Session Description

Educational Accountability 201: A System Retrospective

• In this session attendees will engage with an overview of the Colorado Educational Accountability System in the past, present, and it's likely future. An exploration of legislative action, state board decisions, and the driving forces that have created our system of school identification will be explored. Similarly, we will consider the direction educational accountability is headed and how it intersects with your role as a board member. This session is for individuals with a basic understanding of our accountability system.





Educational Accountability 201: A System Retrospective

CASB Annual Convention
December 7, 2023



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Welcome to Accountability 201: A System Retrospective

- Grab a sticky note and pen
- Answer at least one of these questions:
 - What brought you to this session?
 - What would make this a successful session for you?
 - What specific questions do you have about our accountability system?





How much do you know about Colorado's Accountability System?



Fist = You are killing me with the acronyms. SPF has something to do with sunscreen, right?

5 = Move over. I can run this accountability session.



Session Agenda

- Setting Context
 - Local Board's Role in Accountability
 - Current Policy Landscape
 - o Colorado's Accountability Theory of Action
- Elements of the State Accountability System
 - Performance Frameworks
 - Public Reporting
 - Improvement Planning
 - o Public Engagement
 - Supports and Interventions
 - Accreditation
 - Awards
- Wrap up



Colorado's Educational Accountability System



Local accountability

Locally elected boards oversee superintendent and district policies

State Accountability

- Colorado Educational Accountability Act
- Includes Performance Frameworks, Improvement Planning, Accountability Clock, Accreditation Contracts, Accountability Committees

Federal Accountability

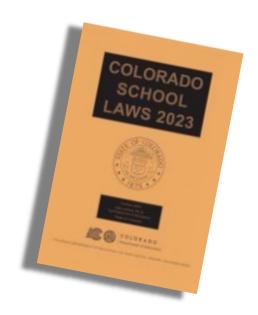
- Every Student Succeeds Act State plan approved
- Schools on improvement (CS, TS, A-TS)
- Aligned state and federal improvement planning and supports



Role of the Board: Statutory Responsibilities

The Colorado Educational Accountability system outlines the role of local Boards of Education to:

- Enter into a District Accreditation Contract with the State
- Accredit the District's schools
- Consult with the District's Accountability Committee
- Engage with the District and Schools' Improvement Plans
 - Adopt the District's Improvement Plan in accordance with the assigned accreditation plan
 - Adopt the Improvement Plans for schools assigned Priority Improvement or Turnaround
 - Consider the Improvement Plans of all schools in adopting the district's budget





Role of the Board: Governance Responsibilities

- The primary responsibility of a Board of Education is to see that the educational needs of their community are being met.
 - This happens by connecting with stakeholders, defining important outcomes, and monitoring progress towards those outcomes.
- Accountability results are one set of desired learning outcomes (as defined by the legislature) for all students to achieve in the state of Colorado.





How might Accountability Results be Used by Board Members?

- 1. As a tool to support community engagement
- 2. As an identified district priority (outcome)
- 3. As a superintendent performance measure
- 4. As a tool to facilitate early action
- 5. To inform resource allocations (budget setting)





What do we mean by "policy?"





