

Assembly Bill No. 1668

CHAPTER 424

An act to amend Sections 52052 and 52052.3 of the Education Code, relating to school accountability.

[Approved by Governor September 21, 2012. Filed with
Secretary of State September 21, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1668, Carter. School accountability: academic performance: dropout recovery high schools.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction, with approval of the State Board of Education, to develop an Academic Performance Index (API), as part of the Public School Performance Accountability Program, to measure the performance of schools, especially the academic performance of pupils. Existing law requires the Superintendent, with approval of the state board, to develop an alternative accountability system for specified types of schools and allows these schools to receive an API score, but prohibits them from being included in the API rankings of schools. Existing law requires the Superintendent and the state board, as part of the alternative accountability system for schools, or any successor system, to allow no more than 10 dropout recovery high schools to report the results of an individual pupil growth model, as specified, instead of reporting other indicators, and requires the Superintendent to review the individual pupil growth model proposed by a dropout recovery high school and certify that model if it meets specified criteria. Existing law defines a dropout recovery high school as a school offering instruction in any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in which 50% or more of its pupils are designated as dropouts, as specified, and the school provides specified instruction.

This bill would change the definition of a dropout recovery high school to mean a school offering instruction in any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in which 50% or more of its pupils are either designated as dropouts, as specified, or left a school and were not otherwise enrolled in a school for a period of at least 180 days and the school provides specified instruction. The bill also would require a dropout recovery high school to submit to the Superintendent a certification that the high school meets the definition of a dropout recovery high school, as defined, and provide specified data in support of that designation.

Existing law prohibits graduation rates for pupils in dropout recovery high schools, as defined, from being included in the API.

This bill would revise the definition of dropout recovery high school for purposes of this provision to also include a high school in which 50% or

more of its pupils left a school and were not otherwise enrolled in a school for a period of at least 180 days.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 52052 of the Education Code is amended to read: 52052. (a) (1) The Superintendent, with approval of the state board, shall develop an Academic Performance Index (API), to measure the performance of schools, especially the academic performance of pupils.

(2) A school shall demonstrate comparable improvement in academic achievement as measured by the API by all numerically significant pupil subgroups at the school, including:

- (A) Ethnic subgroups.
- (B) Socioeconomically disadvantaged pupils.
- (C) English learners.
- (D) Pupils with disabilities.

(3) (A) For purposes of this section, a numerically significant pupil subgroup is one that meets both of the following criteria:

(i) The subgroup consists of at least 50 pupils each of whom has a valid test score.

(ii) The subgroup constitutes at least 15 percent of the total population of pupils at a school who have valid test scores.

(B) If a subgroup does not constitute 15 percent of the total population of pupils at a school who have valid test scores, the subgroup may constitute a numerically significant pupil subgroup if it has at least 100 valid test scores.

(C) For a school with an API score that is based on no fewer than 11 and no more than 99 pupils with valid test scores, numerically significant pupil subgroups shall be defined by the Superintendent, with approval by the state board.

(4) The API shall consist of a variety of indicators currently reported to the department, including, but not limited to, the results of the achievement test administered pursuant to Section 60640, attendance rates for pupils in elementary schools, middle schools, and secondary schools, and the graduation rates for pupils in secondary schools.

(A) Graduation rates for pupils in secondary schools shall be calculated for the API as follows:

(i) Four-year graduation rates shall be calculated by taking the number of pupils who graduated on time for the current school year, which is considered to be three school years after the pupils entered grade 9 for the first time, and dividing that number by the total calculated in clause (ii).

(ii) The number of pupils entering grade 9 for the first time in the school year three school years before the current school year, plus the number of pupils who transferred into the class graduating at the end of the current school year between the school year that was three school years before the current school year and the date of graduation, less the number of pupils

who transferred out of the school between the school year that was three school years before the current school year and the date of graduation who were members of the class that is graduating at the end of the current school year.

(iii) Five-year graduation rates shall be calculated by taking the number of pupils who graduated on time for the current school year, which is considered to be four school years after the pupils entered grade 9 for the first time, and dividing that number by the total calculated in clause (iv).

