes an end-of-course mathematics test, the student's scores will be counted twice in the school's accreditation pass rate—once as part of the pass rate for the end-of-course mathematics test and a second time under remediation recovery. Students who fail the grade 3 or grade 5 reading test and/or mathematics test and are promoted to the next grade will not retake these tests. However, if they pass the grade 4 or grade 6 reading test and/or mathematics test, their scores will be counted twice in the school's accreditation pass rate—once as part of the pass rate for the grade 4 or grade 6 test and a second time under remediation recovery. Students may only be counted in remediation recovery once for one grade/SOL test.

At the high school level, students may continue to retake end-of-course tests as many times as necessary to earn verified credit. Students in high school are not required to retake end-of-course tests unless the student previously failed the course and the test or the student needs to earn verified credit for graduation.

~~Placing a child in a remediation recovery program in English (Reading, Literature, Research) and/or mathematics does not penalize a school if the student is not successful on the retake of an SOL test. Students who are successful on a retake of an SOL test are counted in the number of students passing a test but not in the number of students taking a test when calculating the passing rate for the school. As always, the scores of the student count at the school where the remediation and re-testing take place. For example, a fifth-grade student fails the 5th-grade mathematics test and is promoted to the 6th-grade in a middle school. The student, who is remediated during the next school year, and who retakes and passes the 5th-grade test, will count as a pass for the middle school. This would also be the case with the score of a student who is~~

promoted to the 9th grade and, is retested on the 8th grade English (Reading, Literature, and Research) or mathematics test would count in the pass rate for the high school. For high school end-of-course tests, remediation recovery is only available in mathematics.

The following students may not be included in remediation recovery programs:

1. Students in grades K-8 who are retested because they are retained and had not previously passed a grade-level test in English (Reading, Literature, and Research) or mathematics.
2. Students who retake an end-of-course test as a result of failing and retaking a mathematics course at the high school.

Schools shall maintain evidence of a student's participation in a remediation recovery program along with the scores of any SOL tests taken following remediation in the student's record.