ATTACHMENT B

From: JB Buxton

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 3:47 PM

To: Cecilia Holden

Cc: Eric Davis; Alan W. Duncan

Subject: Re: Accountability school performance report card measures

Cecilia, I need to call you to update you on some recent developments with this. Looking like we will be bringing a partner in to support this work. I'll fill you in. We can also discuss most productive ways to being Reps Clemmons and Horn (and others into the work).

I'm happy to meet with Rep Clemmons. Unfortunately I'm in meetings in NY and Chicago the entire week of 9/9. The next week would be better.

Thanks.

J.B.

From: Cecilia Holden < Cecilia. Holden@dpi.nc.gov> Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 12:20:45 PM

To: JB Buxton < JB.Buxton@dpi.nc.gov>

Cc: Eric Davis <Eric.Davis@dpi.nc.gov>; Alan W. Duncan <aduncan@turningpointlit.com>; Cecilia Holden

<Cecilia.Holden@dpi.nc.gov>

Subject: Accountability school performance report card measures

Hi, JB.

As the subcommittee chair to lead the efforts on S362 15-Point Scale For School Performance Grades legislation, I am reaching out to let you know that Rep. Clemmons inquired about the SBE's plans on moving forward with this work and would like to meet with you and me possibly the week of Sept 9th or 16th. She has some excellent ideas and would welcome an opportunity to work with us any ways that makes sense. Assuming she supports the Board's recommendations we report back to the GA, she would like to help champion this work in the GA to get us the legislation and targeted resources that will help move this work forward and our schools to be successful. In addition to this initiative, she and Rep. Horn are starting an early childhood coalition so it would be a great time to update you on that work as well.

Please let me know some dates and times that work for you. I have included Eric and Alan on copy so they are looped in and up-to-date on this initiative and can chime in on any thoughts or desired involvement they may have. Thanks in advance for your reply.

H362 makes the 15 point grading scale permanent and in Section 3, this legislation tasks the SBE and Superintendent to study the weighting of school achievement and growth and the reporting methods used to meaningfully differentiate schools on an annual basis. We are responsible for reporting back to the JLEOC by February 15, 2020.

Regards,

Cecilia Holden

Director of Government and Community Relations, State Board of Education
(919)807-3406

Visit us on the web at www.ncpublicschools.org. All e-mail correspondence to and from this address is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law, which may result in monitoring and disclosure to third parties, including law enforcement.

From: Eric Davis

Sent: Friday, September 6, 2019 12:06 PM

To: Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org

Cc: JB Buxton

Subject: NC State Bd of Education Assessment and Accountability Initiative

Hello Stephen

Following up on my voice mails, I'd welcome the opportunity to connect with you how we could benefit from your team's expertise in this initiative. I understand that JB has had some conversations with you on this. Feel free to call me or let me know a convenient time for you for a call.

Thanks

Eric

Eric C. Davis
Chair, Member-At-Large
NC State Board of Education
704-651-0217

From: buxton.jb@gmail.com

Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 11:45 PM

To: Eric Davis

Subject:SBE-SREB accountability system studyAttachments:SBE-SREB accountability system study.docx

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Eric, here you go. Let me know if you want to discuss.

JB

STUDY OF NORTH CAROLINA'S ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

The State Board of Education will partner with the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) to conduct a study of North Carolina's accountability system. The study will review the current approach to accountability as part of the state's School Performance Grades and the state's plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, and the measures reported on the state's annual school report cards.

The study will include the following components:

1. Per Session Law 2019-154, the study shall include (i) the weighting of the school achievement score and the school growth score in calculation of the overall school performance score to best reflect performance and progress for each school and (ii) the reporting methods used to meaningfully differentiate schools on the North Carolina annual school report cards. Based on its study, the State Board shall propose recommendations on whether any changes should be made to the current weighting of school achievement scores and school growth scores and how the reporting methods for school performance scores could be improved to more accurately reflect the effectiveness of each North Carolina public school.

With the goal of maintaining the current school achievement and school growth measures, the study shall examine methods of reporting data that will better depict school performance and progress. The study shall analyze the feasibility of the following: (1) Reporting school achievement and school growth separately. (2) Reporting by graph, in a manner that depicts the intersection of (i) school achievement and growth scores, (ii) local school administrative unit achievement and growth scores, and (iii) State achievement and growth scores. (3) Including the school achievement and school growth scores for the prior two school years in annual graphical reporting, in order to provide stakeholders with clear, consistent data on individual school progress.