(iv) The number of pupils entering grade 9 for the first time in the school year four years before the current school year, plus the number of pupils who transferred into the class graduating at the end of the current school year between the school year that was four school years before the current school year and the date of graduation, less the number of pupils who transferred out of the school between the school year that was four years before the current school year and the date of graduation who were members of the class that is graduating at the end of the current school year.

(v) Six-year graduation rates shall be calculated by taking the number of pupils who graduated on time for the current school year, which is considered to be five school years after the pupils entered grade 9 for the first time, and dividing that number by the total calculated in clause (vi).

(vi) The number of pupils entering grade 9 for the first time in the school year five years before the current school year, plus the number of pupils who transferred into the class graduating at the end of the current school year between the school year that was five school years before the current school year and the date of graduation, less the number of pupils who transferred out of the school between the school year that was five years before the current school year and the date of graduation who were members of the class that is graduating at the end of the current school year.

(B) The inclusion of five- and six-year graduation rates for pupils in secondary schools shall meet the following requirements:

(i) Schools shall be granted one-half the credit in their API scores for graduating pupils in five years that they are granted for graduating pupils in four years.

(ii) Schools shall be granted one-quarter the credit in their API scores for graduating pupils in six years that they are granted for graduating pupils in four years.

(iii) Notwithstanding clauses (i) and (ii), schools shall be granted full credit in their API scores for graduating in five or six years a pupil with disabilities who graduates in accordance with his or her individualized education program (IEP).

(C) The pupil data collected for the API that comes from the achievement test administered pursuant to Section 60640 and the high school exit examination administered pursuant to Section 60851, when fully implemented, shall be disaggregated by special education status, English learners, socioeconomic status, gender, and ethnic group. Only the test scores of pupils who were counted as part of the enrollment in the annual data collection of the California Basic Educational Data System for the

current fiscal year and who were continuously enrolled during that year may be included in the test result reports in the API score of the school. Results of the achievement test and other tests specified in subdivision (b) shall constitute at least 60 percent of the value of the index.

(D) Before including high school graduation rates and attendance rates in the API, the Superintendent shall determine the extent to which the data currently are reported to the state and the accuracy of the data. Notwithstanding any other law, graduation rates for pupils in dropout recovery high schools shall not be included in the API. For purposes of this subparagraph, “dropout recovery high school” means a high school in which 50 percent or more of its pupils have been designated as dropouts pursuant to the exit/withdrawal codes developed by the department or left a school and were not otherwise enrolled in a school for a period of at least 180 days.

(E) The Superintendent shall provide an annual report to the Legislature on the graduation and dropout rates in California and shall make the same report available to the public. The report shall be accompanied by the release of publicly accessible data for each school district and school in a manner that provides for disaggregation based on socioeconomically disadvantaged pupils and numerically significant pupil subgroups scoring below average on statewide standards-aligned assessments. In addition, the data shall be made available in a manner that provides for comparisons of a minimum of three years of data.

(b) Pupil scores from the following tests, when available and when found to be valid and reliable for this purpose, shall be incorporated into the API:

(1) The standards-based achievement tests provided for in Section 60642.5.

(2) The high school exit examination.

(c) Based on the API, the Superintendent shall develop, and the state board shall adopt, expected annual percentage growth targets for all schools based on their API baseline score from the previous year. Schools are expected to meet these growth targets through effective allocation of available resources. For schools below the statewide API performance target adopted by the state board pursuant to subdivision (d), the minimum annual percentage growth target shall be 5 percent of the difference between the actual API score of a school and the statewide API performance target, or one API point, whichever is greater. Schools at or above the statewide API performance target shall have, as their growth target, maintenance of their API score above the statewide API performance target. However, the state board may set differential growth targets based on grade level of instruction and may set higher growth targets for the lowest performing schools because they have the greatest room for improvement. To meet its growth target, a school shall demonstrate that the annual growth in its API is equal to or more than its schoolwide annual percentage growth target and that all numerically significant pupil subgroups, as defined in subdivision (a), are making comparable improvement.

