“Failing” Schools as Defined by the Alabama Accountability Act of 2013

Definition per Section 4(3) of ACT 2013-265: A public K-12 school (i) that is labeled as persistently low-performing by the State Department of Education, in the then most recent United States Department of Education School Improvement Grant application; (ii) that is designated as a failing school by the State Superintendent of Education; or (iii) that does not exclusively serve a special population of students and, until June 1, 2017, has been listed three or more times during the then-most recent six years in the lowest six percent of public K-12 schools on the state standardized assessment in reading and math or, on or after June 1, 2017, has during the then-most recent three years, earned at least one grade of “F” or, during the then-most recent four years, earned at least three grades of “D” on the school grading system developed pursuant to Section 16-6C-2, Code of Alabama 1975.

Business Rules for Calculation to meet Section 4(3)i of ACT 2013-265:

1. Determine current/open schools as of August 1, 2014.
2. Determine the public K-12 schools that were labeled as persistently low-performing by the State Department of Education, in the then most recent United State Department of Education School Improvement Grant (FY2011 Identified for Tier I and II Lowest-Achieving 5%).
3. This list will not be revised unless a new school eligibility list is required for new USDOE School Improvement Grants.

Business Rules for Calculation to meet Section 4(3)iii of ACT 2013-265:

1. Determine current/open schools and remove any school that exclusively serves a special population as of August 1, 2014.
2. Determine the bottom 6% of Alabama schools for each of the following years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 based on the state standardized assessment in reading and math.
3. Duplicate 2013 assessment results to be used for 2014 due to the transition of new assessments to the ACT suite of assessments.
4. Compile a list of schools that met the bottom 6% in any three of the six years listed above.
5. This list will be revised annually with the last six years adjusted.

January 2015