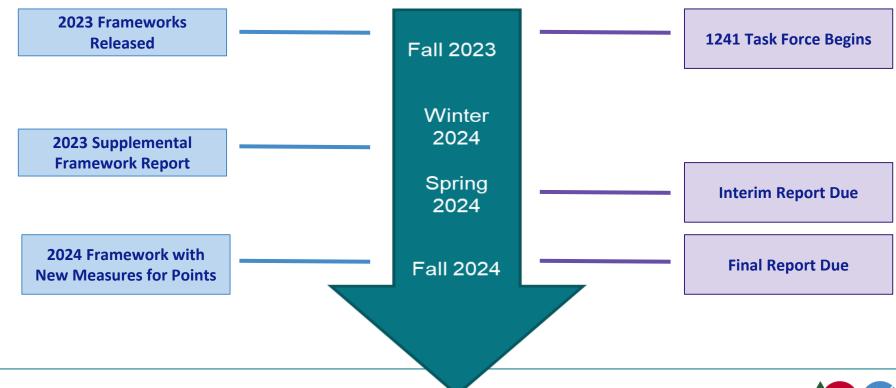




Policy Development Structures	General Description	Examples in Accountability Processes
State Legislature & Governor	Legislature passes statute and Governor signs into law.	SB 09-163 and HB 18-1355: Outlines our current state accountability system
State Board of Education or Local Board	Board provides additional detail on statute through rule process or policy adoption.	State Board: Sets framework cut scores, adopts plan types, Creates rules (e.g., request to reconsider process, UIP process)
Expert Panels and Stakeholder Groups	Groups are convened to provide advice at different parts of the policy making and implementation.	1241 Task Force Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) Accountability Work Group (AWG)
CDE Documentation and Guidance	Department provides documentation, logistics and parameters for implementation. Guidance includes requirements and recommendations.	Documentation: Frameworks Calculation Guidebook Guidance: Request to Reconsider Guidance, UIP Handbook



Overarching Accountability Timeline



H.B. 23-1241: Accountability, Accreditation, Student Performance, and Resource Inequity Task Force

- Link to Bill: https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb23-1241
- Purpose: Creates a representative task force of 26-members that studies academic opportunities, inequities, promising practices in schools, and improvements to the accountability and accreditation system.
- Website: https://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/accountability-task-force
- Builds upon: <u>Accountability Audit</u> and the <u>Local Accountability System Grant</u>
- Timeline:
 - O July 1, 2023: Task force members appointed
 - O August 15, 2023: Department contracts with a facilitator
 - O No later than September 1, 2023: Convene first meeting
 - O March 1, 2024: Interim report
 - O November 15, 2024: Final report reflecting findings and recommendations to the education committees of the house of representatives and senate, the governor, the state board, the commissioner of education and the department.



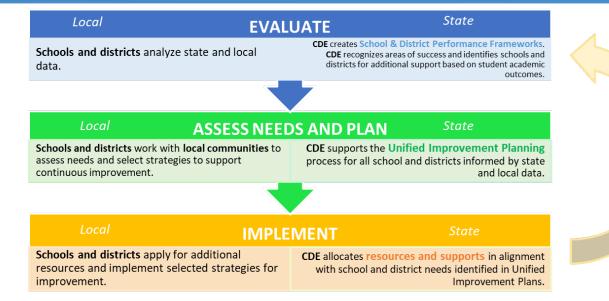
H.B. 22-1215: Study Of Expanding Extended High School Programs



- Link to Bill: https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb22-1215
- Purpose: Develop and recommend policies, laws and rules to support the equitable and sustainable expansion and alignment of programs that integrate secondary, postsecondary and work-based learning opportunities in every region of the state.
- Task Force Website: https://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/secondary-postsecondary-and-work-based-learning-integration-task-force
 based learning integration task force
- Timeline:
 - July 2022: Convened first meeting
 - December 1, 2022: Interim report
 - December 1, 2023: Final report reflecting findings and recommendations to the governor, the Education Leadership Council, the State Board of Education, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, and the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives, or any successor committees.



Accountability Theory of Action



ocal INTERVENE State

Low performing schools and districts take more rigorous action if student performance remains consistently low.

The State Board of Education works with CDE and districts to determine more rigorous action steps for persistently low performing systems through Performance Watch.





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Elements of the Current State Accountability System





Elements of the Current State Accountability System

Frameworks

Public Reporting

Improvement Planning

Public Engagement

Supports and Interventions

Accreditation

Awards





Performance Frameworks | Purpose

- Provides a statewide evaluation of student performance that highlights areas of success and areas for improvement.
- Identify those districts and schools whose students are lowest-performing based on academic achievement, growth and postsecondary workforce readiness data, and direct state support and intervention appropriately.
- Identify those districts and schools whose students are the highest-performing based on academic achievement, growth and postsecondary and workforce readiness data, recognize them and learn from their practices.





