
Uniform Grading Policy 3.301

The Background:

Public Chapter 248 of 2019 amended T.C.A. § 49-6-407 to remove requirements for local grading systems. Local grading systems are those that a local education agency (LEA) may adopt for purposes such as determining valedictorian or class rank. All LEAs are also required to use the state uniform grading system for the purpose of calculating HOPE scholarship GPAs.

This proposal recommends removing the section on locally approved grading systems from the state Uniform Grading Policy 3.301 because there are no longer state requirements for such a system.

For reference, Public Chapter 414 of 2019 prohibits the State Board from changing the state uniform grading system more often than once every two school years. However, this change is in regard to locally approved grading systems, not to the state uniform grading system. Therefore, this proposal will not count toward the State Board's ability to modify the uniform grading system in the next two years if needed.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the preparation of a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Recommendation:

State Board staff recommends acceptance of this item on first reading.