

January 2019 BESE Summary

The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) met January 22 and 23. A summary of board actions that directly impact the activities of local education agencies are listed below. Any bulletin revisions, with the exception of emergency rules, must run in the Louisiana Register as a Notice of Intent for 90 days and complete the rulemaking process before becoming rule and appearing in the bulletins on the BESE website. For more information or questions on any of these policy changes, please contact Ryan Gremillion.

Revisions to Bulletin 111, The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System, regarding the ACT/WorkKeys concordance table, and alternative education school accountability

In October 2018, the Board approved revisions to Bulletin 111, *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*, to establish a new rating formula for alternative education schools that is more closely aligned to the unique mission of serving students referred to alternative education for long-term services. The revisions also increased the minimum number of students (accountability "units") required for a school to receive a school performance score (SPS) and school letter grade from 40 units to 120 units. To ensure the inclusion of a majority of alternative education schools in the accountability system, the Board approved an additional revision to clarify that alternative education schools will receive a school performance score and school letter grade with a minimum of 40 units.

In 2017, the ACT organization made technical changes to the ACT® WorkKeys® assessments, including updated scoring criteria, which necessitates updating the ACT/WorkKeys concordance table for Louisiana. The revisions reflect analytics released by ACT that compare the results of students who took both the ACT and WorkKeys nationally. Per Bulletin 111, the updated concordance table will be used beginning with the 2019-2020 school year to ensure clarity of implementation.

Click here to view the approved revisions to Bulletin 111, The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System.

Approval of Allocations

The Board approved several allocations of funding to local districts at last week's meeting including funding to establish pilot programs to implement new strategies for increasing access to and improving the quality of publicly-funded early childhood care and education; school redesign funding to support the implementation of school improvement initiatives; and funding to provide high-quality early childhood educational experiences to four-year-old children who are considered to be "at risk" of achieving later academic success.

<u>Click here</u> to view the list of allocations approved at last week's meeting.