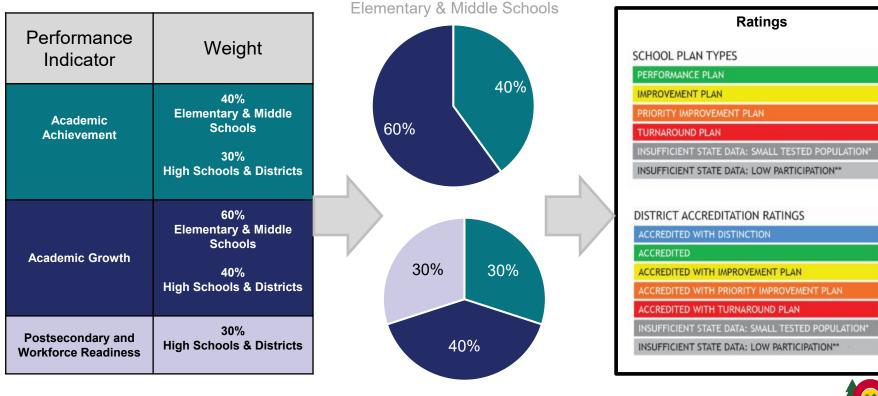
(*) Under state accountability policy, 95% of students must participate in state assessments. Students who are excused from testing by a parent or guardian dors not impact the Accountability Participation Rade that is used to determine whether the overall radiing is reduced by one level. District or solve this test shan so 95% total participation in EA and Math receive a "Low Participation" descriptor to be for raders when interpreting accountability and a reduced that the participation in EA and Math receive a "Low Participation" descriptor to be for raders when interpreting accountability and a reduced that the participation of the state of the participation of the parti

Performance Frameworks | Performance Indicators

Performance Indicator	Performance Data	
Academic Achievement	 Mean scale score English language arts, math, and science assessments Overall and for disaggregated groups 	
Academic Growth	 Median student growth percentile English language arts, mathematics and English language proficiency assessments English language proficiency On Track metric Overall and for disaggregated groups 	
Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness	 SAT – Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Mathematics Graduation Rate Dropout Rate Matriculation Rate (includes military enlistment) Industry credentials, included in Career and Technical Education and overall matriculation rates calculations Overall and for disaggregated groups (except for Matriculation rate) 	

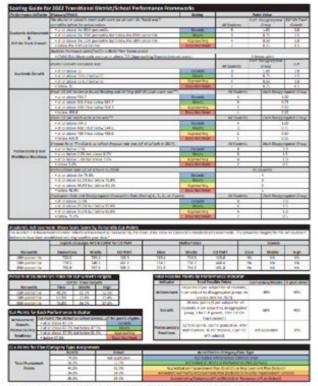


School and District Performance Framework Ratings





Frameworks Performance Levels and Scoring

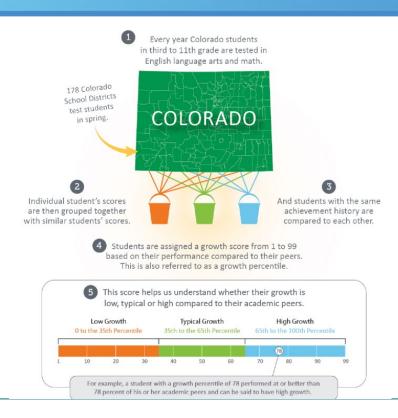


https://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/frameworkscoringguide2023

- Performance Level Ratings: Does Not Meet, Approach,
 Meets, Exceeds,
- Sub-indicator cut scores: 15th, 50th and 85th percentiles
- Cut scores for rating plan types vary between districts and schools
- State board approves annual targets and methodology for new measures



Overview of Colorado's Growth Model



- Visit our <u>Colorado Growth Model webpage</u>
 - View a pre-recorded walkthrough of the growth model
 - Parent friendly and technical user resources are available
 - Let us know what specific questions you have



How CDE Currently Handles Data for Smaller Systems

Current Practices

- For publicly reportable data
 - N of 16 for achievement has been the historical threshold for reporting achievement data.
 - N of 20 for Growth was based on observed data and what TAP determined to be minimum threshold for reliability with best balance for inclusion.
- Calculate a multi-year framework (typically 3 years) to aggregate data over time to generate reports for as many sites as possible.
- Created the Insufficient State Data assignment for sites that do not have reportable data for all performance indicators

 - No tested grades
 Small tested population
 Limited tested population (e.g., high % of parent excusals)

Related Solutions in Other Parts of Accountability System

- **Created Secure Data Explorer** Tool for districts to analyze state data down to an N of 1.
- Created improvement planning guidance on how to still engage in continuous improvement without reporting Personally Identifiable Information.



2024 Performance Frameworks Update

- The state board voted to keep 2024 framework targets (e.g., sub-indicator methodology, overall rating cut points) consistent with 2019 and 2023.
- Science will be re-introduced in the Achievement performance indicator.
- On Track Growth will be delayed until all schools are ready for release. The department will provide public reports beginning in 2024.
- The state will continue to study the PWR Higher Bar measures because of concerns around data quality.
- The TAP's recommendations and feedback from the field were factors in the state board's considerations.

