

## **School Accountability Reports**

The Colorado legislature has determined that giving each public school an accountability report rating its performance and growth in academic achievement and providing overall safety information will assist the general assembly, parents and taxpayers in evaluating whether individual public schools are providing students with an opportunity for a safe and quality education.

The state-generated accountability report rates individual schools (except those schools designated as alternative education campuses and granted an exemption by the State Board of Education) on their academic performance and growth as determined solely by student test results on the Colorado State Assessment Program. The report also provides information on safety in individual schools by compiling data on safety and discipline incidents, the average daily attendance and the school dropout rate (secondary schools) or time in the classroom (elementary schools). In addition, the state-generated accountability report will report whether subgroups of students are making adequate yearly progress as defined in federal law.

The Board of Education acknowledges that the state-generated accountability report serves an important purpose, but believes it does not represent the full measure of a safe and quality education. Therefore, the Board directs the superintendent to develop a program that enables and supports principals of district schools who wish to develop their own school reports for distribution to parents and community members.

The school-generated reports could include such information as:

1. Current student performance results related to district academic standards.
2. A summary of implementation and results of the school improvement plan.
3. Dropout and school completion rates.
4. At the secondary level, the number or percentage of the school's total student population completing "advanced" courses, percentage of students taking college aptitudes examinations and their scores, and percentage of graduates entering post-secondary education (where applicable).

5. Conduct and disciplinary actions taken during the school year, including the number and percentage of students suspended and/or expelled.
6. Community satisfaction with student achievement and the learning environment.
7. Accomplishments of the school related to its mission, goals and objectives.
8. Information from the school accountability committee about its accomplishments
9. Any other information that helps provide parents and community members with a comprehensive view of the school's challenges and achievements

The report shall be provided to the parents/guardians of students in the school, to local media and others interested in the schools, and to members of the public who request it. The report may be included or inserted in the state-generated accountability report as long as the school report does not refute information included in the state-generated report.

Because the Board believes that a supportive and involved public is crucial to the safety and achievement of students in district schools, it directs the superintendent to work with the Board to develop and implement a district-wide, year-round communication plan around safety and student achievement that:

1. Includes two-way communication involving both listening and telling activities.
2. Has a primary goal of building productive relationships between the district, Board, staff, parents, students and community members.
3. Promotes dialogue between the district, Board, staff, parents, students and community members around issues of importance to the community.
4. Is targeted to include different messages and different strategies depending on the audience.
5. Includes strategies for communicating internally as well as outside the district

The Board directs each district school to gather and accurately report data required by law to be reported for the state-generated accountability report. The Colorado Department of Education is required by law to deliver the report to each public school by January 15<sup>th</sup> each year. Within a reasonable time from receipt of the report, each school shall distribute the report to the parents/guardians of each student enrolled in the school and to members of the public who request it.

LEGAL REFS.:

C.R.S. [22-7-602](#), [604.5](#) (*alternative education campus criteria and exemption from receiving academic rating*)

C.R.S. [22-7-604.3](#) (*academic growth calculation*)

C.R.S. [22-7-605](#) (*report format and data reporting requirements*)

C.R.S. [22-7-606](#) (*report delivery*)

C.R.S. [22-7-609](#) (*school improvement plan or charter required for schools receiving academic rating of "unsatisfactory"*)

CROSS REFS.:

[AE](#), Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment

[AED](#)<sup>\*</sup>, Accreditation

[IKE](#), Ensuring All Students Meet Standards

[IL](#), Evaluation of Instructional Programs

[ILBA](#), District Program Assessments

[ILBB](#), State Program Assessments