



**State Board of Education Resolution
To Approve the District of Columbia's State Accountability Plan
SR17-6**

WHEREAS, in December 2015, Congress enacted the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which amended the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) and built on key areas of educational progress achieved in recent years with the intention of ensuring that all students have equitable access to a high- quality education

WHEREAS, the Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE) must submit a State Education Plan to the US Department of Education that outlines statewide plans for education, including how DC will support specific groups of students and the State's system of annual meaningful differentiation of all public schools;

WHEREAS, District of Columbia law requires State Board of Education approve the state accountability plan for the District, as developed by OSSE, pursuant to ESEA, ensuring that:

- (A) The plan includes a single statewide accountability system that establishes ambitious long-term student achievement goals, which include measurements of interim progress toward meeting those goals; and
- (B) The statewide accountability system included in the plan is based on, but is not limited to, challenging state academic standards, academic assessments, and a standardized system of accountability across all local education agencies that will be used to hold local education agencies accountable for student achievement;

WHEREAS, in creating the draft State Plan, OSSE held or participated in 50 meetings with individuals from more than 100 organizations represented;

WHEREAS, OSSE released a draft State Plan on January 30, 2017 that outlines how the District will put into action ESSA's requirements about areas including funding, supporting all students and a school accountability framework, the School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) framework, that includes a number of metrics aimed at capturing multiple measures of school performance, including academic progress/school growth measures, the quality of teacher/student interactions in pre-K programs, access to and outcomes in Advanced Placement coursework, and others;

WHEREAS, OSSE solicited feedback on the draft State Plan during the public comment period open from January 30, 2017 through March 3, 2017, including receiving more than 250 written comments from various education stakeholders across the District and comments from the public during a series of community engagement sessions in all eight wards throughout February 2017;

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2017, the State Board of Education provided OSSE with ten recommendations for changes to the ESSA draft state plan which reflected the views of SBOE members after receiving input through its community meeting series, presentations and

discussions with PTA and Ward Education groups, experts, teachers, parents, school leaders and numerous direct conversations with residents;

WHEREAS, OSSE thoroughly considered all of the comments received throughout the public comment period, amended the state plan, and released a revised summary of the state plan on March 15, 2017 that was responsive to feedback that included the following:

- A lower weight on academic achievement in the elementary and middle school frameworks;
- An increased weight on school environment in the elementary and middle school frameworks;
- A new measure for access and opportunities in all frameworks for the school environment domain that is designed to promote well-rounded experiences for students in engaging learning environments;
- A measure of growth in student attendance to give credit to schools who are improving students' rates of attendance and addressing chronic absenteeism;
- Other responsive clarifications

WHEREAS, OSSE did not include a growth measure in the high school framework because the District does not currently have enough years of testing data available, and because students' course-taking patterns, particularly in math, can vary considerably, but OSSE has committed to exploring all options for developing and implementing academic progress or growth measures for high schools in the near future and reporting publicly on progress towards this goal by the 2018-19 school year;

WHEREAS, OSSE has made assurances in their plan for further reporting to the public and the Board, and approval of substantive changes to the accountability system to the Board;

WHEREAS, the US Department of Education requires that states are ready to release results in the fall of 2018 using its accountability system and data collected in the 2017-18 school year;

WHEREAS, OSSE plans to submit the State plan to the US Department of Education in April 2017 for approval in order to provide LEAs, schools, and stakeholders with clarity on how school quality will be measured at the start of the 2017-18 school year and provide for effective implementation of the new system;

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent and members of the State Board of Education have engaged in an extensive period of public engagement, including receiving testimony from the public and experts at public meetings held on March 16, June 15, July 20, September 21, October 26, November 21, December 21, 2016, January 18, February 15, 2017, as well as at working sessions held on May 4, June 1, July 13 and 27, September 7, October 5, November 2, December 7, 2016, January 4, 13 and 24, February 1, and March 1 and 14, 2017;

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education has reviewed the revised state accountability plan and finds that the plan's accountability system establishes ambitious long-term student achievement goals, using measurements of interim progress toward meeting those goals, and is based on challenging state academic standards, achievement and growth in academic assessments, school

environment and a standardized system of accountability across all local education agencies that will be used to hold local education agencies accountable for student achievement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the State Board approves the District's State Accountability Plan as proposed by the State Superintendent.

Date Adopted: March 22, 2017 Signed: 