- 2. Review and recommendations on the alignment of the state's accountability system and annual school report cards with the State Board's recently adopted five-year strategic plan.
- 3. Review and recommendations on the alignment of the state's accountability system and annual school report cards with the constitutional guarantee of a "sound, basic education," defined in the 1997 N.C. Supreme Court decision as one that will "provide the student with at least: (1) sufficient ability to read, write, and speak the English language and a sufficient knowledge of fundamental mathematics and physical science to enable the student to function in a complex and rapidly changing society; (2) sufficient fundamental knowledge of geography, history, and basic economic and political systems to enable the student to make informed choices with regard to issues that affect the student personally or affect the student's community, state, and nation; (3) sufficient academic and vocational skills to enable the student to successfully engage in post-secondary education or vocational training; and (4) sufficient academic or vocational skills to enable the student to compete on an equal basis with others in further formal education or gainful employment in contemporary society."

As part of its review, SREB will consult the relevant findings and recommendations from WestEd's report for the Superior Court as part of the *Leandro* litigation (pending public release).

The State Board of Education will work with SREB to identify an *Accountability System Working Group* to assist SREB in its review of the state's system. The Working Group will be comprised of representatives from the State Board of Education and Department of Public Instruction, the State Board teacher, principal, superintendent and school board advisors, select higher education representatives, members of the NC Business Committee for Education, and other members as appointed by the Chair of the State Board. The working group will be led by the chair of the Student Learning and Achievement Committee.

SREB will report its findings to the State Board at its January 2020 meeting. The State Board, together with the Superintendent, will submit a final report of the results of the study along with its recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by February 15, 2020.

From: Eric Davis

Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 10:22 AM

To: Stephen Pruitt

Subject:NC SBE Accountability System StudyAttachments:SBE-SREB accountability system study.docx

Stephen

As promised, attached is our vision for the study and report that we would like SREB to provide. Welcome your thoughts and a proposal for this work.

Thanks

Eric C. Davis

Chair, Member-At-Large

NC State Board of Education

704-651-0217

From: Eric Davis

Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2019 2:58 PM

To: buxton.jb@gmail.com

Subject: Re: SBE-SREB accountability system study v2

Thanks. Sent to Pruitt

Eric C. Davis Chair, Member-At-Large NC State Board of Education 704-651-0217

From: buxton.jb@gmail.com <buxton.jb@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2019 2:51:58 PM

To: Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov>

Subject: SBE-SREB accountability system study v2

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I know you've sent to Stephen Pruitt, but realized I had not included the retest issue in the list of topics to be studied.

Added it in this version.

JB

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With the goal of maintaining the current school achievement and school growth measures, the study shall examine methods of reporting data that will better depict school performance and progress. The study shall analyze the feasibility of the following: (1) Reporting school achievement and school growth separately. (2) Reporting by graph, in a manner that depicts the intersection of (i) school achievement and growth scores, (ii) local school administrative unit achievement and growth scores, and (iii) State achievement and growth scores. (3) Including the school achievement and school growth scores for the prior two school years in annual graphical reporting, in order to provide stakeholders with clear, consistent data on individual school progress.

- 2. Study the feasibility of including end of grade and end of course retest scores in the both the achievement and growth calculations for schools and districts.
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From: Eric Davis

Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 10:38 AM

To: JB Buxton **Subject:** Fwd:

Eric C. Davis Chair, Member-At-Large NC State Board of Education 704-651-0217

From: Eric Davis

Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 10:37:53 AM **To:** Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>

Subject: Re:

Terrific. Thanks
Eric C. Davis
Chair, Member-At-Large
NC State Board of Education
704-651-0217

From: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org> Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 8:40:54 AM

To: Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov>

Subject: RE:

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Hi Eric,

I have been traveling and so has my VP that will help with this. We have already been discussing it and putting the proposal together. We should have you something no later than Tuesday, but I am hoping for by the end of the week.

Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D.
President
Southern Regional Education Board
592 10th Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30318-9211
(404) 879-5601
Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org

SREB.org

Twitter: @DrSPruitt

From: Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 10:19 AM

To: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>

Subject: Re:

Hello Stephen

Looking forward to reading your proposal. Any idea when you will have it ready?

Thanks

Eric

Eric C. Davis

Chair, Member-At-Large

NC State Board of Education

704-651-0217

From: Eric Davis < Eric.Davis@dpi.nc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2019 2:58:03 PM

To: Stephen Pruitt < stephen.pruitt@sreb.org >

Subject:

Stephen

One item left off was the retest issue which is added to this.

