

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

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HOUSE BILL 435  
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/3/13

Short Title: School Performance Grades.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 27, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE CALCULATION OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE  
3 SCORES AND GRADES BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 7A.3(e) of S.L. 2012-142 is repealed.

6 **SECTION 2.** Article 8 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by  
7 adding a new Part to read:

8 "Part 1B. School Performance.

9 **"§ 115C-83.11. School performance scores and grades.**

10 (a) The State Board of Education shall award school performance scores, grades, and an  
11 indicator of student growth as required by G.S. 115C-12(9)c1., calculated as provided in this  
12 section.

13 (b) For schools serving students in any combination of grades third through eighth  
14 grade, the school performance score shall be calculated based on the performance composite  
15 comprised of the following:

16 (1) Percent of students who score at or above proficient on annual assessments  
17 for reading in grades three through eight.

18 (2) Percent of students who score at or above proficient on annual assessments  
19 for mathematics in grades three through eight.

20 (3) Percent of students who score at or above proficient on annual assessments  
21 for science in grades five and eight.

22 (4) Percent of proficient scores in Algebra I/Integrated I, English II, and Biology  
23 end-of-course tests.

24 (c) For schools serving students in any combination of grades ninth through 12th grade,  
25 the school performance score shall be the average of the following five indicators:

26 (1) Percent of proficient scores in Algebra I/Integrated I, English II, and Biology  
27 end-of-course tests.

28 (2) Percent of students who complete a higher level mathematics class with a  
29 passing grade.

30 (3) Percent of college readiness benchmarks met on a nationally normed test of  
31 college readiness.

32 (4) Percent of students who graduate within four years of entering high school.

33 (5) Percent of students who demonstrate workplace readiness on a nationally  
34 normed test of workplace readiness.



1        (d) The State Board of Education shall calculate school performance scores using the  
2 State mean to set the criteria for each indicator. Each indicator will be translated to a common  
3 scale and averaged for the reporting of one school performance letter grade for each school.

4        (e) For schools that meet or exceed growth as determined by the Education  
5 Value-Added Assessment System (EVAAS), the final letter grade shall be increased by one  
6 grade.

7        (f) For schools serving students in third through eighth grade, their final letter grade  
8 shall be increased by one letter grade if the performance composite, comprising of the percent  
9 of proficient scores for reading, mathematics, and science, is at or above eighty percent (80%)  
10 for the current year and the two prior school years.

11        (g) For schools serving students in ninth through 12th grade, their final letter grade shall  
12 be increased by one letter grade if the performance composite, comprising of the percent of  
13 proficient scores for Algebra I/Integrated I, English II, and Biology end-of-course tests, is at or  
14 above eighty percent (80%) for the current year and the two prior school years.

15        (h) In calculating the overall school performance score earned by schools, the State  
16 Board of Education shall proportionally adjust the scale to account for the absence of a school  
17 performance element for award of scores to a school that does not have a measure of one of the  
18 school performance elements annually assessed for the grades taught at that school.

19        (i) The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education  
20 Oversight Committee annually by January 15 on any adjustments to the calculation and the  
21 distribution of the school performance grades."

22        **SECTION 3.(a)** G.S. 115C-12(9)c1. reads as rewritten:

23                "c1. To issue an annual "report card" for the State and for each local  
24 school administrative unit, assessing each unit's efforts to improve  
25 student performance based on the growth in performance of the  
26 students in each school and taking into account progress over the  
27 previous years' level of performance and the State's performance in  
28 comparison with other states. This assessment shall take into account  
29 factors that have been shown to affect student performance and that  
30 the State Board considers relevant to assess the State's efforts to  
31 improve student performance. As a part of the annual "report card"  
32 for each local school administrative unit, the State Board shall  
33 ~~award~~ award, in accordance with G.S. 115C-83.11, an overall  
34 numerical school performance score on a scale of zero to 100 and a  
35 corresponding letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F earned by each school  
36 within the local school administrative unit. The school performance  
37 score and grade shall reflect student performance on annual  
38 subject-specific assessments, college and workplace readiness  
39 measures, and graduation rates. For schools serving students in any  
40 grade from kindergarten to eighth grade, separate performance scores  
41 and grades shall also be awarded based on the school performance in  
42 reading and mathematics respectively. The annual "report card" for  
43 schools serving students in third grade also shall include the number  
44 and percentage of third grade students who (i) take and pass the  
45 alternative assessment of reading comprehension; (ii) were retained  
46 in third grade for not demonstrating reading proficiency as indicated  
47 in G.S. 115C-83.7(a); and (iii) were exempt from mandatory third  
48 grade retention by category of exemption as listed in  
49 G.S. 115C-83.7(b)."

50        **SECTION 3.(b)** G.S. 115C-47(58) reads as rewritten:

1           "(58) To Inform the Public About the North Carolina School Report Cards Issued  
2           by the State Board of Education. – Each local board of education shall  
3           ensure that the report card issued for it by the State Board of Education  
4           receives wide distribution to the local press or is otherwise provided to the  
5           public. Each local board of education shall ensure that the overall school  
6           performance score and grade calculated in accordance with G.S. 115C-83.11  
7           and earned by each school in the local school administrative unit for the  
8           current and previous four school years is prominently displayed on the Web  
9           site of the local school administrative unit. If any school in the local school  
10          administrative unit is awarded a grade of D or F, the local board of education  
11          shall provide notice of the grade in writing to the parent or guardian of all  
12          students enrolled in that school."

13           **SECTION 3.(c)** G.S. 115C-238.29F(1) reads as rewritten:

14          "(1) North Carolina School Report Cards. – A charter school shall ensure that the report  
15          card issued for it by the State Board of Education receives wide distribution to the local press  
16          or is otherwise provided to the public. A charter school shall ensure that the overall school  
17          performance score and grade calculated in accordance with G.S. 115C-83.11 and earned by the  
18          charter school for the current and previous four school years is prominently displayed on the  
19          school Web site. If a charter school is awarded a grade of D or F, the charter school shall  
20          provide notice of the grade in writing to the parent or guardian of all students enrolled in that  
21          school."

22           **SECTION 3.(d)** G.S. 115C-238.66(11) reads as rewritten:

23          "(11) North Carolina School Report Cards. – A regional school shall ensure that  
24          the report card issued for it by the State Board of Education receives wide  
25          distribution to the local press or is otherwise provided to the public. A  
26          regional school shall ensure that the overall school performance score and  
27          grade calculated in accordance with G.S. 115C-83.11 and earned by the  
28          regional school for the current and previous four school years is prominently  
29          displayed on the school Web site. If a regional school is awarded a grade of  
30          D or F, the regional school shall provide notice of the grade in writing to the  
31          parent or guardian of all students enrolled in that school."

32           **SECTION 4.** This section is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning  
33          with the 2013-2014 school year. The State Board of Education shall issue the first annual report  
34          cards under G.S. 115C-12(9)c1., as amended by this act, no earlier than August 1, 2014.