

OFFICE OF CHIEF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
March 19-20, 2015

OFFICE OF ACCOUNTABILITY

07. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedure Act Process: To revise Accreditation Policy 3.1.3 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2014* – Internal Review of Preliminary Accountability Results and establish Accreditation Policy 3.1.4 – Review or Appeal of Final Accountability Results

The Office of Accreditation and Accountability is proposing revisions to Accreditation Policy 3.1.3 of the *Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2014*. The proposed revisions will establish the procedure and timeline for districts seeking to appeal the preliminary accountability results.

The Office of Accreditation and Accountability is also proposing the establishment of Accreditation Policy 3.1.4 – Review or Appeal of the Final Accountability Results. This policy will outline the procedure for districts to appeal the final accountability results approved by the Commission on School Accreditation and/or the State Board of Education.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY
PROPOSED REVISIONS ACCREDITATION POLICY 3.1.3
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY STANDARDS, 2014

Current Policy (*Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards, 2014*)

3.1.3 Internal Review of Preliminary Accountability Results

If the school district has reason to believe the results of the state or federal accountability system applied to a district or school are incorrect due to a calculation or data error or other substantive reasons, the school district may submit written evidence to the Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Educational Accountability to support the position of the school district. All requests must be submitted in writing based on the timeline published each year by the Office of Accreditation. The Office of Accreditation will review these requests and present them to an Internal Review Committee for consideration. The Internal Review Committee will consist of, at a minimum, one (1) external chairperson and four (4) Mississippi Department of Education representatives.

Proposed Policy

3.1.3 Internal Review of Preliminary Accountability Results

If the school district has reason to believe the **preliminary** results of the state or federal accountability system applied to a district or school are incorrect due to a calculation or data error or other substantive reasons, the school district may submit written evidence to the Mississippi Department of Education, Office of **Educational Accountability School Performance/Accreditation and Accountability**, to support the position of the school district. All requests for review must be submitted in writing based on the timeline published each year by the Office of Accreditation **and Accountability**. **Any requests not submitted based upon the timeline published by the Office of Accreditation and Accountability will not be considered after the deadline for submission.**

The Office of Accreditation **and Accountability** will review these requests and present them to an Internal Review Committee for consideration. The Internal Review Committee will consist of, at a minimum, one (1) external chairperson and four (4) Mississippi Department of Education representatives.

The Office of Accreditation and Accountability will present the decisions of the Internal Review Committee to the Commission on School Accreditation.

3.1.4 Review or Appeal of Final Accountability Results

The school district must submit written evidence to appeal the final results of the statewide accountability system approved by the Commission on School Accreditation and the State Board of Education. The appeal must be submitted to the Office of Accreditation and Accountability within ten (10) calendar days of the State Board of Education's approval.

Any appeal to the final results will follow the same process as a request for review (i.e., Internal Review Committee, Commission on School Accreditation, and State Board of Education); however, during the appeal of the final results, school districts will receive notification of the Internal Review Committee's decision prior to presentation to the Commission on School Accreditation. The district superintendent may request to address the Commission regarding the appeal of the final results. The Commission on School Accreditation will recommend a final decision to the State Board of Education for approval. The State Board of Education makes the final determination of the appeal's disposition.