

X.A.

**CONNECTICUT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Hartford**

TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell, Commissioner of Education
DATE: February 25, 2016
SUBJECT: Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System

The CSDE will release the results from the first iteration of Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System at the State Board Meeting on March 2, 2016. This accountability system was approved by the U.S. Department of Education through Connecticut's ESEA Flexibility request. You may recall that CSDE staff have presented an overview of this system to the Board on two prior occasions (November 2014 and March 2015).

This system moves beyond test scores and graduation rates to provide a more holistic, multifactor perspective of district and school performance. Additional indicators include chronic absenteeism, college and career readiness, postsecondary entrance, physical fitness, and access to the arts. Future years will also incorporate student growth over time.

At the meeting next week, the CSDE will also designate "Schools of Distinction." These are schools that have among the highest overall or subgroup performance in the entire state. In addition, the CSDE will identify a new list of Turnaround and Focus schools; these are schools that have among the lowest overall or subgroup performance statewide and are designed to receive added support and assistance from the CSDE over the coming years.

CSDE staff are preparing the final version of all the materials, and they will be forwarded to you prior to the March 2nd meeting.