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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Brad C. Smith
Chief Executive Officer

DATE: June 18-19, 2015

ACTION: R277-497 *School Grading System* (Amendment and Continuation)

Background:

1. R277-497 is amended in response to S.B. 245 *School Grading Amendments* (2015 Legislative Session). Technical and conforming changes are also made throughout the rule.
2. In addition to the amendments to R277-477, the rule is continued consistent with Board policy for continuation of rules and the Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act. The rule was last continued effective November 8, 2013.

Key Points:

1. The amendments to R277-497 provide provisions for the Board to exempt certain schools from school grading and evaluation and for the Board to make recommendation for calculating student growth; in addition, an alternative grade distribution for the 2014-15 school year only. The amendments also provide numbering and terminology changes throughout the rule.
2. R277-497 continues to be necessary because provides standards and procedures for LEAs to report school data through a school grading system.

Anticipated Action:

1. It is proposed that the Standards and Assessment Committee consider approving R277-497, as amended, on first reading and, if approved by the Committee, the Board consider approving R277-497, as amended, on second reading.
2. It is proposed that the Standards and Assessment Committee consider approving R277-498 for continuation on first reading and, if approved by the Committee, the Board consider approving R277-497 for continuation on second reading.

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