(d) Upon adoption of state performance standards by the state board, the Superintendent shall recommend, and the state board shall adopt, a statewide

API performance target that includes consideration of performance standards and represents the proficiency level required to meet the state performance target. When the API is fully developed, schools, at a minimum, shall meet their annual API growth targets to be eligible for the Governor's Performance Award Program as set forth in Section 52057. The state board may establish additional criteria that schools must meet to be eligible for the Governor's Performance Award Program.

(e) The API shall be used for both of the following:

(1) Measuring the progress of schools selected for participation in the Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program pursuant to Section 52053.

(2) Ranking all public schools in the state for the purpose of the High Achieving/Improving Schools Program pursuant to Section 52056.

(f) (1) A school with 11 to 99 pupils with valid test scores shall receive an API score with an asterisk that indicates less statistical certainty than API scores based on 100 or more test scores.

(2) A school annually shall receive an API score, unless the Superintendent determines that an API score would be an invalid measure of the performance of the school for one or more of the following reasons:

(A) Irregularities in testing procedures occurred.

(B) The data used to calculate the API score of the school are not representative of the pupil population at the school.

(C) Significant demographic changes in the pupil population render year-to-year comparisons of pupil performance invalid.

(D) The department discovers or receives information indicating that the integrity of the API score has been compromised.

(E) Insufficient pupil participation in the assessments included in the API.

(3) If a school has fewer than 100 pupils with valid test scores, the calculation of the API or adequate yearly progress pursuant to the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.) and federal regulations may be calculated over more than one annual administration of the tests administered pursuant to Section 60640 and the high school exit examination administered pursuant to Section 60851, consistent with regulations adopted by the state board.

(g) Only schools with 100 or more test scores contributing to the API may be included in the API rankings.

(h) The Superintendent, with the approval of the state board, shall develop an alternative accountability system for schools under the jurisdiction of a county board of education or a county superintendent of schools, community day schools, nonpublic, nonsectarian schools pursuant to Section 56366, and alternative schools serving high-risk pupils, including continuation high schools and opportunity schools. Schools in the alternative accountability system may receive an API score, but shall not be included in the API rankings.

SEC. 2. Section 52052.3 of the Education Code is amended to read:

52052.3. (a) As part of the alternative accountability system for schools developed pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 52052, or any successor system, the Superintendent and the state board shall allow no more than 10 dropout recovery high schools, as defined in subdivision (b), to report, in lieu of other indicators, the results of an individual pupil growth model that is proposed by the school and certified by the Superintendent pursuant to subdivision (c).

(b) For purposes of this section, “dropout recovery high school” means a school offering instruction in any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in which 50 percent or more of its pupils are either designated as dropouts pursuant to the exit and withdrawal codes developed by the department or left a school and were not otherwise enrolled in a school for a period of at least 180 days and the school provides instruction in partnership with any of the following:

(1) The federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 2801 et seq.).

(2) Federally affiliated Youthbuild programs (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12899 et seq.).

(3) Federal job corps training or instruction provided pursuant to a memorandum of understanding with the federal provider.

(4) The California Conservation Corps or local conservation corps certified by the California Conservation Corps pursuant to Section 14406 or 14507.5 of the Public Resources Code.

(c) A dropout recovery high school shall submit to the Superintendent a certification that the high school meets the criteria specified in subdivision (b) and provide a summary of data derived from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System pursuant to Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 60900) of Part 33 to support that designation. A dropout recovery high school shall also submit a proposed individual pupil growth model, and the Superintendent shall review and certify that model if it meets all of the following criteria:

(1) The model measures learning based on valid and reliable nationally normed or criterion-referenced reading and mathematics tests.

(2) The model measures skills and knowledge aligned with state standards.

(3) The model measures the extent to which a pupil scored above an expected amount of growth based on the individual pupil’s initial achievement score.

(4) The model demonstrates the extent to which a school is able to accelerate learning on an annual basis.

(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2017, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2017, deletes or extends that date.