
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Carol Liu, Chair
2015 - 2016 Regular

Bill No: AB 1153
Author: Calderon
Version: April 20, 2015
Urgency: No
Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo
Hearing Date: June 17, 2015
Fiscal: Yes

Subject: School accountability: local control and accountability plans: posting: evaluation rubrics

SUMMARY

This bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE), by January 31, 2017, to consider revising the template for the local control and accountability plan (LCAP) to include a section or appendix sufficient to monitor actual progress on outcomes related to the evaluation rubric adopted by the SBE. This bill also requires each school district and county office of education to post on its internet web site its populated evaluation rubric, if available.

BACKGROUND

AB 97 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 47, Statutes of 2013) and subsequent legislation created the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), which consolidated most of the state's categorical programs with general purpose revenue limit funding and would be phased in over the coming years. One of the main principles behind the LCFF is that English learners and low-income students require more attention and resources in the classroom than students who do not have these same challenges. By providing more services (and in turn, additional funding) to these student populations, it is widely believed that this will help close the achievement gap and help all students perform better.

In addition to the LCFF, the 2013 Budget established a new system for school accountability. Under the new system, school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools are required to complete an LCAP. The LCAP must include a district's annual goals in each of the following eight state priority areas: 1) student achievement; 2) student engagement; 3) other student outcomes; 4) school climate; 5) implementation of the Common Core State Standards; 6) course access; 7) basic services; and 8) parental involvement. The LCAPs must also include both district wide goals and goals for specific subgroups. Districts are required to consult with stakeholders on their plans and hold at least two public hearings before adopting or updating their LCAP.

Additionally, the LCFF legislation requires that on or before October 1, 2015, the State Board of Education shall adopt evaluation rubrics for the following purposes: 1) to assist a school district, county office of education, or charter school in evaluating its strengths, weaknesses, and areas that require improvement; 2) to assist a county superintendent of schools in identifying school districts and charter schools in need of technical assistance, as specified, and the specific priorities upon which the technical

assistance should be focused; and 3) to assist the Superintendent of Public Instruction in identifying school districts for which intervention is warranted. The evaluation rubrics shall reflect a holistic, multidimensional assessment of school district and individual school site performance and shall include all of the state priorities described in the local control and accountability plan (LCAP). Additionally, as part of the evaluation rubrics, the State Board of Education (SBE) is required to adopt standards for school district and individual school site performance and expectation for improvement in regard to each of the state priorities.

Further, the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) legislation established a new system of school district support and intervention. The California Collaborative for Educational Excellence (CCEE) was created in order to provide advice and assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs). Under the new system, if an LEA does not meet performance expectations in the eight state priority areas, they could be subject to intervention by their county office of education or the CCEE. LEAs that are continuously not meeting performance standards, as specified, could be subject to intervention by the SBE and Superintendent of Public Instruction. However, LEAs also may seek assistance from the CCEE on their own.

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the SBE, by January 31, 2017, to consider a revision to the LCAP template to include a section or appendix to monitor actual progress with respect to the SBE-adopted standards and expectations for improvement, as specified.

This bill also requires a superintendent of a school district or county superintendent of schools to post on its internet web site, if available, its populated evaluation rubric unless the SBE revises the template for the LCAP, as specified.

STAFF COMMENTS

- 1) ***Need for the bill.*** According to the author's office, there is no requirement that districts publicly report or simply post online annual data on the eight state priorities and accompanying data metrics for each. Absent availability of critical baseline data, it is difficult if not impossible to have meaningful stakeholder engagement. The author's office indicates that making this information available will make for more informed needs assessments and conversations as districts and communities prioritize local LCFF goals and actions.
- 2) ***Is the bill premature?*** On or before October 1, 2015, the SBE is required to adopt the evaluation rubrics. While LEAs will be able to use the rubrics for self-assessment, evaluating strengths and weaknesses, and in identifying schools and districts in need of technical assistance, there does not appear to be an explicit requirement for LEAs to utilize the evaluation rubrics. Additionally, as part of the rubrics, the SBE is required to adopt standards for school district and individual school site performance and expectation for improvement in regard to each of the state priorities.

Just recently, a variety of stakeholders and organizations within the education community requested that the Administration and Legislature enact legislation that would delay adoption of the evaluation rubrics to February 2016. They indicate a statutory extension is necessary to balance the need for further deliberation with the goal of providing useful guidance to the field to inform the development of 2016-17 local control and accountability plans (LCAPs) and to provide more time for stakeholders and the State Board of Education (SBE) to engage on numerous technical and policy issues that need to be further discussed. While no legislative action has been taken as of the date of this analysis, the bill's provisions could be premature if any delay on the adoption of the rubrics were to happen. One could also argue that any revision to the LCAP template regarding the evaluation rubrics at this point is premature given that the soonest the SBE is likely to adopt them is late summer or early fall of 2015 (the statutory deadline is on or before October 1, 2015). As the bill would require the SBE to consider a revision to the LCAP template by January 31, 2017, the Committee may wish to consider whether this provides sufficient time for the SBE to consider whether such a revision is necessary and also whether it provides ample time to develop any changes.

- 3) **Duplication.** This bill requires a school district or county office of education to post its populated evaluation rubric, if available, on its internet web site. However, if the SBE elects to revise the LCAP template to include evaluation rubrics data, it appears that this provision would be redundant because LCAPs are already required to be posted online.

SUPPORT

Alliance for Boys and Men of Color
Bay Area Council
California Association for Bilingual Education
California School-Based Health Alliance
Children Now (sponsor)
Education Trust—West
EdVoice
Families In Schools
Fight Crime: Invest in Kids California
PICO California
Restorative Schools Vision Project

OPPOSITION

None received.

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