

16. School Based Leadership: A School Management Team shall be established and function in each school in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:24-2; and

17. Required Programs in Secondary Schools: Each secondary school shall identify how it integrates the required programs in secondary schools pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:24-6.1.

Amended by R.2000 d.278, effective July 3, 2000.
See: 32 N.J.R. 1329(a), 32 N.J.R. 2470(a)

Rewrote (a), (b), (c)4 and 5; inserted (c)17; and amended N.J.A.C. references throughout.

6A:24-4.3 Submission of WSR implementation plan

(a) Annually, on or before December 1, the SMT of each school participating in WSR shall develop and submit to the Department, with a copy to the Chief School Administrator and the board, a WSR implementation plan based on a needs assessment which integrates all local, State and Federal resources and has been developed in accordance with the guidelines and requirements of the Department and the program developer. At a minimum, the plan shall:

1. Be developed with the involvement of school staff, parents, community members and other stakeholders, in consultation with the Department and with the developer;
2. Be consistent with the school's Department-approved application for participation in WSR;
3. Include goals, measurable objectives, activities, timelines, budget data, and an evaluation plan;
4. Include a timeline leading to full implementation of WSR within three years of Department selection;
5. Ensure that curriculum is aligned with the Core Curriculum Content Standards and is articulated among the grades in the school;
6. Include collaboration, articulation and continuity with the middle or high school, as appropriate, that the students will attend to ensure a smooth transition to the next grade level;
7. Be approved by the Chief School Administrator, school principal and the SMT; and
8. Include a plan for developing a progress report.

(b) The WSR implementation plan shall also include the following:

1. The school-level educational technology plan required in N.J.A.C. 6A:24-2.2(b)4; and
2. The class-size-reduction plan required in N.J.A.C. 6A:24-4.1(j)9.

(c) A WSR implementation plan adopted at the secondary level shall incorporate all programs and services specified in N.J.A.C. 6A:24-6.1. Additionally, the plan shall

address reducing the dropout rate, increasing the graduation rate, improving attendance and reducing class size.

(d) No programs or services beyond those required by the WSR model, approved design, or required programs shall be approved unless a particularized need is demonstrated pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:24-5.1.

Amended by R.2000 d.278, effective July 3, 2000.
See: 32 N.J.R. 1329(a), 32 N.J.R. 2470(a)

In (a), substituted "Annually, on or before December 1" for "On or before December 1, 1999" at the beginning of the introductory paragraph, and added 8; and in (b) through (d), amended N.J.A.C. references.

6A:24-4.4 School-based budgets

(a) The principal shall prepare annually, on or before December 1, a school-based budget as follows:

1. The principal shall consult with staff and the SMT as to the programs, staff and other goods and services that will be needed to implement or maintain the selected WSR model, or the design and required secondary programs;
2. The principal shall prepare a budget proposal in a format prescribed by the Commissioner that compares the proposed budget to both the current year appropriations and to either the illustrative budget for the selected WSR model or the components of the proposed budget for the alternative program design, as applicable;
3. Where proposed staff or other expenditures exceed the illustrative budget standards, the principal shall advise the SMT and specifically identify where those standards are exceeded so that the SMT can prepare a demonstration of particularized need pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:24-5 for each category that exceeds the illustrative budget for approval by the Department;
4. Except where prohibited by Federal law, all local, State and Federal funds shall be considered general funds available for WSR activities, notwithstanding any restrictions that would otherwise apply;
5. The budget shall be developed assuming available revenues based on audited amounts of the year preceding the pre-budget year and those allocated for the pre-budget year. Additionally, it shall account for anticipated revenue increases and reflect the resources necessary to implement WSR and required secondary programs and Department-approved particularized needs as applicable; and
6. Where funds available within the budget pre-budget year's budget, together with anticipated revenue increases, are not sufficient to support the budget, all available school-level resources shall be reallocated for the purpose of implementing WSR, required secondary programs, and, as applicable, particularized needs approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:24-5.1.