<u>November Board Meeting</u> (Presentation begins at 6 hours 30 minutes)

<u>Accountability Contact Communication</u> for more summary



Elements of the Current State Accountability System

Frameworks

Public Reporting

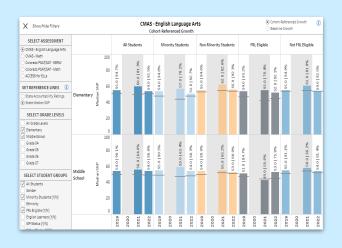
Improvement Planning

Public Engagement

Supports and Interventions

Accreditation

Awards

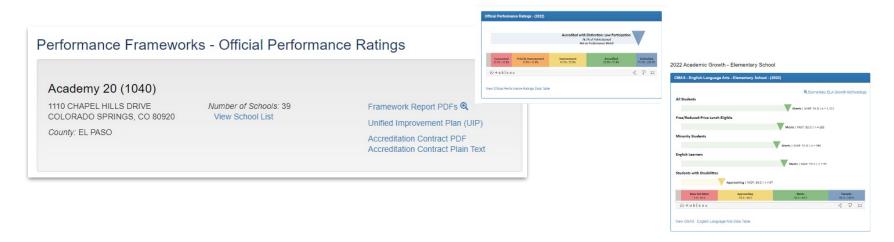




Performance Tools and Visualizations

Online Frameworks

CDE has launched an interactive version of the frameworks aimed at the public. Users see high levels reports initially and then can dig into accountability data more deeply. There are links to the framework PDF reports, the site's UIP and the district's accreditation contract.

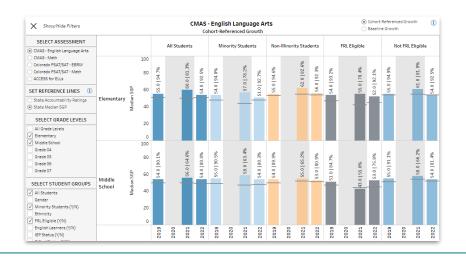




Performance Tools and Visualizations

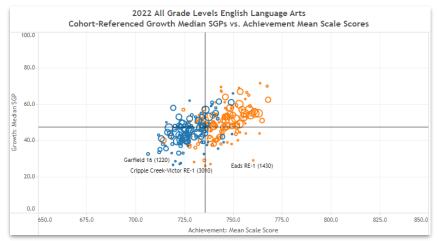
District and School Dashboard

Includes updated enrollment, demographics, achievement, growth, and postsecondary visualizations to support improvement planning efforts.



Data Explorer Tool

Includes updated achievement, growth, and postsecondary metrics that can also be downloaded into Excel files for additional analysis. Secure tool is located here for smaller systems.





Turn & Talk



Turn to 2-3 neighbors

Discuss

- What is a new thing of interest that you learned about the performance frameworks or reporting?
- What is something that you are interested to discuss more with your board colleagues or district staff? OR What is a practice that your local board already uses in this area that you'd like to share?
- What is something that you still have questions or concerns about?
- Be ready to share out your insights with the whole group



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Multiple Purposes for Improvement Planning

CDE has developed both a **process** and **template** to support schools and districts in their performance management efforts.

A mechanism for triggering additional supports through CDE (especially for schools on the accountability clock.

A statewide strategy to promote improvement planning based on best practice, including use of state and local data and engagement in a continuous improvement cycle.



A system to align improvement planning requirements for local, state, and federal accountability into a single plan.

A common format for schools and districts to document improvement planning efforts. Schools/districts on the accountability clock must demonstrate a coherent plan for dramatic change and adjustments over time. Reviews conducted by CDE and State Review Panel.

A process for including multiple voices, including staff, families and community representatives.

Plans are posted publicly.



Making Accountability Meaningful



Unified Improvement Planning (UIP)

- All schools and districts are expected to engage in improvement planning and submit plans in UIP Online System for public posting on <u>SchoolView</u>.
- CDE has coordinated state, federal and some grant improvement planning requirements into one place.
- UIP process includes:
 - Identifying and prioritizing needs based upon data
 - Matching research-based strategies to meet needs
 - Progress monitoring and adjusting practices
 - Engaging stakeholders
- CDE focus on universal and targeted supports. Offer resources, virtual and field-based trainings and onsite technical assistance.

