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SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

August 24, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents and Charter School Administrators

FROM: Christopher Narkun, Policy Administrator

RE: **2016-2017 BONUS POINTS GUIDANCE AND SUBMISSION WINDOW**

School Grading Bonus Points are extra points awarded to those schools that demonstrate exemplary parent and student engagement above and beyond expectations and reduce habitual truancy. In response to feedback from schools and districts regarding the amount of time and resources being spent on the activity submission format, the Public Education Department (PED) simplified the submission process and metrics used for awarding points in the 2015-2016 school year. The streamlined submission process reduced administrative time spent on Bonus Points for school and district personnel. This memorandum will reiterate those changes and set the timelines for submission for the 2016-2017 school year.

Up to five Bonus Points will be available to New Mexico schools:

- up to two points available for reductions in habitual truancy,
- up to two points available for engagement of parents and students through Next Step Plans (NSP) OR Student Assistance Teams (SAT), and
- up to one available point for New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) activities in high schools (with a scoring adjustment for elementary and middle schools).

Truancy

Up to two Bonus Points are available to schools through evidence of declining habitual truancy rates, as articulated in the chart below. This analysis will be conducted by the Public Education Department, and does not require submission by schools or districts.

% Reduction in Habitual Truancy	Habitual Truancy Bonus Points Awarded
Reduction of 0% or less	0
Reduction of between 0-2%	0.67
Reduction of between 2-5%	1
Reduction of between 5-10%	1.5
Reduction of 10% or more	2

Next Step Plan and Student Assistance Teams

Up to two Bonus Points will be available for the creation and meaningful use of Student Assistance Teams OR Next Step Plans. Schools serving any of grades 8-12 will submit using ONLY the Next Step Plan form; schools not serving any of grades 8-12 will submit using ONLY the Student Assistance Team form.

Submissions for Next Step Plans or Student Assistance Teams will include 3 (three) sample of Next Step Plans or Student Assistance Team-produced intervention plans. These sample documents must be from the current school year.

New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA)

As in prior years, one Bonus Point will remain available for NMAA-approved activities at the high school level with a scoring adjustment for elementary and middle schools. The NMAA bonus point is awarded fractionally based on the involvement rate by students in the school in NMAA-approved and reported activities.

% of Student Population Participating in NMAA Activities	NMAA Bonus Points Awarded
Less than 50%	0
Between 50% and 100%	0.5
Between 100% and 200%	0.75
Greater than 200%	1

This analysis will be conducted by the Public Education Department, and does not require submission by schools or districts to the Department; NMAA will collect relevant participation data.

Further information regarding bonus points will be made available through the PED School Grading website (<http://webapp2.ped.state.nm.us/SchoolData/SchoolGrading.aspx>) by October 31, 2016, including: updated submission templates reflecting new elements and formats in the submission system; updated walkthroughs of the submission process; and frequently asked question (FAQ) documents.

2016-2017 Bonus Points Guidance and Templates
August 24, 2016

Finally, the window to submit 2016-2017 Bonus Points will be open from February 1, 2017, to March 31, 2017. The submission window will close promptly at 5 p.m. on March 31, 2017. No submissions will be accepted after this deadline.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Narkun at (505) 827-8058 or at Chris.Narkun@state.nm.us.

cc: Hanna Skandera, Secretary of Education
Christopher Ruszkowski, Deputy Secretary for Policy and Program
Matthew Pahl, Policy Director
Lisa Chandler, Director, Assessment, Accountability, & Evaluation