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HOUSE BILL 323

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Ray Begaye

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; REQUIRING ANNUAL REPORTING BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ON EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL FUNDS.

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~~] are 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

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1 governor and business and economic development organizations.
2 The department of education shall establish the following five
3 indices through which public school performance shall be
4 measured and reported to school districts:

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

9 (2) school safety;

10 (3) the dropout rate;

11 (4) attendance; and

12 (5) parent and community involvement.

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

15 B. Effective July 1, 1999, school districts shall
16 annually administer a nationally norm-referenced test or a
17 standards-based assessment to all students enrolled in a
18 public school in grades three through nine. Only students
19 with disabilities deemed incapable of taking the test as
20 determined on their individual educational ~~[program]~~ programs
21 shall be exempted from this requirement. ~~[Additionally]~~
22 Students who have been assessed as non-English or limited
23 English proficient using state approved language assessments
24 and meeting required thresholds shall be exempted from this
25 test and provided an alternative norm-referenced or standards-

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1 based assessment in their primary language. School districts
2 shall report the following to the department of education:

3 (1) the results of the norm-referenced test
4 or standards-based assessment;

5 (2) the number of enrolled students who did
6 not take the test, the school in which they are enrolled and
7 the reason for the exemption from the test; and

8 (3) separately and as part of the aggregate
9 report, the results of assessments of students enrolled in
10 special education class A, B, C and D programs who took the
11 test and the school in which they are enrolled, except in
12 cases where the number of students being reported is less than
13 ten.

14 C. School districts shall set two-, four- and six-
15 year benchmarks in each of the five indices for each public
16 school. Local school boards may establish additional indices,
17 if reviewed by the department of education, through which to
18 measure the school district's performance in other areas.

19 D. The annual accountability report shall also
20 include the results of a survey of parents' views of the
21 quality of their children's school. The survey shall be
22 conducted each year in time to include the results in the
23 annual accountability report. The survey shall compile the
24 results of a written questionnaire that shall be sent home
25 with the students to be given to their parents. The survey

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1 may be completed anonymously. The survey shall be no more
2 than one page, shall be clearly and concisely written and
3 shall include not more than twenty questions that shall be
4 answered with options of a simple sliding scale ranging from
5 "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree" and shall include the
6 optional response "don't know". The survey shall also include
7 a request for optional written comments, which may be written
8 on the back of the questionnaire form. The questionnaire
9 shall include questions in the following areas:

- 10 (1) parent-teacher-school relationship and
11 communication;
- 12 (2) quality of educational and
13 extracurricular programs;
- 14 (3) instructional practices and techniques;
- 15 (4) resources;
- 16 (5) school personnel, including the school
17 principal; and
- 18 (6) parents' view of teaching staff
19 expectations for the students.

20 The state board shall develop no more than ten of the
21 questions, which shall be reviewed by the legislative
22 education study committee prior to implementation. No more
23 than five questions shall be developed by the local school
24 board and no more than five questions shall be developed by
25 the staffs of each individual school site; provided that at

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1 least half of those questions [~~are~~] shall be developed by
2 teachers rather than administrators, in order to gather
3 information that is specific to the particular community
4 surveyed. The questionnaires shall indicate the public school
5 site and shall be tabulated by the department of education
6 within thirty days of receipt and shall be returned to the
7 respective schools to be disseminated to all parents.

8 E. The annual accountability report shall also
9 include a report of all federal funds distributed directly to
10 the school district or received by the district from the
11 department of education. For each distribution, the purpose
12 for which the money was received shall be stated with a
13 detailed accounting of the purposes for which the funds were
14 expended.

15 [~~E.-~~] F. The annual accountability report for each
16 school district shall be adopted by the local school board,
17 may be published no later than November 15 of each year and
18 may be published at least once each school year in a newspaper
19 of general circulation in the county where the school district
20 is located. In publication, the report shall be titled "The
21 School District Report Card" and disseminated in accordance
22 with guidelines established by the state board to ensure
23 effective communication with parents, students, educators,
24 local policymakers and business and community organizations.

25 [~~F.-~~] G. The department of education shall create

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1 an accountability data system through which data from each
2 public school and each school district may be compiled and
3 reviewed. The department of education shall provide the
4 resources to train school district personnel in the use of the
5 accountability data system.

6 ~~[G.]~~ H. The department of education shall verify
7 data submitted by the school districts.

8 ~~[H.]~~ I. The state board shall measure the
9 performance of every public school in New Mexico. Public
10 schools achieving the highest level of performance shall be
11 eligible for supplemental incentive funding. The state board
12 shall establish the corrective actions and interventions
13 necessary for public schools whose performance level is low.

14 ~~[I. Appropriation is contingent upon inclusion of~~
15 ~~one million four hundred thirty-three thousand dollars~~
16 ~~(\$1,433,000) in the general appropriation act to meet the~~
17 ~~provisions of this act.]~~

18 J. The school district shall submit a copy of its
19 annual accountability report to the legislative finance
20 committee, the legislative education study committee and the
21 library of the legislative council service. "

22 Section 2. Section 22-9-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1939,
23 Chapter 162, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

24 "22-9-10. REPORTS--FEDERAL FUNDS-- [FØ] FEDERAL
25 AGENCIES--LEGISLATURE. --

