



a school where up to 25 percent of students are eligible to receive a free or reduced meal or where up to 20 percent of students transfer into the school during a single school year must meet state expectations within three consecutive school years;

a school where between 26 and 35 percent of students are eligible to receive a free or reduced meal or where between 21 and 30 percent of students transfer into the school during a single school year must meet state expectations within four consecutive school years; and

a school where more than 35 percent of students are eligible to receive a free or reduced meal or where more than 30 percent of students transfer into the school during a single school year must meet state expectations within five consecutive school years.

(d) Permits the officials of a school that is failing to meet state expectations under the time line in paragraph (b) or adequate yearly progress under subdivision 2 to ask the commissioner to review students' academic progress, which the commissioner must do within 30 days. Allows the commissioner to extend the time line by which the school must meet state expectations. Requires the commissioner to annually report to the legislature on the extensions granted and their rationale.

**Subd. 2. Composite index to define state expectations.** (a) Directs the department to use a composite index to convert students' performance on a state assessment to a single score on a weighted index. Determines a school site index score by multiplying the proportion of students who score a "1" or "2" or "3" or "4" times the weight assigned to that performance score, and then adding together the products of each of the four levels for each grade and subject tested. Makes the index score a school site receives during the 1999-2000 school year the baseline against which to compare subsequent index scores. Makes a target index score of 60 the state's initial goal for educating students and anticipates that this goal will be reexamined as student performance results change. Requires each school site to meet an annual improvement rate determined by dividing the amount of time available to the site under subdivision 1, paragraph (b), into the difference between the baseline index score for the school site and the target index. Structures scoring on the composite index to give greater weight to the improved scores of the lowest performing students so that school sites have an incentive to accelerate and intensify educational opportunities for low performing students and to develop and expand effective methods of instruction. Assigns a weight of "0" to a score of "1", a weight of "50" to a score of "2", a weight of "100" to a score of "3" and a weight of "125" to a score of "4."

(b) Requires a school that is making adequate yearly progress, but has a mean index score that is below the mean index score of other schools with similar percentages of students eligible to receive a free or reduced price meal, to show improvement in student performance levels.

**2 Effective date.** Makes section 1 effective for the 1998-1999 school year.