Select Committee on Public School Accountability

Panel 2

March 27, 2008

Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS)

AEIS Overview

- The Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) provides parents, educators, and the public with a comprehensive summary of the performance of students in each school and district in Texas every year.

- These reports also provide extensive information on staff, finances, programs, and student demographics for each school and district.

AEIS Performance Indicators

- Results of Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS); by grade, by subject, and by all grades tested;

- Results of TAKS at the Commended Performance standard;

- Participation in the statewide assessment programs;

- Exit-level TAKS Cumulative Passing Rates;

- Progress of Prior Year TAKS Failers;

- Results of Student Success Initiative;

AEIS Performance Indicators (continued)

- Progress of English Language Learners (ELL);

- Attendance Rates;

- Annual Dropout Rates (grades 7-8, grades 7-12, and grades 9-12);

- Completion Rates (4-year longitudinal);

AEIS Performance Indicators (continued)

- College Readiness Indicators;
  - Completion of Advanced / Dual Enrollment Courses;
  - Completion of the Recommended High School Program or Distinguished Achievement Program;
  - Participation and Performance on Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Examinations;
  - College-Ready Graduates;
  - Texas Success Initiative (TSI) – Higher Education Readiness Component; and
  - Participation and Performance on the College Admissions Tests (SAT and ACT).

AEIS Performance Indicators (continued)

- Performance on each of these indicators is shown disaggregated by:

  - ethnicity,

  - gender,

  - special education status,

  - low income status,

  - limited English proficient status (since 2002-03), and

  - at risk status (district only since 2003-04)

AEIS Profile Indicators

The AEIS reports also contain a section describing the school, district, region, or state with the following three main areas:

- **Student Information**
  - Including such items as: enrollment by grade, ethnic distribution, economic status, mobility, program participation, graduation type, and class size.

AEIS Profile Indicators (continued)

- **Staff Information**
  - Including such items as: ethnicity, years of experience, education level, salaries, student-teacher ratio, and turnover rate.

- **Financial Information**
  - Including such items as: tax rates, fund balance, actual revenue, and actual expenditures.

Use of AEIS Data

- Since the first AEIS reports were published for the 1990-91 school year, other reports have been developed that use the AEIS data.

- The **Accountability Rating System** for Texas Public Schools and School Districts uses a subset of the performance measures reported on the AEIS to assign a rating to each public school and district. Schools and districts have been rated since 1994.

- Additionally, **School Report Cards,** (available annually on the web through the **AEIS** site, starting with 1997-98) are sent out to parents by their children's schools. These show a subset of the performance, staff, and financial measures in the AEIS reports.

Use of AEIS Data (continued)

- The annual **Snapshot** publications, which date back to 1987-88, provide extensive district-level information which is a subset of the items shown on the AEIS.

- **Pocket Edition** provides a state-level overview of public school education in a compact brochure. These brochures date back to the 1990-91 school year.

- Other agency and non-agency entities make use of AEIS data for a variety of purposes.

Technical Assistance Teams (TAT)

Statutory Requirement

- Section 39.1322 of HB 1 required that technical assistance teams (TAT) be selected and assigned to campuses rated *Academically Acceptable* in the current year, but that would be rated *Academically Unacceptable* if the following year's criteria were in effect.

- The commissioner may waive the requirement to assign the TAT if the improvement in performance standards over the preceding three years indicates that the campus is likely to be rated *Academically Acceptable* in the following school year.

TAT Facts

- For the 2007-08 school year, there are 395 unique districts with one or more campuses on the TAT list, compared to 157 unique districts on the 2006-07 list.

- There were 877 campuses identified for TAT in 2007-08, almost four times larger than the 2006-07 count of 234 campuses.

TAT Requirements

- Statute requires that the technical assistance team assigned to a TAT campus will assist the campus in executing a school improvement plan.

Public Education Grant (PEG) Program

Statutory Requirement

- A statutorily-mandated program of school choice (TEC Ch. 29, Subchapter G, 29.201-29.205).

- Statute addresses campus identification, funding issues, and student eligibility issues.

- PEG lists have been issued since September of 1995.

PEG Overview

- The PEG program permits parents whose children attend schools on the PEG list to request that their children transfer to schools in other districts.

- A list of PEG-designated schools is provided to districts annually. By February 1, districts must notify each parent of a student in the district assigned to attend a school on the PEG list.

PEG Overview (continued)

- Based on the February list, parents may request a transfer for the following school year. (For example, the list provided to parents by February 1, 2008 allows for transfer requests for the 2008-09 school year.)

- Statute allows districts to accept or reject interdistrict (across district) transfer requests.

PEG Overview (continued)

- The PEG program is partially tied to accountability ratings, but is not aligned with either the state system, AYP, or the TAT list.

- The PEG identification criteria use a 3 year time period, so even improved schools stay on the list if they were *Academically Unacceptable* in any of the previous three years.

Identification of 2008-09 PEG Campuses

- A school at which 50 percent or more of the students failed any of the TAKS subjects in any two of the preceding three years (2007, 2006, or 2005), or

- A school that was rated *Academically Unacceptable* in 2007, 2006, or 2005.

PEG Facts

- For the 2008-09 school year, 831 campuses were identified for PEG, compared to 924 campuses on the 2007-08 list.

- Based on 2007-08 enrollment counts, a total of 483 students used the PEG transfer system to enroll in another district.

District Responsibilities

- Statute requires that districts notify parents of the 2008-09 list by February 1 of 2008.

- The list is based on 2005, 2006, and 2007 performance, but is in effect for the 2008-09 school year.

- An online FAQ is available through the Division of Performance Reporting Resources link
http://www.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/resources/index.html