

December 1, 2016

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

Subject: Indicators for A-F Academic Accountability System

House Bill (HB) 2804, passed by the 84th Texas Legislature (2015), requires changes to the state public school academic accountability system. The changes—in effect beginning with the 2017–18 school year, with the first ratings to be issued August 2018—include creating five domains of indicators that will be used to evaluate districts and campuses regarding three main goals:

- Preparing students for postsecondary success
- Reducing achievement gaps among students from different racial and ethnic groups and socioeconomic backgrounds
- Informing parents and the community about district and campus performance

The bill also requires the assignment of A–F rating labels to describe district and campus performance. Districts and campuses will receive a rating of A, B, C, D, or F in each of the five domains and for overall performance.

HB 2804 requires the commissioner of education to adopt the set of indicators that will be used in the A–F system by December 1, 2016. The bill further requires that the agency release a report to the Texas Legislature by January 1, 2017, showing the ratings that each district and campus would have received for Domains I–IV for the 2015–16 school year if the A–F rating system had been in place. The ratings in this report will be based on development of the A–F system as of December 2016. Development of the new accountability system will continue—with additional input from stakeholders—until spring 2018, when the final rules are adopted.

The following table contains key dates for these activities:

Date	Activity
By December 1, 2016	TEA releases indicators for Domains I–IV.
By December 16, 2016	TEA releases unmasked data tables and planned methodologies for determining ratings to districts via TEASE (This release will not include ratings).
By December 30, 2016	TEA sends provisional A–F report (with ratings) via email to Texas Legislature.
By January 4, 2017	TEA releases provisional A–F report (with ratings) to districts on TEASE.
By January 6, 2017	TEA releases provisional A–F report (with ratings) to public on TEA website.

The indicators that will be used to evaluate district and campus performance are available on the TEA website at http://tea.texas.gov/accountability/A-F_Indicators_2016.12.01/

Please contact the Performance Reporting Division at (512) 463-9704 or performance.reporting@tea.texas.gov if you have questions about the A–F academic accountability system or the indicators used to measure district and campus performance.

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