Local Board Role...

Engage with the District and Schools' Improvement Plans

- Adopt the District's
 Improvement Plan in
 accordance with the assigned
 accreditation plan
- Adopt the Improvement
 Plans for schools assigned
 Priority Improvement or
 Turnaround
- Consider the Improvement
 Plans of all schools in
 adopting the district's budget



Future Changes in the UIP



Worth sharing a few details about the pilot here? Or to get some feedback? I'm not sure myself, but thought it was worth asking



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Accountability Committees



- All schools and districts are required to have accountability committees. Small districts may combine requirements.
- Parents are expected to have the most representation.
- Accountability committees are advisory to principals and local boards. They provide recommendations.
- Activities include reviewing improvement plans and progress monitoring, reviewing budgets, providing input on various policies (e.g., parent engagement), and other jointly identified areas.

Local Board Role...

Consult with the District's Accountability Committee



Turn & Talk



Turn to 2-3 neighbors

Discuss

- What is a new thing of interest that you learned about the improvement planning and accountability committees?
- Given your responsibilities in these areas, what is something that you are interested to discuss more with your board colleagues or district staff? OR What is a practice that your local board already uses that you'd like to share?
- What is something that you still have questions or concerns about?
- Be ready to share out your insights with the whole group



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CDE Support Structure

CDE Supports

- Support Leads
- Transformation Support Managers
- UIP Contacts
- ESEA Regional Contacts

EASI Grant

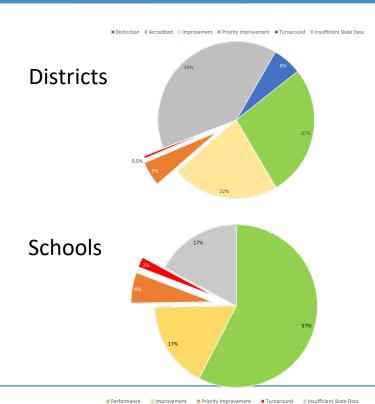
- Exploration Support (inc external diagnostic reviews, planning support and stakeholder engagement support)
- District Designed and Led
- Accountability Pathways Implementation
- Turnaround Leadership
- Transformation Network
- Tailored support for Alternative Education Campuses and Local School Boards that have identified schools

Highlights of State Support System

- Driven by state needs assessment
- Use Four Domains as organizing structure
- District participation is encouraged but voluntary
- Distribute supports through tiers (universal, targeted, intensive)



Districts and Schools on Performance Watch in 2022

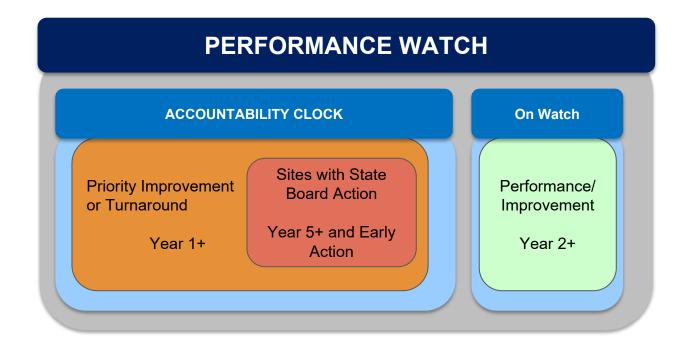


	Districts	Schools	
# on Performance Watch	13	244	
# on Clock (PI, Turnaround)	11	175 (+30 Insufficient State Data)	
Year 0	7	114	
Years 1-3	3	50 (+27 ISD)	
Years 4-5	n/a	6 (+3 ISD)	
Years 6+	1 (+ 1 ISD)	5	
# on Watch	1	39 (+6 ISD)	
# with an <u>SBE Order</u> (incl. Early Action and On Watch)	1*	11	

^{*} Aguilar (incl. Aguilar Jr./Sr.) does not have an active order but is Year 8 On Watch. Adams 14 is the only school district with an active SBE order.



