

EQUIVALENCY APPLICATION

N.J.A.C. 6A:5

COUNTY **OCEAN**
SCHOOL DISTRICT **LAKEWOOD**

COUNTY CODE # **29**
DISTRICT CODE # **2520**

“EQUIVALENCY” means approval to achieve the intent of a specific rule through an alternate means that is different from, yet judged to be comparable to or as effective as, those prescribed within the rule.

1. List the Administrative Code citation(s) that necessitates the proposed equivalency. As the Department cannot approve an equivalency to an entire chapter, subchapter or section (e.g., N.J.A.C. 6A:5; N.J.A.C. 6A:5-1; or N.J.A.C. 6A:5-1.1, respectively), all applications must include a citation at least at the subsection level (e.g., N.J.A.C. 6A:5-1.1(a)).

6A:30-2.2 Quality performance indicators of school district effectiveness

(b) The weighted quality performance indicators are set forth in the District Performance Review

Incorporated in this chapter as the chapter Appendices

6A:30-3.2 District Performance Review

(a) As part of the comprehensive review, unless N.J.A.C. 6A:30-3.1 (d) applies, each school district shall complete a District Performance Review. The District Performance Review is incorporated in this chapter as the chapter Appendices

(Appendix A and Appendix B), which is the form that 11 school district s shall use in completing the self-assessment. All school districts, with the exception of county special services school districts, shall use Appendix A to complete the self assessment. All county special services school districts shall use Appendix B to complete the self-assessment.

2. Describe what the school district intends to accomplish that is currently prevented or disallowed by the existing rule(s).

N.J.A.C. 6A:30-2.2(a)-(d) and 3.2 require the district to complete a DPR for all five components of QSAC.

On Wednesday, November 1, 2017, the New Jersey State Board of Education approved new regulations governing the QSAC review program. The Instruction and Program section of these new regulations contains new quantitative indicators which utilize the most recent student achievement data including PARCC and mSGP scores. The district believes it is the best interest of its students and community to measure its level of success in educating our students using the most current data. We will achieve this result by replacing all current I&P Indicators with the full, new set of I&P indicators.

3. Describe why an equivalency is necessary to accomplish the desired or measurable result(s). Describe the proposed equivalent.

The district is requesting relief from having to be held accountable to 2013-14 student achievement data and current curriculum alignment requirements. Utilization of student achievement data from 4 years ago misrepresents the current state of educational attainment in our district. The district requests permission to replace all of the existing QSAC I&P accountability indicators with the newly-approved I&P Indicators.

4. Describe how the proposed equivalency meets the following three criteria, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:5-1.3(a):
 - **The spirit and intent of N.J.S.A. 18A, applicable Federal laws and regulations, and N.J.A.C. 6A are served by granting the waiver;**
 - **The provision of a thorough and efficient education to the school district's students is not compromised as a result of the equivalency; and**
 - **There will be no risk to student health, safety or civil rights by granting the waiver.**

The Lakewood School District will continue to meet all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations, as it will continue to complete the annual QSAC Statement of Assurance; therefore, the district will continue to measure its effectiveness in the following areas:

- **Instruction and Program**
- **Fiscal Management**
- **Governance**
- **Personnel**
- **Operations**

5. Describe the process, including solicitation of input and public comment, employed to inform the community, parents, district board of education members, administrators, and staff in the proposal's development.

On December 21, 2017, during a Special Education Meeting, designed specifically to discuss QSAC. District Board of Education Members, Administration, staff members and the community were made aware of the district's intent to apply for Equivalency via a presentation made by the Superintendent.

The application will also be posted on the website.

6. List the date the district board of education adopted a resolution supporting the proposed equivalency: **January 16, 2018.**

I, **Laura A. Winters** , certify that the information presented in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Laura A. Winters, Superintendent
CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR


SIGNATURE

February 12, 2018
DATE

(REVISED)