

AN ACT
RELATING TO EDUCATION; CHANGING REQUIREMENTS OF THE ANNUAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT; PROVIDING FOR
ADDITIONAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT MEASURES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 22-1-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989, Chapter 308, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"22-1-6. ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT
REQUIRED. --

A. School districts shall be required to publish an annual school district accountability report to provide district-wide data for the previous school year. The state board shall establish the format for the accountability reports and ensure that the relevant data is provided annually to parents, students, educators, policymakers, legislators, the governor and business and economic development organizations. The department of education shall establish the following five indices through which public school performance shall be measured and reported to school districts:

(1) student achievement as measured by a nationally norm-referenced and criterion-referenced test approved by the department of education or through a performance-based instrument to measure proficiency;

(2) school safety;

- (3) the dropout rate;
- (4) attendance; and
- (5) parent and community involvement.

The department of education shall establish the methodology for measuring each of the five indices.

B. Effective July 1, 1999, school districts shall annually administer a nationally norm-referenced test, standards-based assessment or performance-based assessment to all students enrolled in a public school or state institution in grades four through nine. Students with disabilities shall participate in the test as determined on their individual educational program. Students who have been assessed as non-English or limited English proficient using state-approved language assessments and meeting required thresholds shall be provided an alternative norm-referenced, performance-based or standards-based assessment in their primary language. School districts shall report the following to the department of education:

- (1) the results of the norm-referenced test, performance-based or standards-based assessment for all students;
- (2) documentation of the number of enrolled students who did not take the test and reasons for nonparticipation in the test; and
- (3) separately and as part of the aggregate report, the results of assessments of students enrolled in

non-English classes, limited English proficient classes or special education class A, B, C and D programs and the school in which they are enrolled, except in cases where the number of students being reported is less than ten.

C. The annual accountability report shall also include the results of a survey of parents' views of the quality of their children's school. The survey shall be conducted each year in time to include the results in the annual accountability report. The survey shall compile the results of a written questionnaire that shall be sent home with the students to be given to their parents. The survey may be completed anonymously. The survey shall be no more than one page, shall be clearly and concisely written and shall include not more than twenty questions that shall be answered with options of a simple sliding scale ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree" and shall include the optional response "don't know". The survey shall also include a request for optional written comments, which may be written on the back of the questionnaire form. The questionnaire shall include questions in the following areas:

(1) parent-teacher-school relationship and communication;

(2) quality of educational and extracurricular programs;

(3) instructional practices and techniques;

- (4) resources;
- (5) school personnel, including the school principal; and
- (6) parents' view of teaching staff expectations for the students.

The state board shall develop no more than ten of the questions. No more than five questions shall be developed by the local school board and no more than five questions shall be developed by the staffs of each individual school site; provided that at least half of those questions are developed by teachers rather than administrators, in order to gather information that is specific to the particular community surveyed. The questionnaires shall indicate the public school site and shall be tabulated by the department of education within thirty days of receipt and shall be returned to the respective schools to be disseminated to all parents.

D. The annual accountability report for each school district shall be adopted by the local school board, may be published no later than November 15 of each year and may be published at least once each school year in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the school district is located. In publication, the report shall be titled "The School District Report Card" and disseminated in accordance with guidelines established by the state board to ensure effective communication with

