

CHAPTER 8

THOROUGH AND EFFICIENT SYSTEM OF FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Authority

N.J.S.A. 18A:1-1, 18A:4-15, as supplemented and amended
by 18A:7A-1 et seq., P.L. 1990, c.52, P.L. 1991, c.3
and P.L. 1991, c.62.

Source and Effective Date

R.2000 d.358, effective August 3, 2000.
See: 32 N.J.R. 1712(a), 32 N.J.R. 3332(b).

Executive Order No. 66(1978) Expiration Date

Chapter 8, Thorough and Efficient System of Free Public Schools,
expires on August 3, 2005.

Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 8, Thorough and Efficient System of Free Public Schools,
was adopted as R.1976 d.3, effective January 7, 1976. See: 7 N.J.R.
543(a), 8 N.J.R. 58(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 8, Thorough and
Efficient System of Free Public Schools, was readopted as R.1984
d.282, effective June 18, 1984. See: 16 N.J.R. 597(a), 16 N.J.R.
1719(a).

Chapter 8, Thorough and Efficient System of Free Public Schools,
was repealed and Chapter 8, Thorough and Efficient System of Free
Public Schools, was adopted as new rules by R.1987 d.32, effective
January 5, 1987. See: 18 N.J.R. 1984(a), 19 N.J.R. 63(c).

Subchapter 9, Approved Public Elementary and Secondary School
Summer Sessions, was adopted as R.1989 d.601, effective December 18,
1989. See: 21 N.J.R. 2441(c), 21 N.J.R. 3933(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 8, Thorough and
Efficient System of Free Public Schools, was readopted as R.1992 d.22,
effective December 11, 1991, and Subchapter 8, Interim Rules for the
Evaluation of Elements and Standards for School Districts Monitored
Between January 1, 1984 and December 31, 1986, was repealed and
former Subchapter 9, Approved Public Elementary and Secondary
School Summer Sessions, was recodified as Subchapter 8, Approved
Public Elementary and Secondary School Summer Sessions, by R.1992
d.22, effective January 6, 1992. See: 23 N.J.R. 2908(b), 24 N.J.R.
90(b).

Petition for Rulemaking. See: 24 N.J.R. 653(b), 24 N.J.R. 1400(d).

Subchapter 1, Definitions, Subchapter 2, State Educational Goals and
Standards, Subchapter 3, Annual Reporting and Staffing of School
Districts, and Subchapter 4, Interim Rules for the Evaluation of the
Performance of Each Public School District, were repealed and Sub-
chapter 1, Definitions, Subchapter 2, State Education Goals and Stan-
dards, Subchapter 3, Reporting and Staffing of School Districts, and
Subchapter 4, Procedures for the Evaluation of the Performance of
Each Public School District, were adopted as new rules, Subchapter 5,
Interim Rules for Level II and III Districts, was recodified as Subchap-
ter 5A, Interim Rules for Districts Placed in Level II and III Monitor-
ing Prior to July 1, 1993, and Subchapter 5, Rules for Level II and III
Districts, was adopted as new rules by R.1992 d.510, effective Decem-
ber 21, 1992. See: 24 N.J.R. 3039(a), 24 N.J.R. 4508(a).

Subchapter 6, Preventive and Remedial Programs in Reading, Writ-
ing and Mathematics, was repealed and Subchapter 6, Programs and
Services for Pupils at Risk, was adopted as new rules by R.1993 d.40,
effective January 19, 1993. See: 24 N.J.R. 3494(a), 25 N.J.R. 299(c).

Subchapter 9, Educational Improvement Plans in Special Needs
Districts, was adopted as R.1992 d.396, effective October 5, 1992. See:
24 N.J.R. 2323(a), 24 N.J.R. 3535(b).

Public Notice: Public testimony sessions held June 17, 1992. See:
24 N.J.R. 2081(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 22(1994), Chapter 8, Thorough and
Efficient System of Public Schools, expired on June 11, 1998. See: 26
N.J.R. 3783(a), 26 N.J.R. 3942(a).

