

**Recommendations on Inclusion of PACT Science and Social Studies Results in
School Ratings for Schools Enrolling Students in Grades 3 – 8**

**Adopted by the SC Education Oversight Committee
October 11, 2004**

Recommendation 1: Phase-in for Absolute Ratings

Phase the inclusion of PACT Science and Social Studies into the school absolute ratings over a three year period beginning in 2004-2005 starting at 10% for elementary and at 15% for middle schools, increasing the weights for Science and Social Studies each year (5 percentage points per year) until the target weightings are achieved. The phase-in of weightings will follow the schedule in Table 1 below.

Table 1
Phase-In of PACT Science and Social Studies
Grades 3-8 Absolute Ratings

Year	Elementary Schools				Middle Schools			
	ELA	Math	Science	Social Studies	ELA	Math	Science	Social Studies
2004-2005	40%	40%	10%	10%	35%	35%	15%	15%
2005-2006	35%	35%	15%	15%	30%	30%	20%	20%
2006-2007 and beyond	30%	30%	20%	20%	25%	25%	25%	25%

Recommendation 2: Absolute Rating for Elementary Schools

When fully phased in, the target absolute rating weights for PACT Science and Social Studies in elementary schools should be set at 20% each, with 30% each for ELA and Math.

Recommendation 3: Absolute Rating for Middle Schools

When fully phased in, the target absolute rating weights for PACT Science and Social Studies in middle schools should be set at 25% each, with 25% each for ELA and Math.

Recommendation 4: Improvement Rating

The weights for the improvement rating should not be phased in over time like those for the absolute ratings, but should be initially set at the target weights for each school level (e. g., 25% each Science and Social Studies, 25% each for ELA and Math for middle schools; 20% each Science and Social Studies, 30% each for ELA and Math in elementary schools).

School District Absolute and Improvement Indexes

Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, school district absolute and improvement rating indexes will be based on the phased-in weightings for PACT ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies described above in grades 3 through 8, weighted by the 135 day Average Daily Membership (ADM) for grades 3 through 8, and on high school rating indexes weighted by the 135 day ADM for grades 9 through 12.