

Mississippi Department of Education
Office of Accreditation
Establishment of State Board of Education Policy 404
First Operational Administration of a Statewide Assessment
Public Comments (March 18 – April 11, 2011)

COMMENT	SUBMITTED BY
<p>IF THE SCORES HELP A SCHOOL, PLEASE LET THE SCORES COUNT. IF IT DOES NOT HELP A SCHOOL, THEN HOLD THEM HARMLESS FOR THIS ADMINISTRATION OF THE TEST.</p> <p>OUR BIOLOGY SCORES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN VERY GOOD AND HAVE HELPED US IN OUR QDI RANKING.</p> <p>NOT ALLOWING ALL TESTS TO BE UTILIZED DOES NOT GIVE AN ACCURATE OVERALL ACCOUNT OF HOW A SCHOOL IS PERFORMING. ALSO, ALL SCHOOLS ARE IN THE SAME POSITION AS FAR AS NEW TESTS ARE CONCERNED EXCEPT FOR THE AVAILABILITY OF NEW PRACTICE TESTS IF YOU ARE ON A BLOCK SCHEDULE.</p> <p>THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION,</p>	<p>TODD KNIGHT, PRINCIPAL VANCLEAVE HIGH SCHOOL</p> <p>Received March 21, 2011</p>
<p>Each school should have the option to count the scores. If the scores helped a school count it. If the score does not help, then do not count it.</p>	<p>Michael Van Winkle, Ed. D. Assistant Superintendent St. Martin Attendance Center 11000 Yellowjacket Blvd. St. Martin, MS 39564</p> <p>Received March 21, 2011</p>
<p>Please reconsider the decision of not counting Biology SATP scores. Our Biology scores have been in the top 10% in the state. Not allowing us to count Biology would most likely prevent East Central High School from making the 200 QDI.</p> <p>thanks</p>	<p>jim hughey, principal East Central High School</p> <p>Received March 22, 2011</p>

COMMENT	SUBMITTED BY
<p>What test does not count this year. When it doesn't count, do high school students have to pass the test?</p>	<p>Charles Garrett cgarrett@newalbany.k12.ms.us Received March 22, 2011</p>
<p>I don't understand the policy 404 – First Operational Administration of Statewide Tests. What does this mean. Is it that the biology and science will not count this year and other tests when they are in their first year of testing. Please clarify...</p> <p>Thanks,</p>	<p>Brenda Bolen bbolen1@bellsouth.net Received March 22, 2011</p>
<p>Good afternoon, Paula!</p> <p>We have been waiting to hear if Biology and Science 5-8 are going to count this year in a schools QDI. Is this proposed policy addressing this question?</p> <p>Thanks!</p>	<p>Chuck Benigno, Ph. D. Superintendent, Laurel Schools Received March 22, 2011</p>
<p>I have been entering attendance in the system for 4 ½ years and have observed absences continuing to rise---not to mention tardies and early check outs on the rise also---for example 49 early checkouts Friday March 25--accountability, in my opinion, must start with the State Board of Education setting a firm attendance policy--I have been instructed that if a student "shows up-walks across campus" to count them present--where is the accountability? I question this at an MSIS training I attended 3 ½ years ago. My question was, "what percentage of the day does a student have to be in attendance to counted present?" I continue to question any "accountability" policy without a firm attendance policy. If I understand correctly, a student may tardy everyday and it doesn't matter or leave early without consequences. If there is no policy at the State level, again if I understand correctly, then a local school board would not have the legal right to uphold an attendance policy.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>	<p>Barbara S. Guinn School Counselor Hills Chapel Elementary School Booneville, MS 38829 Prentiss County School System Received March 30, 2011</p>