

2016 Accountability Technical Advisory Committee Summary of meeting on September 28–29, 2015

Meeting Objective

The objective for the first meeting of the 2016 Accountability Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC) was to review the preliminary 2015 accountability results, discuss topics related to 2016 accountability, and begin planning for House Bill (HB) 2804 implementation.

Overview of Accountability Results

Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff shared the preliminary 2015 accountability results, comparing this year's results to those of previous years. Staff also talked briefly about the effects of excluding results from STAAR assessments in mathematics, grades 3–8; STAAR Accommodated (STAAR A); and STAAR Alternate 2 (STAAR Alt 2) and pointed out that the decisions on the student performance standards for STAAR for 2016 had yet to be made.

Feedback on 2015 Performance Indices and Distinction Designations

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Finally, the committee voted 17 to 5 to recommend the removal of student attendance rates as an indicator for distinction designation, citing the passage of HB 2398 (Texas Legislature) on student truancy and the fact that attendance rates are usually between 95% and 96%, preventing attendance from being a meaningful indicator to distinguish among schools.

Recommendations on Options to Determine 2016 Targets

Staff presented a document showing the percentage of districts and campuses—broken down by AEA and non-AEA—that met each index target. The document compares the 2015 results to those of 2014 and 2013. ATAC was informed that they will be asked to make recommendations for 2016 targets at the next meeting after student performance standards for STAAR are finalized.

Index 4—Review of FSHP Transition and TSI Requirements

Staff discussed the transition to the FHSP and changes to the TSI requirements. Staff also explained that students who graduated at the recommendation of an Individual Graduation Committee (authorized by SB 149 [Texas Legislature]) would be counted as graduates for the purpose of accountability. Committee members asked whether IGC graduates could earn the distinguished level of achievement or receive endorsement. An FAQ document on the TEA website indicates that IGC graduates can earn the distinguished level of achievement or an endorsement (under the FHSP). Member discussed Index 4 CharsEMC /P <T6/MCID 9 >>B88-no 'd

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distinct advantage over indicators that will require new data collection. Members also discussed the different types of student and parent surveys that are administered in their local districts.

Transition Issues from Four Indices to