(b) The Chief School Administrator shall provide the principal with all appropriate resources and assistance as needed to develop the school-based budget.

(c) As appropriate, the school business administrator shall work with the principal in development of the school-based budget. The school business administrator shall provide the SMT with a school-based budget orientation that, at a minimum, shall include a workshop on the chart of accounts, budget forms, and the illustrative budget for the selected WSR model or the components of the proposed budget for the alternative program design, as applicable.

(d) The principal shall seek input from the SMT on the proposed school-based budget. Once SMT input has been provided, the principal shall submit the budget to the Chief School Administrator and board for comments.

(e) In consultation with the SMT, the principal shall prepare a response that addresses each comment received from the Chief School Administrator and the board along with the action taken, if any.

(f) If the SMT has exercised its option to be involved in decision making on the school-based budget pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:24-2.2(c), then it shall take action to approve the budget. If the SMT has not exercised its option pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:24-2.2(c), the principal shall certify the budget.

(g) The principal shall submit the approved or certified budget to the Department with the Chief School Administrator's and the board's comments and the SMT's responses to those comments.

(h) Upon approval of the school-based budget by the Commissioner, the board shall allocate adequate funds in the district budget for those elements approved by the Commissioner, and may allocate additional funds for those elements not approved by the Commissioner, provided the board does not apply for additional state aid pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:24-7.1.

Amended by R.2000 d.278, effective July 3, 2000.
See: 32 N.J.R. 1329(a), 32 N.J.R. 2470(a)

In (a), rewrote 2, 5 and 6; in (c), added "or the components of the proposed budget for the alternative program design, as applicable" at the end; in (h), deleted "2000-01" preceding "district budget"; and amended N.J.A.C. references throughout.

6A:24-4.5 WSR implementation issues

(a) A WSR school that is having difficulty with implementation of the whole school reform model that was selected shall convene the superintendent, principal and SMT to meet as a team to discuss issues; to determine, in consultation with the SRI Team and developer, necessary next steps based on the needs of the school; and to explore all possible options for addressing identified needs, including application to the Department for approval to select another WSR model. The Department shall approve an application to implement another WSR model pursuant to this subchapter only if the school demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that:

1. Implementation of the WSR model was not consistent with the elements of whole school reform as set forth in this chapter;

2. The model or design that the school is applying to implement is capable of producing student results which exceed the results that the WSR model is capable of achieving; and

3. The model or design meets all of the criteria set forth in N.J.A.C. 6A:24-4.2 or 4.1 and resolves the problems which led to the selection of the model or design.

(b) The principal or the developer shall bring to the attention of the Department any school not demonstrating satisfactory progress in student achievement and a meeting shall be convened with the SRI Team, the developer, and the SMT to develop a corrective action plan that includes a timeline and sets benchmarks toward reaching the goal of improving student achievement in that school.

(c) The Department shall conduct a comprehensive evaluation of whole school reform in participating Abbott districts and schools to determine the effectiveness of implementation efforts and to begin assessing the impact of WSR on improving student achievement in meeting the Core Content Curriculum Standards.

Amended by R.2000 d.278, effective July 3, 2000.

See: 32 N.J.R. 1329(a), 32 N.J.R. 2470(a)

Rewrote (a); and added (c).

SUBCHAPTER 5. SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

6A:24-5.1 Demonstration of particularized need

(a) The SMT, in consultation with the principal and Chief School Administrator in any elementary or secondary school participating in implementation of WSR, may consider whether there exists a demonstrated particularized need for additional supplemental educational programs or services over and above existing WSR or required secondary programs which are essential to ensure educational success for a specified population of students, and without which program or service such students cannot achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

(b) To determine whether a particularized need exists, the SMT shall first undertake a needs assessment which shall include:

1. An assessment of student achievement in meeting Core Curriculum Content Standards and identification of particular populations of students not meeting such standards;