Thanks again

Eric C. Davis

Chair, Member-At-Large

NC State Board of Education

704-651-0217

Visit us on the web at www.ncpublicschools.org. All e-mail correspondence to and from this address is subject to the North Carolina Public Records Law, which may result in monitoring and disclosure to third parties, including law enforcement.

From: Eric Davis

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 10:44 AM

To:Stephen PruittCc:JB BuxtonSubject:Re: Call?

Sure, would like to include JB.

I can do most anytime on Sept 30.

Eric C. Davis Chair, Member-At-Large NC State Board of Education 704-651-0217

From: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 9:41:04 AM

To: Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov>

Subject: Call?

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Hi Eric,

Would you be up for a call on Monday? I think we need to talk through a couple of item to make sure we are clear on the work.

Thanks,

Stephen

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Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org

SREB.org

Twitter: @DrSPruitt

From: Eric Davis

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 1:22 PM

To: JB Buxton; 'Stephen Pruitt'

Subject: Re: Call?

Perfect Eric C. Davis Chair, Member-At-Large NC State Board of Education 704-651-0217

From: JB Buxton <buxton.jb@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 10:58:33 AM

To: 'Stephen Pruitt' <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>; Eric Davis <Eric.Davis@dpi.nc.gov>

Subject: RE: Call?

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I can make 1 work.

From: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org> Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 10:53 AM

To: Eric Davis < Eric.Davis@dpi.nc.gov> **Cc:** JB Buxton < buxton.jb@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Call?

Happy to include JB. How about 1?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 25, 2019, at 10:44 AM, Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov > wrote:

Sure, would like to include JB.

I can do most anytime on Sept 30.

Eric C. Davis Chair, Member-At-Large NC State Board of Education 704-651-0217

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From: Eric Davis

Sent:Thursday, October 10, 2019 11:31 AMTo:Deanna Townsend-Smith; JB BuxtonSubject:Fwd: North Carolina Proposal

Attachments: North Carolina Accountability Proposal 100319.docx

Deanna

This is our plan for independent expertise for the school performance grade work.

Eric C. Davis

Chair, Member at Large NC State Board of Education

From: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org> Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 10:22:01 AM

To: Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov >; JB Buxton < buxton.jb@gmail.com >

Subject: FW: North Carolina Proposal

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

Good morning Eric and JB. My apologies for getting this to you late. It is not our typical practice but between a couple of our key folks traveling and my knee surgery timing was tough.

Please see the attached proposal. We are happy to discuss if you have concerns or we did not capture it quite right.

Stephen

Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D.
President
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592 10th Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30318-9211
(404) 879-5601
Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org

SREB.org

Twitter: @DrSPruitt

From: Dale Winkler <dale.winkler@sreb.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 6:07 AM
To: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>

Subject: North Carolina Proposal

Stephen,

Please review the attached proposal and let me know if revisions are needed.

Thank you,

Dale Winkler, Ed.D.
Vice President – School Improvement
Southern Regional Education Board
592 Tenth Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30318
404-879-5529

From: JB Buxton < buxton.jb@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 10:14 AM

To: 'Stephen Pruitt'
Cc: Eric Davis

Subject: RE: North Carolina Proposal

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Stephen, I'm responding on behalf of Eric Davis and myself. We finally had a chance to touch base on the proposal. A few observations and questions:

- 1. We want to make sure that the review of NC's current accountability system will address the four components of the planned study that we sent to you (copied those at the bottom of the email). It's not clear from the scope/activities if that is the case.
- 2. Is Terry Holliday the external expert in the budget? Terry's history in NC, his prior work with State Supt. Johnson, and his past efforts supporting states on accountability systems make him a strong fit for us.
- 3. Do you feel like you have enough engagement with key shareholders (I'm using that term on purpose for you...) in the state? Do you need to build in time for additional interviews/research about the current system?

One other addition: the Governor's Commission on Sounds, Basic Education (also known as the Leandro Commission) has developed a number of recommendations you could consider about the accountability program.

I'm traveling and in meetings this week out on the west coast. Happy to discuss any and all of this. For this week, might be easier to get Eric Davis on the phone. Thanks.

JB

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SREB will report its findings to the State Board at its January 2020 meeting. The State Board, together with the Superintendent, will submit a final report of the results of the study along with its recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by February 15, 2020.

