

## [N.J.A.C. 6A:30 Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts](#)

### **QSAC Update and School Libraries**

**Note: Click on links to access articles and references.**

#### **What is QSAC:**

##### [Quality Single Accountability Continuum](#)

The Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) is the Department of Education's monitoring and evaluation system for public school districts. It is a single comprehensive accountability system that consolidates and incorporates the monitoring requirements of applicable state laws and programs and complements federally required improvements. The system focuses on monitoring and evaluating school districts in five key components: instruction and program, fiscal management, operations, personnel, and governance. All districts must complete an annual Statement of Assurance (SOA) and districts undergoing a full QSAC review (once every three years) must also complete a District Performance Review (DPR).

#### **Review of Past History for QSAC**

2011 Revisions: This is the [testimony](#) that Fran King gave in 2011 when QSAC was last revised.

**Current QSAC:** SLMS services are included on [page 8](#) of the District Performance Review.

The current indicators and SOA items verify a school district's curriculum: specifies the content mastered for each grade level; includes clear grade-level benchmarks and interim assessments; is aligned with the most recent State academic standards; is horizontally and vertically articulated among all grade levels, content areas, schools and transition points; **ensures instruction is based on the school district's curriculum, instructional materials, and media and school library resources**; and meets the needs of all students.

**2017: The NJ Department of Education is proposing major changes to QSAC.**

**Initial QSAC Proposal for Implementation in School Year, 2018-2019:**

[http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/2017/April/public/QSAC\\_Appendix%20A%20effective%20July%201%202018.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/2017/April/public/QSAC_Appendix%20A%20effective%20July%201%202018.pdf)

All subject area curriculums are listed in the proposed District Performance Review but school library curriculum or school library media services were NOT included. These subject area curriculums are included in New Jersey Student Learning Standards, [N.J.A.C. 6A:8, STANDARDS AND ASSESSMENT](#). There is no separate set of standards for school library or information literacy or therefore, no separate school library curriculum.

### **NJASL Recommendation to DOE**

NJASL recommends that an additional sub-Indicator be added to each curriculum area in the section on Instruction and Program Indicators (Appendix A, C). This would help to ensure that the administrative regulation code, N.J.A.C. 6A:13.2.1 (h), Programs and Practices to Support Student Achievement, matches what is found in QSAC.

For example:

Language Arts:

j: Integration with the school library and use of school library resources.

Similarly, this sub-indicator (j) would be added to all the other curriculums.

### **Full Regulatory Code (N.J.A.C. 6A:13-2.1(h)).**

Found in N.J.A.C. 6A:13, PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES TO SUPPORT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

(h) All school districts shall provide library-media services that are connected to classroom studies in each school building, including access to computers, district-approved instructional software, appropriate books including novels, anthologies and other reference materials, and supplemental materials that motivate students to read in and out of school and to conduct research. Each school district shall provide these library-media services under the direction of a certified school library media specialist.

[NJASL Testimony to State Board of Education](#) regarding QSAC: May 3, 2017

**May 23 Meeting** with Robert Bumpus, DOE Assistant Commissioner for Field Services (office responsible for QSAC). NJASL and NJLA had an opportunity to discuss concerns. Productive meeting and Mr. Bumpus was very interested and asked questions about role of school libraries and school librarians. Discussed recommended changes to proposed amendment so that school library media programs, services and personnel will be included. Mr. Bumpus indicated that changes would be made. Will continue to monitor proposed amendments. Was very receptive and was very interested in hearing about the role of SLMS and their role in **Information Literacy** and **Collective Capacity (Marzano)**. NJASL may have an opportunity to present to Executive County Superintendents Meeting (Sept/Oct).

### **DOE Comments to NJASL QSAC recommendation - page 6 - June 7, 2017**

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/sboe/meetings/2017/June/public/Item%20G%20%20Evaluation%20of%20the%20Performance%20of%20School%20Districts.pdf>

**10 COMMENT:** The commenter recommended that a sub-indicator be added to each Instruction and Program Indicator 9 through 15 in proposed Appendix A to hold school districts accountable to N.J.A.C. 6A:13-2.1(h), which requires school districts to provide school media services.

(2,7) RESPONSE: The Department agrees that media and library resources should be added to Appendices A. The Department proposes to add this requirement as new Governance Indicator 14, which will monitor that every district board of education ensures students have access to library media services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:13-2.1(h).

The proposed point value for this indicator is three.

As a result of proposed new Governance Indicator 14, the Department proposes to reduce the point values for Governance Indicators 3, 5, and 10 to six, seven, and three, respectively.

For consistency, the Department also proposes to add the same indicator to proposed Appendix B for CSSSDs. The amended Instruction and Program Indicators in proposed Appendices A and B are reflected below.

14. The district board of education ensures that all students have access to library media services that are connected to classroom studies in each school building including access to computers; school district-approved instructional software; appropriate books, including novels, anthologies, and other reference materials; and supplemental materials that motivate students to read in and out of school and to conduct research. (N.J.A.C. 6A:13-2.1(h) 3

**11. COMMENT:** The commenter requested the addition of “media and school library resources” and “I&RS” to Instruction and Program Indicator 16. The commenter stated the latter recommendation would clarify the Department is referring to the intervention and referral services (I&RS) teams in every school. (7) RESPONSE: The Department proposes to add media and school library resources to Instruction and Program Indicators 9 through 15, as described in the response to Comment 10.

## **QSAC Guidelines Effective July 1, 2018 - School Libraries (Approved SBOE Nov. 2017)**

### **Library Media Services added to Governance Category**

**AND has a separate point value - 3 points.**

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**Appendix A NJQSAC District Performance Review Page 10:**

<http://www.nj.gov/education/code/current/title6a/chap30AppA2.pdf>

**This may also be useful for School Library Media Specialists  
(to help ensure that SLMS are providing library media services and not other staff)**

4c - Under Personnel Indicators - page 17

Approved job descriptions are maintained for every certificated staff member. Certificated staff are [[working in roles that are appropriate for their certification]] appropriately certified for their assignment (N.J.A.C. 6A:9B);

**DOE will be working on checklist items to ensure district compliance with District Performance Review.**

NJASL has submitted recommendations for compliance on #14, Governance. Waiting to see what will be included in the guidance document.