Changes Proposed to Value-Added Rules April 21, 2011

Value-added is the fourth component of Ohio's accountability system. It measures growth or improvement over a period of time to determine the "value" gained by a student during that time period. (The first three measures include state indicators, performance index and Adequate Yearly Progress.) This is the measure that can add "with distinction" to an already "excellent" designation. The following information was shared by Deborah Delisle in "EdConnection" on March 28, 2011.

At its March meeting, the State Board of Education passed an Intent-to-Adopt resolution for rule changes affecting the value-added measure that impacts annual Local Report Card ratings. If adopted in June, these rules would affect the 2010-2011 Local Report Cards this August. The proposed rules substantively change the system in two ways:

- 1. Establish a more rigorous statistical definition for the growth standard, moving it from one to two standard errors of measurement. *
- 2. Change the number of years it will take for value-added measures to impact Local Report Card ratings. Currently, it takes two years of "above expected" growth to receive a boost in the Report Card rating. The rule change would shorten this period to one year. Likewise, the penalty for "below expected" growth would be triggered in two years rather than the current three.

The proposed rule changes include a transition provision such that for 2010-2011, a school or district would continue to be penalized by its value-added data only if it has a "minus" growth rating of two standard errors of measurement three years in a row. While there was some discussion at the State Board's Achievement Committee about an earlier "alternate path" proposal for the Excellent with Distinction ranking, that provision was *not* included in the resolution. Before the final adoption of the rules that is anticipated for June, the State Board resolution calls upon ODE to convene and consult the Accountability Task Force as prescribed in law.

The value-added measure adjustments are intended to move Ohio to a single value-added system. The changes will help the state's educators in meeting the challenges of Ohio's education system in 2014-2015, when the revised content standards and new statewide assessments will be implemented.

*Note – The more rigorous statistical definition for the growth standard has moved from one standard deviation to two standard deviations. In essence, it is a much higher standard for showing growth and as a result fewer schools will qualify for the "Excellent with Distinction" designation. Schools and districts which received this designation for the 09-10 school year could have the exact same amount of student growth in the 10-11 school year and receive a lower designation. The rules are changing.

