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4 AAC 06.835 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(f) Notwithstanding the requirements of (a) of this section, the department may permit a district to remove a school's designation in the first year that the district undertakes a significant school improvement effort that is authorized under federal law. A district that applies to the department to redesignate the school must cite the federal authority that permits the redesignation, that federal authority may include a statute, a regulation, or a condition for funding. The department may approve the redesignation if the redesignation is

(1) consistent with all authorizations, approvals, and conditions for continued funding from the United States Department of Education under 20 U.S.C. 6301 – 7941 (Elementary and Secondary Education Act); and

(2) in the public interest. (Eff. 11/23/2003, Register 168; am 7/9/2005, Register 175; am 9/4/2005, Register 175; am __/__/____, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.03.123 AS 14.07.060
AS 14.07.020 AS 14.50.080

4 AAC 06 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 AAC 06.882. Ranking of schools. (a) The department will rank schools if necessary for the purpose of determining eligibility for allocation of funding under 20 U.S.C. 6301 – 7941 (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) relating to school improvement. In ranking schools, the department may consider

(1) a school's performance on the state standards-based assessment under 4 AAC 06.710(2) for one or more years;

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(2) a school's school index point value under 4 AAC 33.540;

(3) for a school that includes grade 12, the school's graduation rate;

(4) the number of full-academic-year students at the school who completed the state standards-based assessment in one or more years; and

(5) other data that the department determines is necessary for the ranking.

(b) The department will publish the results of a ranking of schools conducted under (b) of this section, including the criteria that were used to conduct the ranking. The department will send an electronic distribution of this information to each district. If a district believes that a school has been incorrectly ranked because a criterion used by the department was misapplied to the school, the district must send the department, no later than 10 calendar days after the original electronic distribution of ranking, written notification of the district's concern, including an identification of the criterion that the district believes was misapplied. A district that does not file a timely objection under this subsection waives the right to later contest the ranking in an appeal under 4 AAC 40. The department may correct or update the ranking at any time. The department will distribute each corrected or updated ranking to each district.

(c) In determining eligibility for, or the appropriate amount of, funding for which a district must undertake significant reforms, including the introduction of a new model for school improvement, the department may consider evidence of the district's capacity to implement the reform at one or more schools in the district. (Eff. __/__/____, Register __)

Authority: AS 14.03.123

AS 14.07.020

AS 14.07.060

AS 14.50.080