



Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.09981, F.A.C.: School and District Accountability

**State Board of Education
October 18, 2023**



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
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Purpose of the Proposed Amendment

- This proposed amendment incorporates changes made during the 2022 and 2023 legislative sessions.
- As part of the transition to new assessments and new performance standards, or cut scores, Senate Bill 1048 (2022) amended s. 1008.34, F.S., to require that the initial school **grading scale for 2022-2023 informational baseline grades** be set so that the percentage of schools that earn an “A,” “B,” “C,” “D” and “F” is **statistically equivalent to the 2021-2022 school grades results.**
- Additionally, House Bill 1537 (2023), amended s. 1008.34, F.S., to **include a standalone component for Grade 3 English Language Arts (ELA) achievement in the school grades calculation** beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

School Grades for the 2022-2023 Transition Year

- As outlined in state law, **the 2022-2023 school grades**, which will incorporate the new assessment results and new cut scores for those assessments, **shall serve as an informational baseline** for schools and districts to work toward improved performance in future years.
- Because of the transition to new assessments, **learning gains** – which require two years of assessment data – **will not be part of the informational baseline 2022-2023 grades**.
- **No negative consequences** shall result from these grades, as they are purely informational.
 - For example, per state law, a school may not be required to select and implement a turnaround option based on these grades.
- Learning gains and consequences shall return for the 2023-2024 calculation of school grades (Summer 2024).

School Grades for the 2022-2023 Transition Year

Letter Grade	Pre-Existing Scale	2022-2023 Transition Scale
A	62% of the points or higher	Following the calculation of the baseline grades using the new assessment cuts points, school grade point thresholds will be established, by school type, so that the overall results mirror the 2021-2022 results of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32% of schools earning an “A,” • 25% of schools earning a “B,” • 37% of schools earning a “C,” • 5% of schools earning a “D” and • 1% of schools earning an “F.”
B	54% to 61% of the points	
C	41% to 53% of the points	
D	32% to 40% of the points	
F	31% of the points or less	

- As required by state law, once learning gains data become available at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year, the State Board shall review the school grading scale and determine if the scale should be adjusted for the 2023-2024 school grades calculation (Summer 2024).

Focus on 3rd Grade ELA Achievement

- This amendment conforms with the statutory requirement to, beginning with the 2023-2024 school grades calculation, **add a stand-alone component measuring the ELA achievement of Grade 3 students.**
- The inclusion of a Grade 3 ELA achievement component in school grades, in addition to the existing overall ELA achievement component, will likely **increase a school's focus on literacy in the primary grades.**
- As data has shown, **Grade 3 ELA achievement is a predictor of future success.**
- With this new component of school grades providing a new incentive for high achievement, **improvements in Grade 3 ELA performance should occur, paving the way for better outcomes for all Florida students.**



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