From: Stephen Pruitt < Stephen. Pruitt@SREB.org> Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 10:22 AM

To: Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov>; JB Buxton < buxton.jb@gmail.com>

Subject: FW: North Carolina Proposal

Good morning Eric and JB. My apologies for getting this to you late. It is not our typical practice but between a couple of our key folks traveling and my knee surgery timing was tough.

Please see the attached proposal. We are happy to discuss if you have concerns or we did not capture it quite right.

Stephen

Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D. President

Southern Regional Education Board 592 10th Street, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30318-9211 (404) 879-5601 Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org

SREB.org

Twitter: @DrSPruitt

From: Dale Winkler < dale.winkler@sreb.org Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 6:07 AM

To: Stephen Pruitt < Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org >

Subject: North Carolina Proposal

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Thank you,
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Vice President – School Improvement
Southern Regional Education Board
592 Tenth Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30318
404-879-5529

From: Eric Davis

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 2:07 PM

To: Stephen Pruitt; JB Buxton

Cc: Dale Winkler

Subject: Re: North Carolina Proposal

Stephen

Thanks for these responses. They address our questions. Could you incorporate these into the proposal?

Would like to connect with you by phone to discuss any support you need in kicking off this effort. Is there a good time/day for you?

Eric C. Davis Chair, Member-At-Large NC State Board of Education 704-651-0217

From: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org> Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 8:57:12 AM

To: JB Buxton <buxton.jb@gmail.com>

Cc: Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov>; Dale Winkler < dale.winkler@sreb.org>

Subject: RE: North Carolina Proposal

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JB and Eric,

Thanks for the feedback. I will answer your questions in red below. Happy to jump on a call if necessary as well.

- 1. We want to make sure that the review of NC's current accountability system will address the four components of the planned study that we sent to you (copied those at the bottom of the email). It's not clear from the scope/activities if that is the case. The review will contain the four. However, I need to add one caveat. When using EOCs as growth, this is a psychometric exercise as much as practical. EOCs in math and English lend themselves to this more so than science and social studies. To know that, a study of linking items would need to be done. So, I guess my question becomes 1) are you wanting us to gauge the interest of using these in the field and various shareholders OR 2) are you wanting to know if your current assessments can be used for growth? Question 1 is easily in our wheel house. Question 2 not so much, so we would need to partner with someone. Otherwise, I feel confident we can manage the other components.
- 2. Is Terry Holliday the external expert in the budget? Terry's history in NC, his prior work with State Supt. Johnson, and his past efforts supporting states on accountability systems make him a strong fit for us. Yes, Terry is the external expert we will use. We have already discussed it with him and he is on board. We did not include him by name as it is just not our practice to do so.
- 3. Do you feel like you have enough engagement with key shareholders (I'm using that term on purpose for you...) in the state? Do you need to build in time for additional interviews/research about the current system? I think we have already built time in for that. Also, the accountability working group will be large enough to have representation from across all groups. We can also help the board with a communication strategy to start getting the word out if that is helpful. That can be added to the budget for not a lot of cost. The biggest issue we

run up against will be time if we want to conclude in February. We will identify a group of potential shareholders working with you two and others to interview and get perspective on the current system and future needs. I hope we will also be able to deliver a set of areas to watch that may be unintended consequences of decisions in the system.

If you want to discuss more, we can find time to talk in the next couple of days. I know we are all ready to get the work moving.

Stephen

Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D.
President
Southern Regional Education Board
592 10th Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30318-9211
(404) 879-5601
Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org
SREB.org

Twitter: @DrSPruitt

From: JB Buxton

Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 10:14 AM

To: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>

Cc: 'Eric Davis' < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov>
Subject: RE: North Carolina Proposal

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With the goal of maintaining the current school achievement and school growth measures, the study shall examine methods of reporting data that will better depict school performance and progress. The study shall analyze the feasibility of the following: (1) Reporting school achievement and school growth separately. (2) Reporting by graph, in a manner that depicts the intersection of (i) school achievement and growth scores, (ii) local school administrative unit achievement and growth scores, and (iii) State achievement and growth scores. (3) Including the school achievement and school growth scores for the prior two school years in annual graphical reporting, in order to provide stakeholders with clear, consistent data on individual school progress.

