

The School Board of Gadsden County

Bylaws & Policies

Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date of the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the bylaws and policies of The School Board of Gadsden County were adopted on June 25, 2013, and were in effect beginning June 26, 2013.

2623 - STUDENT ASSESSMENT

The School Board shall assess student achievement and needs in all program areas in compliance with the law and rules of the State Board of Education. The purpose will be to determine the progress of students and to assist them in attaining student performance objectives and the educational achievement goals of this District.

The Board shall administer the State-mandated tests (e.g., diagnostic assessments and achievement tests) to students at the times designated by the Florida Board of Education. However, the regular program of study may not be interrupted to administer practice tests or engage in other test-preparation activities for a Statewide assessment. The Board may authorize a school to:

- A. distribute to students sample test books and answer keys that are published by the Florida Department of Education;
- B. provide individual instruction in test taking strategies without suspending the school's regular program of curriculum for a student who scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on a prior administration of the Statewide assessment;
- C. provide individualized instruction in the content knowledge and skills assessed, without suspending the school's regular program of curriculum for a student who scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on a prior administration of the Statewide assessment or a student who is identified as having a deficiency in the content knowledge and skills assessed;
- D. incorporate test-taking exercise and strategies into curriculum for intensive reading and mathematics and intervention courses; and
- E. administer a practice test or engage in other test preparation activities for the statewide assessment which are determined necessary to familiarize students with the organization of the assessment, the format of the test terms, and the test directions, or which are otherwise necessary for the valid and reliable administration of the assessment, as set forth in rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

At least annually, the staff members will assess the academic achievement and learning needs of each student. Procedures for such assessments may include, but need not be limited to, teacher observation techniques, cumulative student records, student performance data collected through standardized testing programs, and physical examinations.

The Superintendent shall develop a program of testing that may include, but not be limited to:

- A. State-mandated achievement tests;
- B. end-of-course tests at appropriate grade levels to measure achievement of performance objectives in designated courses;
- C. diagnostic testing and alternative assessments.

The Board shall also require:

- A. mandatory participation by all eligible students as defined by State Board of Education rules;

- B. parents be informed of the testing program of the schools and of the special tests that are to be administered to their children;
- C. data regarding individual test scores be entered on the student's cumulative record, where it will be subject to the policy of this Board regarding student records;
- D. school and District achievement test results will be reported to the public annually;
- E. remediation services be provided to any student who scores Level I on the State-mandated achievement test;
Remediation services shall be provided to any student who does not meet the testing requirement for graduation prior to retesting.
- F. the Superintendent shall develop procedures for the annual assessment of first, second, third, and fourth grade students on their reading proficiency and identify those students who are reading below grade level. S/He shall ensure that each student's teacher is involved in the assessment and in the identification of those students who are reading below grade level.

The District shall notify the parent or guardian of each student whose reading skills are below grade level and provide intervention services to each student reading below grade level.

For each student required to be offered remediation services, the District shall involve the student's parent or guardian and classroom teacher in developing the intervention strategy, and shall offer to the parent or guardian the opportunity to be involved in the intervention services.

All identified disabled students in the School District shall be considered for participation in the State-mandated testing program for competency and proficiency testing. The consideration for participation shall be made by the IEP Team. The extent of participation in and/or exemptions from the testing shall be delineated on the student's I.E.P. To the extent possible, and in accordance with the law, a student with disabilities shall not be excused from taking a required assessment unless no reasonable accommodation can be made to enable the student to take the assessment.

The Board shall take appropriate and necessary actions against any employee who knowingly and willfully violates test security rules adopted by the Department of Education for any State-mandated assessment.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures for test security that will maintain and ensure the integrity of District and State assessments.

F.S. 1008.22, 1008.25, 1008.30

F.A.C. 6A-1.0943

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