

Educator Evaluation Policy 5.201

The Background:

This final read item revises the Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Policy. This cleanup item removes many requirements that were moved to the Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Rule.

Between first and final reading, this policy had several revisions.

1. Minor revisions were made to move language from the appendices into the body to create new sections in the policy.
2. Language was added clarifying that educators who nullify their 2020-21 Level of Effectiveness (LOE) score may use their most recently available LOE score for the purposes of determining observation pacing in the 2021-2022 school year.
3. Language clarifying that educators who receive an LOE score in the 2020-21 school year receive the maximum number of professional development points (PDPs), regardless what LOE score they receive, or whether they choose to nullify their LOE score. This recommendation is in recognition of the challenges Tennessee faced in the 2020-21 school year. Whether learning to teach in an entirely remote environment, teaching in-person in the face of a global pandemic, or toggling between the two, educators have learned new skills and adjusted instructional practice to continue serving Tennessee's students.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare 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.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.