
Teacher and Principal Evaluation

The Background:

As required in the First to the Top Act of 2011, the State Board of Education adopted Teacher and Principal Evaluation Policy 5.201 in April of 2011. Through policy, the State Board of Education has the authority to approve any models for evaluation. To date, the state board has adopted the Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model (TEAM), Teacher Effectiveness Measurement (TEM), Project COACH, and the Teacher Instructional Growth for Effectiveness and Results (TIGER) model. For each of these models, it has been expected that all personnel be certified prior to conducting evaluations. The proposed change to the policy clarifies this expectation and requires the Department of Education to adopt requirements around evaluator certification.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs in this recommendation.

The following language should be added to the State Board of Education Teacher and Principal Evaluation Policy 5.201:

Local Evaluation of Teachers, Principals and Non-Instructional, Certified Staff (2)(c):

“All evaluations shall be conducted by certified evaluators. To be certified, an evaluator must meet certification requirements as determined by the Department of Education.”

Note: The current language under Local Evaluation of Teachers, Principals and Non-Instructional, Certified Staff (2)(c) shall now be labeled as Local Evaluation of Teachers, Principals and Non-Instructional, Certified Staff (2)(d)