Performance Watch | Overview





Performance Watch | Expectations by Category

	Criteria	Implications		
On Clock	Earned a 2023 Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan type	 Communication expectations Additional planning requirements and plan review by CDE Hearing with State Board after five years or progress monitoring if already received state board directed action Eligible for supports and school improvement funds (EASI) 		
On Watch	 Earned a 2023 Improvement or Performance plan type Previously on accountability clock for at least two consecutive years 	 Plan review by CDE Eligible for supports and school improvement funds (EASI) 		
On Hold	 Received an Insufficient State Data in 2023 Last available plan type was on clock 	 Communication expectations Additional planning requirements and plan review by CDE Eligible for supports and school improvement funds (EASI) 		



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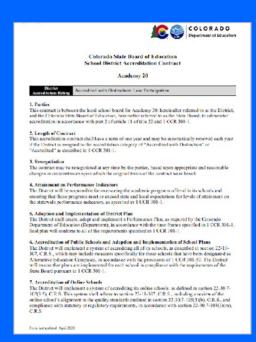
Improvement Planning

Public Engagement

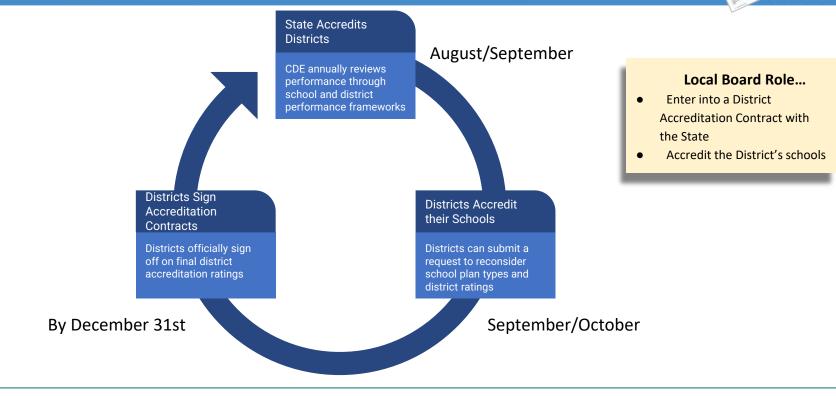
Supports and Interventions

Accreditation

Awards



School & District Accreditation Process





Accreditation Contract Process



- One-year contract between state board and local boards on the accreditation system and an agreement to implement applicable laws and policies.
- District plan type and state board action determine timeline and additional expectations included in agreement
- State Board accredits districts; Local boards accredit schools
- Contract includes
 - Attainment on performance indicators
 - Adoption and implementation of the district plan
 - Accreditation and implementation of plans for schools, including online schools
 - Good faith effort on implementing statute, regulations and policy
 - Consequences for non-compliance and monitoring

All District Accreditation Contracts available at: https://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/districtaccreditation



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Summary of School and District Awards

- Blue Ribbon Schools
- Centers of Excellence
- Colorado School Awards program
- Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award
- Green Ribbon Schools
- High School Academic Growth Award
- John Irwin Schools of Excellence
- National ESEA Distinguished Schools

For Description of criteria and recent recipients: https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/awards



Turn & Talk



Turn to 2-3 neighbors

Discuss

- What is a new thing of interest that you learned about the supports/interventions, accreditation and awards?
- What is something that you are interested to discuss more with your board colleagues or district staff? OR What is a practice that your local board already uses that you'd like to share?
- What is something that you still have questions or concerns about?
- Be ready to share out your insights with the whole group



General Accountability Cycle

	Frameworks	Public Reporting	Improvement Planning	Accountability Committees	Support & Interventions	Accreditation	Awards
Fall	(Aug) CDE released prelim frameworks	Updated based upon available data	(Oct) Due for public posting	Locally decided timeline	Available	Local boards accredit schools	
Winter	(Nov/Dec) State board finalizes frameworks	Available	Implement and monitor plan	Locally decided timeline	Available	(Dec) State Board accredits districts	(Dec) Awards announced
Spring		Available	Major updates for next school year based on local data	Locally decided timeline	Available		Awards Ceremony
Summer		Available		Locally decided timeline	Available		



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Thank you!

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General Email: accountability@cde.state.co.us



Other CDE Conference Sessions

- Finding your Focus: Leveraging Local & State Data. Friday, 2pm-3pm, West CD
- Designing Stakeholder
 Engagement to Drive Effective
 Board Governance. Saturday,
 1:20-2:30, West AB



