

MEMORANDUM

To: Superintendents, Principals, and Teachers

From: Maggie Paino, Director of Accountability

Date: May 29, 2020

Re: House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1003 – Education Matters (2 of 3)

Background:

House Enrolled Act 1003 (2020) streamlines Indiana’s school accreditation processes by providing for one, performance-based accreditation system applicable to all schools. Additionally, HEA 1003 revises requirements for publication of the annual performance report (APR) by school corporations.

Guidance on Accreditation:

Under Indiana’s current accreditation process, school reviews and onsite evaluations are required to determine the assignment of accreditation levels and statuses. Further, Indiana law currently provides for operational flexibilities to schools and corporations through the state freeway accreditation status, which is based on separate criteria than the general accreditation process.

HEA 1003 requires the State Board of Education (SBOE) to establish a new, performance-based accreditation system to replace the outdated and duplicative accreditation systems. Additionally, HEA 1003 repeals the state freeway accreditation status, effective July 1, 2025. Under the new, streamlined performance-based accreditation system, schools and school corporations will be permitted to request statutory and regulatory flexibility from SBOE.

Implementation of Accreditation:

Although the new, performance-based accreditation system is still in the initial stages of development, schools, school corporations, and groups of schools may begin requesting statutory and regulatory flexibility for the 2020-2021 school year as early as July 1, 2020.

Requests for flexibility waivers must be submitted through the accountability portal (<https://accountability.doe.in.gov>). All waiver requests will be forwarded to the State Board of Education for review.

Guidance on Annual Performance Report:

Currently, all school corporations must annually publish its full APR in a newspaper. HEA 1003 revises this requirement to provide school corporations the option to either publish the full APR in a newspaper or to publish a summary of the APR along with a description of how to access the full APR.

Implementation of Annual Performance Report:

The new requirements of IC 20-20-8-3 go into effect with the APR published in March 2021. If a school corporation chooses to publish a summary of its APR in a newspaper rather than the full APR, such summary must include the following information:

- student enrollment information;
- state four-year graduation rate;
- state four-year non-waiver graduation rate;
- attendance rates;
- number and percentage of students demonstrating proficiency on the statewide assessments;
- annual state accountability categories for the schools;
- percentage of graduates considered “college and career ready”;
- financial information and various cost factors required to be provided to the Office of Management and Budget under IC 20-42.5-3-5;

IDOE will provide all school corporations with the full version of the APR as well as the summary version of the APR.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Accountability at schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov.

This bill was authored by Representative Jack Jordan. The full bill text can be found [here](#). Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found [here](#).