Low Performing Districts
Next Steps

NCDPI Webinar for Superintendents in Low Performing Districts
September 19, 2016
September 26, 2016
115C-105.39A. Identification of low-performing local school administrative units

The State Board of Education shall identify low-performing local school administrative units on an annual basis. A low-performing local school administrative unit is a unit in which the majority of the schools in that unit that received a school performance grade and school growth score have been identified as low-performing schools, as provided in G.S. 115C-105.37.
G.S. 115C-105.39A.

(b) Plan for Improvement of Low-Performing Schools. Once a local school administrative unit has been identified as low-performing under this section, the following actions shall be taken:
The superintendent shall proceed under G.S. 115C-105.39
Within 30 days of the initial identification the superintendent shall take one of the following actions:

1. Recommend to the local board the principal be retained in current position*

   The superintendent may only recommend a principal be retained in the same position without a plan for remediation if the principal has been at the school for less than two years or, in the case of a principal having been at the school for two years or more, if the school has both met student growth and has improved student achievement scores under G.S 115C-83.15 for the prior school year. (New in 2016)

*Certain Conditions apply
Step 1 Cont’d.

2. Recommend to the local board the principal be retained in current position and a plan of remediation be developed
3. Recommend to the local board the principal be transferred*, or
4. Proceed under G.S. 115C-325.4 to dismiss or demote the principal
Step 2
(Deadline: November 4, 2016)

Within 30 days of the identification of a local school administrative unit as low-performing by the State Board, the superintendent shall submit to the local board of education a preliminary plan for improving both the school performance grade and school growth score of each low-performing school in the unit, including how the superintendent and other central office administrators will work with each low-performing school and monitor the low-performing school's progress and how current local school administrative unit policy should be changed to improve student achievement throughout the local school administrative unit.
Within 30 days of its receipt of the preliminary plan, the local board shall vote to approve, modify, or reject this plan. Before the local board votes on the plan, it shall make the plan available to the public, including the personnel assigned to each low-performing school and the parents and guardians of the students who are assigned to each low-performing school, and shall allow for written comments.
The local board shall submit a final plan to the State Board within five days of the local board’s approval of the plan. The State Board shall review the plan expeditiously and, if appropriate, may offer recommendations to modify the plan.

(See next slide for submitting the plan*)
Submitting the Plan

- Determine template or format for the district plan
- Complete the Plan (All low performing districts may include the assigned DTC to develop the plan* or they may submit the plan by attachment in an email to their assigned DTC.)
- The DTC will provide the feedback required in the law and return the district plan to the school district within two weeks.

*If the DTC is involved in developing the plan providing ongoing feedback will be considered the feedback requirement and the plan does not need to be sent by email attachment to the DTC.
Step 5

The local board shall consider any recommendations made by the State Board and, if necessary, amend the plan and vote on approval of any changes to the final plan.

The local board of education shall provide access to the final plan on the local school administrative unit’s website and submit the final plan to The State Board of Education who shall also provide access to the plan on the Department of Public Instruction’s website.
Submitting the Final Plan

The final plan should be submitted to Nancy Barbour by email at nancy.barbour@dpi.nc.gov marked Final District Plan/LEA Name in the subject line of the email.

NCDPI will post all final plans on the www.ncpublicschools.org website.
G.S. 115C-105.39A.

(c) Parental Notice of Low-Performing Local School Administrative Unit Status. – Each local school administrative unit that the State Board identifies as low-performing shall provide written notification to the parents and guardians of all students attending any school in the local school administrative unit within 30 days of the identification that includes the following information:
Parent Notification shall include:

- A statement that the State Board of Education has found that a majority of the schools in the local school administrative unit have "received a school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" and have been identified as low-performing schools as defined by G.S. 115C-105.37." The statement shall also include an explanation of the school performance grades and school growth scores.

- The percentage of schools identified as low-performing.

- Information about the preliminary plan developed under subsection (b) of this section and the availability of the final plan on the local school administrative unit's Web site.

- The meeting date for when the preliminary plan will be considered by the local board of education.

- A description of any additional steps the school is taking to improve student performance.

- For notifications sent to parents and guardians of students attending a school that is identified as low-performing under G.S. 115C-105.37, a statement that the State Board of Education has found that the school has "received a school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" and has been identified as a low-performing school as defined by G.S. 115C-105.37." This notification also shall include the school performance grade and school growth score the school received and an explanation of the school performance grades and school growth scores."
Contact Information

General Questions about Low Performing Districts

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