

**PROPOSAL**

**Lowest Quartile Graduated Proficiency**

The *Lowest Quartile Graduated Proficiency* proposal provides a school grading protocol for addressing those schools that do not have at least 50 percent of the lowest quartile students make an annual learning gain in either reading or math.

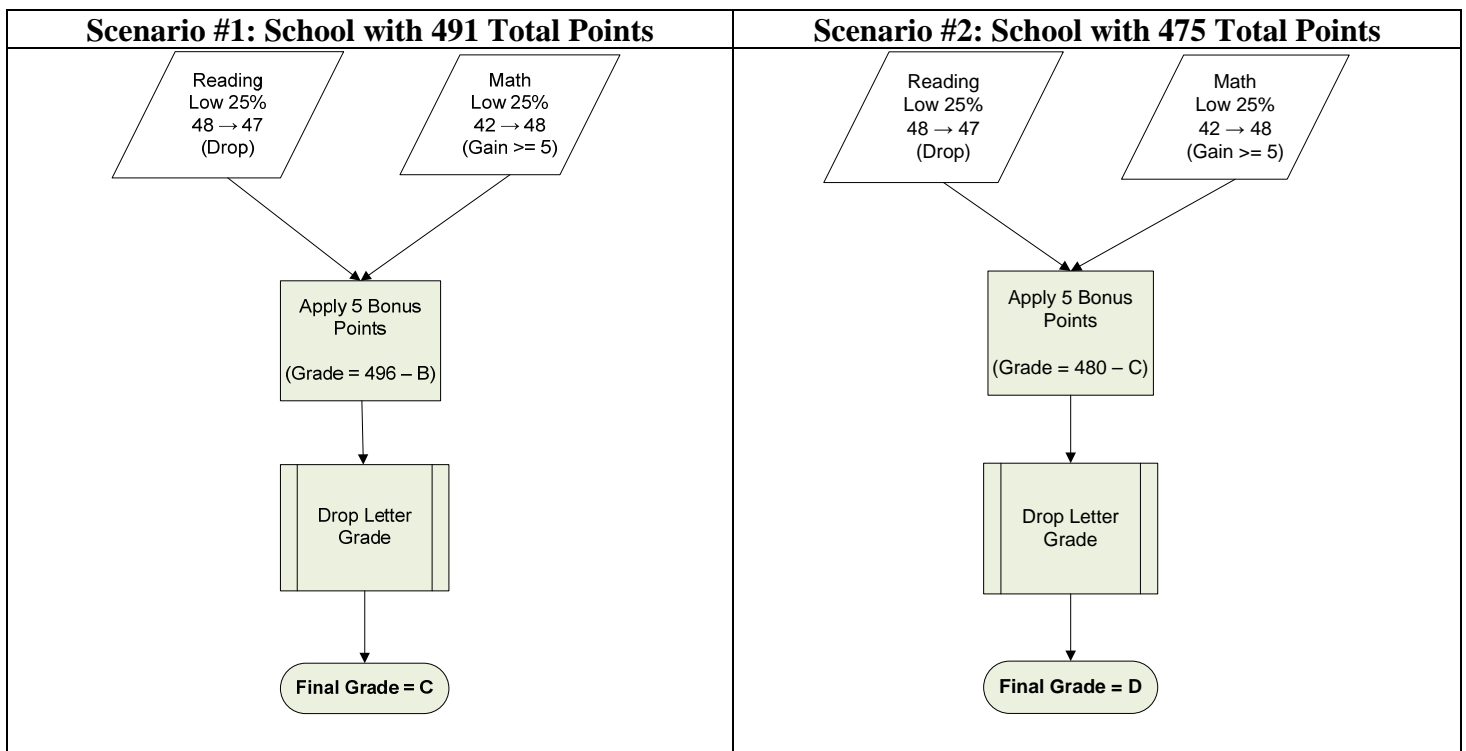
There are three possibilities that can occur when a school does not have at least 50 percent of its lowest quartile making annual learning gains in either reading or math:

<b>+</b>	<b>Five-point bonus</b> awarded for lowest quartile growth over prior year of five points or greater
<b>0</b>	<b>No penalty applied</b> if lowest quartile growth over prior year remains the same or increases by up to four points
<b>-</b>	<b>Letter grade drop</b> applied if lowest quartile performance decreases over prior year

Please note the following:

- A school can receive **up to 10 bonus points** if growth of five points or greater is displayed in both reading and math.
- The bonus point option applies to all schools with lower quartile gains of five points or more.
- As always, the letter grade drop does not apply at all to schools where lowest quartile performance in both categories is greater than 50 percent OR to schools with enough points for a B or C grade but only one year below the 50 percent cutpoint.

Two scenarios are outlined in the flowcharts below—one for a school on the B/C border and a second for a “solid” C school.



The following table displays the impact of the proposed model on school grades from 2006-2007 among the school that **received a penalty in 2007**:

**Effects of Model on Penalty and Bonus Status Among Penalized Schools in 2007**

	All Levels		Elementary		Middle		High		Combination	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Penalty Applied*</b>	110	80.9%	28	100.0%	1	50.0%	78	77.2%	3	60.0%
<b>No Penalty Applied</b>	12	8.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	9.9%	2	40.0%
<b>Bonus Awarded</b>	14	10.3%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	13	12.9%	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* - School still received a penalty because of a decreased percentage in lower quartile students making an annual learning gain from 2006 to 2007.