

# Discussion of Potential New Accreditation Ratings Based on 2015 Legislation

Virginia Board of Education  
School and Division Accountability Committee Meeting  
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# Current Accreditation Ratings

- Fully Accredited;
- Accredited with Warning in (specified academic area or areas and/or in achievement of the minimum threshold for the graduation and completion index);
- Accreditation Denied;
- Conditionally Accredited;
- Provisionally Accredited-Graduation Rate

# Definition of Fully Accredited

- With tests administered beginning in the academic year 2012-2013 for the accreditation ratings awarded for school year 2013-2014 and beyond, a school will be rated Fully Accredited when its eligible students meet
  - the pass rate of 75% in English and
  - the pass rate of 70% in mathematics, science, and history and social science.

Additionally, each school with a graduating class shall achieve a minimum of 85 percentage points on the Board of Education's graduation and completion index

# Schools “Accredited with Warning”

- School did not meet benchmark in one or more areas
- School becomes “warned” in area in which benchmark not reached
- Designation by number of years the school has been in “warned status” (e.g., Accredited with Warning—Year 2)

# Examples of Current Ratings

## School A—Fully Accredited

- English: 76% pass rate
- Mathematics: 78 % pass rate
- History: 80% pass rate
- Science: 71 % pass rate

School A meets the benchmarks in all subject areas

# Examples of Current Ratings

School B—Accredited with Warning:

English: 72 % pass rate

Mathematics: 73% pass rate

History: 79% pass rate

Science: 82% pass rate

School B meets the benchmarks in all areas except English

# Examples of Current Ratings

## School C—Accredited with Warning

- English: 70% pass rate
- Mathematics: 71 % pass rate
- History: 79% pass rate
- Science: 62 % pass rate

School met the benchmarks in History and Mathematics; did not meet the benchmarks in English and Science.

# Examples of Current Ratings

## School D—Accredited with Warning

- English: 55% pass rate
- Mathematics: 62 % pass rate
- History: 63% pass rate
- Science: 44% pass rate

School did not meet the benchmarks in any area.

# 2015 Legislation Regarding Additional Accreditation Ratings

- **CHAPTER 324** *An Act to direct the Board of Education to promulgate regulations establishing additional accreditation ratings. [H 1873] Approved March 17, 2015*
- Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:
- **1. § 1.** *The Board of Education shall promulgate regulations establishing additional accreditation ratings that recognize the progress of schools that do not meet accreditation benchmarks but have significantly improved their pass rates, are within specified ranges of benchmarks, or have demonstrated significant growth for the majority of their students. The Board shall implement such regulations no later than the 2016-2017 school year.*

# Criteria for New Accreditation Ratings

- School has not met accreditation benchmarks
  - Pass rate below 75% for English
  - Pass rate below 70% for mathematics, history/social science, and science
- School has met one or more of these criteria
  - Significantly improved pass rate
  - Pass rate within specified range of benchmark
  - Significant growth for majority of students

# Review of Examples Considering Criteria for New Ratings

# Examples of Schools

- School B:
  - English: 72 % pass rate
  - Mathematics: 73% pass rate
  - History: 79% pass rate
  - Science: 82% pass rate

School B meets the benchmarks in mathematics, history, and science and the pass rate for English is very close to the benchmark.

# Example of Schools

## Elementary School C

- English: 70% pass rate
- Mathematics: 71 % pass rate
- History: 79% pass rate
- Science: 62 % pass rate

School C met the benchmarks in History and Mathematics; did not meet the benchmarks in English and Science. Pass rate in English close to benchmark. Science pass rate not close to benchmark but current year's pass rate did show significant improvement over last year's pass rate.

# Examples of Schools

- School D
  - English: 55% pass rate
  - Mathematics: 62 % pass rate
  - History: 63% pass rate
  - Science: 44% pass rate

School did not meet benchmark in any area. Pass rates were not close to the benchmark in any area nor did pass rates in any area improve significantly from the previous year.

# Considerations

- Methodology to be used to determine an overall accreditation rating that accounts for student achievement in all four content areas
- Decisions must be made about
  - how close a school's pass rate must be to the benchmark
  - how much a school's pass rate must improve to constitute significant improvement, and
  - how to determine if a majority of the students in the school have shown growth
- Decisions must be made about the amount of support that schools achieving the new ratings will be provided