Chapter 8, Thorough and Efficient System of Free Public Schools,
was adopted as new rules, former Subchapter 2, State Educational
Goals and Standards, was repealed and former Subchapter 4, Proce-
dures for the Evaluation of the Performance of Each Public School
District, was recodified as Subchapter 2, former Subchapter 3, Report-
ing and Staffing of School Districts, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 6:3-1.6
and former Subchapter 5, Rules for Levels II and III Districts, was
recodified as Subchapter 3, Subchapter 5A, Interim Rules for Districts
Placed in Level II and III Monitoring Prior to July 1, 1993, and
Subchapter 6, Programs and Services for Pupils at Risk, were repealed,
Subchapter 7, Promotion and High School Graduation Requirements
and Procedures, was recodified as N.J.A.C. 6:3-4A, Subchapter 8,
Approved Public Elementary and Secondary School Summer Sessions,
was recodified as N.J.A.C. 6:3-1.8, and Subchapter 9, Educational
Improvement Plans in Special Needs Districts, was recodified as
N.J.A.C. 6:19-4.2 by R.1998 d.457, effective September 8, 1998. See:
30 N.J.R. 1479(a), 30 N.J.R. 3261(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 8, Thorough and
Efficient System of Free Public Schools, was readopted as R.2000
d.358, effective August 3, 2000. See: Source and Effective Date. See,
also, section annotations.

Law Review and Journal Commentaries

Toward parity in education: *Abbott v. Burke* and the future of New
Jersey school systems. 5 Temp.Pol. & Civ.Rts.L.Rev. 183 (1996).

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SUBCHAPTER 1. DEFINITIONS

6:8-1.1 Words and terms defined

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter,
shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly
indicates otherwise.

"Average daily attendance" means the total number of days present divided by the total possible number of days of attendance.

"Challenge objective" means a school-level objective which is developed when student performance or behavior is at or above minimum State standards.

"Community" means the community at large, including, but not limited to, the parents of pupils.

"Objective" means a written statement of the intended outcome of a specific educational process.

"School-level plan" means a two-year plan which is developed by each school, is based on school report card data and includes student performance objectives, progress review by teaching, and administrative staff and parent involvement.

"School report card" means a profile of each school which is compiled annually by the district and which contains statistical information specified by the State Department of Education.

"Statement of assurance" means a document submitted by the chief school administrator to the county superintendent which verifies the development and implementation of the school-level plan, conduct of school-level meetings, written curricula, curriculum articulation and the development and implementation of a substance abuse prevention program.

Amended by R.1998 d.457, effective September 8, 1998.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1479(a), 30 N.J.R. 3261(b).

Inserted "Alternate monitoring", "Desk audit", "Group 1 school districts" and "Group 2 school districts"; deleted "Pupil at risk"; in "Quality assurance annual report" and "School-level plan", substituted references to report cards for references to profiles; and changed "School profile" definition to "School report card".

Amended by R.2000 d.358, effective September 5, 2000.

See: 32 N.J.R. 1712(a), 32 N.J.R. 3332(b).

Rewrote the section.

SUBCHAPTER 2. ANNUAL REPORTING AND PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

6:8-2.1 Quality Assurance Annual Report

(a) By October 30 of each year, the chief school administrator shall submit a Quality Assurance Annual Report (QAAR) to the Department and present the QAAR to the public at a regular district board of education meeting. The QAAR shall include:

1. The status of all capital projects in the district's approved LRFP then in effect;
2. The maximum permitted amount of the district's capital reserve account calculated pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-9.1(d);

3. Implementation of school-level plans;
4. Achievement of performance objectives;
5. Each school report card, including student performance results and student behavior data;
6. Professional development activities;
7. Condition of school facilities;
8. Status of mandated program reviews;
9. Community support data; and
10. The assignment plan for certified and non-certified nurses developed by the district and approved by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.1(f).

(b) By November 15 of each year, the chief school administrator shall submit a copy of the annual report to the county superintendent.

1. The documentation/activities for Type I districts shall be the quality assurance annual report.
2. The documentation/activities for Type II districts shall be:
 - i. The quality assurance annual report; and
 - ii. Board minutes.
3. The documentation/activities for Type I and Type II districts shall be the quality assurance annual report.

(c) Over a seven-year period, districts shall document community support through the following components:

1. A review of demographic data;
2. A community survey;
3. Identification of available resources and linkages to social service agencies;
4. Strategies to overcome any community and environmental conditions that hinder learning;
5. Methods to eliminate any barriers to community participation;
6. Planned level of community involvement; and
7. Strategies for parental involvement and parent-teacher interaction.

(d) Absent approval of the QAAR, a district's budget shall not receive Department approval.

Amended by R.1998 d.457, effective September 8, 1998.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1479(a), 30 N.J.R. 3261(b).

In (a), changed N.J.A.C. references throughout, changed the deadline from September 30 to October 30 in the introductory paragraph of 1i, changed the deadline from October 30 to November 15 in 1ii, inserted a new 1iii, recodified former 1iii as 1iv and inserted a reference to Group 2 school districts, and inserted a reference to Group 1 and Group 2 school districts in 2ii.