

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

March 28, 2023

SUBJECT:

Revision of the following policy:

Policy ADA School District Goals and Objectives, Second Reading

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Policy ADA School District Goals and Objectives, Second Reading provides guidance to “develop a five-year strategic plan and schools will develop five-year school renewal plans to align resources and initiatives that are focused on accountability and the improvement of student academic performance, data-driven decision making, and continuous improvement.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

Administration recommends the approval of Policy ADA School District Goals and Objectives, Second Reading.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the following policy and administrative rule:

Policy ADA School District Goals and Objectives, Second Reading

ATTACHMENTS:

Policy ADA School District Goals and Objectives

PREPARED BY:

Dr. Salvatore Minolfo

SCHOOL DISTRICT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Code **ADA** Issued **5/01 3/23**

~~Purpose: To establish the board's vision for school district goals and objectives and the basic structure for developing a district performance-based accountability system and comprehensive plans with annual updates.~~

~~Goals and objectives~~

- ~~• All students will meet challenging academic standards.~~
- ~~• All students will develop a solid foundation for learning.~~
- ~~• All students will prepare for post-secondary education and lifelong learning.~~

~~Accountability system~~

~~As required by the Education Accountability Act of 1998, the board will ensure the establishment of a district system of performance-based accountability and incorporate it into the district's strategic plan. Each school will indicate the accountability components in its improvement or renewal plan.~~

~~The accountability system must do the following.~~

- ~~• Complement and strengthen the district strategic plan.~~
- ~~• Include, but not be limited to, measures that stimulate quality teaching and learning practices, with targeted assistance to low-performing schools.~~
- ~~• Address state academic achievement standards and assessments and the alignment of local standards and assessments.~~
- ~~• Include an analysis of progress for students with academic plans.~~
- ~~• Include an analysis of the results of the PSAT or PLAN tests to assess and identify curriculum areas that need strengthening, to assess students' strengths and weaknesses to provide needed academic assistance, and to provide guidance to students and parents in planning for postsecondary experiences.~~
- ~~• Include school and district level analysis and evaluation of student academic achievement and academic improvement and other areas related to student achievement in need of improvement (e.g., attendance, discipline, dropout rates, parental involvement).~~

~~The district must involve parents, teachers and principals in the development, annual review and revision of the district accountability system.~~

~~The board must review and revise the accountability system annually.~~

~~The district will submit its district performance-based accountability system to the state department of education for approval in accordance with the law.~~

~~Comprehensive plan~~

~~The district will develop and implement five-year comprehensive plans by schools and by the district to meet the requirements of The Early Childhood Development and Academic Assistance~~

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Act of 1993 (Act 135), Section 2 and Section 11. Act 135 establishes two main initiatives to be addressed in the comprehensive plans:

- focus on early childhood development and the prevention of academic difficulties
- an emphasis on flexibility so there is a tailoring of service to meet the needs of students experiencing academic difficulties

The school district and each school in the district must coordinate in developing a comprehensive five-year plan that will be updated annually to carry out the purposes of the law. The plans will do the following:

- Establish an early childhood initiative which integrates the planning and direction of the half-day program for four-year-olds, the parenting program, the early childhood assistance program, school practices in kindergarten through grade three, and any other federal, state or district program for preschool children in the district in order to better meet the needs of this student population.
- Develop an academic assistance initiative to support students with academic difficulties so they are able to progress academically and move through school with their peers.
- Provide staff training to prepare and train teachers and administrators in the teaching techniques and strategies needed to implement the school and district plan.
- Develop a parent involvement plan for each school.

The district will address the innovation initiative in its plan by encouraging research-based innovative approaches to improve student learning and accelerate student performance.

District and school plans will be derived from strategies found to be effective in education research. The plans must contain performance goals, interim performance goals and timelines for progress. Further, the district will develop methods of assessing the effectiveness of strategies to indicate whether strategies should be continued, modified or terminated.

The district will submit a copy of its five-year comprehensive plan to the state department of education for review in accordance with the law.

Adopted 5/22/01

Mission Statement

The mission of Aiken County Public Schools, the unifying agent of new horizons and extraordinary possibilities, is to ensure all students thrive as future-ready, globally mindful, and productive citizens through a responsive and inclusive school system distinguished by

- High quality and student-centered learning experiences
- Transformative stakeholder partnerships
- A culture of purpose, innovation, and excellence

The district will implement this vision by providing lifelong learning opportunities that will develop the potential of all individuals and thereby improve the quality of life for all citizens of the district.

District Strategic Plan and School Renewal Plans

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The district will develop a five-year strategic plan and schools will develop five-year school renewal plans to align resources and initiatives that are focused on accountability and the improvement of student academic performance, data-driven decision making, and continuous improvement.

Accountability system

The board will ensure the establishment of a district system of performance-based accountability and incorporate it into the district's strategic plan. Each school will indicate the accountability components in its renewal plan.

The board will review and revise the overall accountability system annually.

The district will involve key stakeholders, including administrators, teachers, support staff, parents/legal guardians, and community members in the development, annual review, and revision of the district accountability system.

Strategic plan and school renewal plan

The district will develop and implement a five-year strategic plan and school renewal plans. District and school plans will be based on strategies derived from scientifically based education research.

The district will submit copies of its five-year comprehensive plans and annual updates to the South Carolina Department of Education for review in accordance with the law.

Adopted 5/22/01 Revised 3/28/23

Legal References:

A. United States Code of Laws, as amended:

1. Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, Pub. L. No. 114-95, 129 Stat. 1802.

B. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-18-1300 - District accountability system; development and review.
2. Section 59-18-1310 - Reports consolidated; submission dates.
3. Section 59-18-1500 - Review and revision of improvement plan.
4. Section 59-18-1510 - Assignment of external review committee; activities and recommendations.
5. Section 59-20-60 - Improvement councils.
6. Section 59-139-05, et seq. - Early Childhood Development and Academic Assistance Act.

C. S.C. State Board of Education Regulations:

1. R43-261 - District and school planning.