- 2. Study the feasibility of including end of grade and end of course retest scores in the both the achievement and growth calculations for schools and districts.
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- 4. Review and recommendations on the alignment of the state's accountability system and annual school report cards with the constitutional guarantee of a "sound, basic education," defined in the 1997 N.C. Supreme Court decision as one that will "provide the student with at least: (1) sufficient ability to read, write, and speak the English language and a sufficient knowledge of fundamental mathematics and physical science to enable the student to function in a complex and rapidly changing society; (2) sufficient fundamental knowledge of geography, history, and basic economic and political systems to enable the student to make informed choices with regard to issues that affect the student personally or affect the student's community, state, and nation; (3) sufficient academic and vocational skills to enable the student to successfully engage in post-secondary education or vocational training; and (4) sufficient academic or vocational skills to enable the student to compete on an equal basis with others in further formal education or gainful employment in contemporary society."

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SREB will report its findings to the State Board at its January 2020 meeting. The State Board, together with the Superintendent, will submit a final report of the results of the study along with its recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by February 15, 2020.

From: Stephen Pruitt < Stephen. Pruitt@SREB.org > Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 10:22 AM

To: Eric Davis < Eric.Davis@dpi.nc.gov; JB Buxton < buxton.jb@gmail.com>

Subject: FW: North Carolina Proposal

Good morning Eric and JB. My apologies for getting this to you late. It is not our typical practice but between a couple of our key folks traveling and my knee surgery timing was tough.

Please see the attached proposal. We are happy to discuss if you have concerns or we did not capture it quite right.

Stephen

Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D. President Southern Regional Education Board 592 10th Street, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30318-9211 (404) 879-5601 Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org

SREB.org

Twitter: @DrSPruitt

From: Dale Winkler <dale.winkler@sreb.org> Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 6:07 AM To: Stephen Pruitt < Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>

Subject: North Carolina Proposal

Stephen,

Please review the attached proposal and let me know if revisions are needed.

Thank you,

Dale Winkler, Ed.D. Vice President – School Improvement Southern Regional Education Board 592 Tenth Street, NW Atlanta, GA 30318 404-879-5529

From: Deanna Townsend-Smith

Sent: Sunday, November 3, 2019 9:05 PM

To: Eric Davis; JB Buxton **Cc:** Stephen Pruitt

Subject: RE: North Carolina Proposal

Attachments: North Carolina Accountability Proposal_ED Signed_11032019.pdf

Hi Eric and JB:

(F) 919-807-3198

Attached is the signed copy of the proposal. Let me know if there are questions or concerns. Thanks.

Deanna Townsend-Smith, Ed.D.

Director of Board Operations and Policy
State Board of Education
6302 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-6302
deanna.townsend-smith@dpi.nc.gov
(P) 919-807-3608

Here to Serve, Transform, Empower and Inspire

From: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org> Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2019 9:03 AM

To: Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov>; JB Buxton < buxton.jb@gmail.com>; Deanna Townsend-Smith

<Deanna.Townsend-Smith@dpi.nc.gov>
Subject: FW: North Carolina Proposal

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Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D.
President
Southern Regional Education Board
592 10th Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30318-9211
(404) 879-5601
Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org

SREB.org

Twitter: @DrSPruitt

From: Dale Winkler < dale.winkler@sreb.org > Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 10:00 AM

To: Stephen Pruitt < Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>

Cc: Ivy Alford < <u>ivy.alford@sreb.org</u>> **Subject:** RE: North Carolina Proposal

Please see attached the revised NC proposal. Let me know if additional revisions are needed.

Dale Winkler, Ed.D.
Vice President – School Improvement
Southern Regional Education Board
592 Tenth Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30318
404-879-5529

From: Stephen Pruitt <Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org>

Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 2:16 PM **To:** Eric Davis < Eric.Davis@dpi.nc.gov>

Cc: JB Buxton <buxton.jb@gmail.com>; Dale Winkler <dale.winkler@sreb.org>; Theresa Belcher

<Theresa.Belcher@sreb.org>

Subject: Re: North Carolina Proposal

We can do that. Theresa will find a time for us to talk. This week is pretty slammed so it may be early next week.

Stephen

Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D.
President
Southern Regional Education Board
592 10th Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30318-9211
(404) 879-5601
Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org

SREB.org

Twitter: @DrSPruitt

On Oct 22, 2019, at 1:07 PM, Eric Davis < Eric. Davis@dpi.nc.gov > wrote:

Stephen

Thanks for these responses. They address our questions. Could you incorporate these into the proposal?

Would like to connect with you by phone to discuss any support you need in kicking off this effort. Is there a good time/day for you?

