

Commissioner's Charges for the Accountability Policy Advisory Committee (APAC)

Purpose

The APAC committee will consider the technical and policy issues related to accountability in order to develop recommendations that ensure that Texas achieves the goals of the state accountability system for 2014 and beyond.

Scope of Work

The committee will be responsible for recommendations regarding the issuance of the district and campus state accountability ratings and distinction designations.

Charges for the committees do not include:

- The Performance-Based Monitoring Analysis System (PBMAS) or Program Monitoring and Interventions (PMI) although decisions made for the state accountability system will inform the development of these systems.
- The design and content of statutorily-required performance reports.
- State assessment program, graduation, or curriculum policies.
- Specific details of certain components needed for implementation of the system (e.g., campus pairing; appeals process; small numbers analysis).

Ground Rules

1. State accountability recommendations must be in compliance with agency interpretation of statute.
2. The overall framework for the performance indexes and distinction designations that were developed based on the recommendations of previous advisory committees will not be revisited.
3. Assume the state assessment program and state accountability system for 2014 and beyond will be implemented under statute that is currently in effect.
4. To the extent possible, recommendations should cover the current rating year as well as the subsequent two years.

APAC Member Duties

The APAC will consist of public school educators; legislative representatives; business and community leaders; representatives of higher education; education associations; and parents of children attending Texas public schools. In addition to providing guidance during the development process, the APAC will review final proposals from the ATAC and provide its responses to these proposals to the commissioner of education. The commissioner will make final accountability decisions in spring 2014.