

EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Objectives and Critical Actions
2008-2009

1. Continue the implementation of the Education Accountability Act of 1998, as *amended*, and fulfill other responsibilities assigned by the General Assembly including those within the Teacher Quality Act, the Parental Involvement in Their Children's Education Act, the Education and Economic Development Act and the early childhood development pilot programs proviso and those made by special requests, including
 - a. Examining the new assessments provided through Act 282 of 2008 and making decisions regarding their administration and utilization statewide;
 - b. Increasing the impact of the accountability system on decisions which impact state, school and student performance;
 - c. Ensuring the system is effective for the young people currently enrolled and for those young people to come; and
 - d. Evaluating the progress of the Palmetto Priority Schools and public charter schools.
2. Establish a 2020 goal for statewide educational performance including
 - a. Refusing to tolerate any school performing at an at-risk level;
 - b. Working with stakeholder groups to understand state aspirations and the tasks necessary to achieve those aspirations;
 - c. Adjusting or expanding reporting methods and content to increase sensitivity to growth in performance; and
 - d. Recommending actions for policy, practice and funding to accomplish the 2020 goal.
3. Increase the level of student reading proficiency by
 - a. Examining the performance of students, individually and in groups, to understand how and where emphasis is needed in policy and practice;
 - b. Linking student performance to instructional strategies and policies and promoting those which are most effective;
 - c. Engaging the higher education community in discussions of reading achievement to promote changes in teacher preparation; and
 - d. Promoting engagement of higher education students through service learning.
4. Develop a long-term strategy for increasing the utility of technology in instruction, including
 - a. Identifying funding sources for the technology infrastructure;
 - b. Identifying lead districts and examining how technology has been supported, utilized and with what impact on student achievement;
 - c. Identifying cutting-edge strategies for use of technology to address traditional education functions; and
 - d. Promote a statewide commitment for world-class technology in our schools.