Eric C. Davis Chair, Member-At-Large NC State Board of Education 704-651-0217

From: Stephen Pruitt < Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org > Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 8:57:12 AM

To: JB Buxton <buxton.jb@gmail.com>

Cc: Eric Davis < Eric.Davis@dpi.nc.gov>; Dale Winkler < dale.winkler@sreb.org>

Subject: RE: North Carolina Proposal

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to Report Spam.

JB and Eric,

Thanks for the feedback. I will answer your questions in red below. Happy to jump on a call if necessary as well.

- 1. We want to make sure that the review of NC's current accountability system will address the four components of the planned study that we sent to you (copied those at the bottom of the email). It's not clear from the scope/activities if that is the case. The review will contain the four. However, I need to add one caveat. When using EOCs as growth, this is a psychometric exercise as much as practical. EOCs in math and English lend themselves to this more so than science and social studies. To know that, a study of linking items would need to be done. So, I guess my question becomes 1) are you wanting us to gauge the interest of using these in the field and various shareholders OR 2) are you wanting to know if your current assessments can be used for growth? Question 1 is easily in our wheel house. Question 2 not so much, so we would need to partner with someone. Otherwise, I feel confident we can manage the other components.
- 2. Is Terry Holliday the external expert in the budget? Terry's history in NC, his prior work with State Supt. Johnson, and his past efforts supporting states on accountability systems make him a strong fit for us. Yes, Terry is the external expert we will use. We have already discussed it with him and he is on board. We did not include him by name as it is just not our practice to do so.
- 3. Do you feel like you have enough engagement with key shareholders (I'm using that term on purpose for you...) in the state? Do you need to build in time for additional interviews/research about the current system? I think we have already built time in for that. Also, the accountability working group will be large enough to have representation from across all groups. We can also help the board with a communication strategy to start getting the word out if that is helpful. That can be added to the budget for not a lot of cost. The biggest issue we run up against will be time if we want to conclude in February. We will identify a group of potential shareholders working with you two and others to interview and get perspective on the current system and future needs. I hope we will also be able to deliver a set of areas to watch that may be unintended consequences of decisions in the system.

If you want to discuss more, we can find time to talk in the next couple of days. I know we are all ready to get the work moving.

Stephen

Stephen L. Pruitt, Ph.D.
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(404) 879-5601
Stephen.Pruitt@sreb.org
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Twitter: @DrSPruitt

From: JB Buxton < buxton.jb@gmail.com > Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 10:14 AM
To: Stephen Pruitt < Stephen.Pruitt@SREB.org >

Cc: 'Eric Davis' < Eric.Davis@dpi.nc.gov > Subject: RE: North Carolina Proposal

Stephen, I'm responding on behalf of Eric Davis and myself. We finally had a chance to touch base on the proposal. A few observations and questions:

- 1. We want to make sure that the review of NC's current accountability system will address the four components of the planned study that we sent to you (copied those at the bottom of the email). It's not clear from the scope/activities if that is the case.
- 2. Is Terry Holliday the external expert in the budget? Terry's history in NC, his prior work with State Supt. Johnson, and his past efforts supporting states on accountability systems make him a strong fit for us.
- 3. Do you feel like you have enough engagement with key shareholders (I'm using that term on purpose for you...) in the state? Do you need to build in time for additional interviews/research about the current system?

One other addition: the Governor's Commission on Sounds, Basic Education (also known as the Leandro Commission) has developed a number of recommendations you could consider about the accountability program.

I'm traveling and in meetings this week out on the west coast. Happy to discuss any and all of this. For this week, might be easier to get Eric Davis on the phone. Thanks.

JB

STUDY OF NORTH CAROLINA'S ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

The State Board of Education will partner with the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) to conduct a study of North Carolina's accountability system. The study will review the current approach to accountability as part of the state's School Performance Grades and the state's plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, and the measures reported on the state's annual school report cards. The study will include the following components:

1. Per Session Law 2019-154, the study shall include (i) the weighting of the school achievement score and the school growth score in calculation of the overall school performance score to best reflect performance and progress for each school and (ii) the reporting methods used to meaningfully differentiate schools on the North Carolina annual school report cards. Based on its study, the State Board shall propose recommendations on whether any changes should be made to the current weighting of school achievement scores and school growth scores and how the reporting methods for school performance scores could be improved to more accurately reflect the effectiveness of each North Carolina public school.

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