

Educator Evaluation Policy 5.201

The Background:

The State Board Educator Evaluation Policy 5.201 further defines State Board of Education Evaluations Rule 0520-02-01. This item updates language within the policy to align with recent changes in the law. Chapter 385 of the Public Acts of 2025 provided further clarity regarding the use of the Tennessee universal reading screener or a universal reading screener approved by the State Board as an approved alternative growth model to generate individual growth scores for Pre-K-2 teachers. Specifically, the law specifies that if a local education agency (LEA) or public charter school administers an approved reading screener for Pre-K students, then the LEA or public charter school must allow the Pre-K teacher to use the results of the screener as an approved alternative growth model. This item updates the policy to cross-reference these statutory requirements.

There have been no changes since first reading.

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.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by updating its rules and policies to align with state law and policy.

The Recommendation:

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