

School Accountability Reports

State law specifies that the state-generated school accountability reports be primarily a source of information about a public school for parents/guardians and that the information provided and language used should be easily understood by parents/guardians. The state-generated reports are also intended to be the primary reporting tool for parents/guardians regarding federal and state reporting requirements so that parents/guardians have a single, easy to understand report that informs them about the public school.

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; professional experience of teachers; and the average daily attendance and the school dropout rate (secondary schools) or availability of preschool, full day kindergarten and before and after school care (elementary schools).

The state-generated report also contains information regarding whether federally identified groups of students are making adequate yearly progress based upon federal benchmarks.

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:

- current student performance results related to district academic standards
- a summary of implementation and results of the school improvement plan
- dropout and school completion rates
- at the secondary level, the number or percentage of the school's total student population completing "advanced" courses, percentage of students taking college aptitude examinations and their scores, and percentage of graduates entering post-secondary education (where applicable)
- conduct and disciplinary actions taken during the school year, including the number and percentage of students suspended and/or expelled

- community satisfaction with student achievement and the learning environment
- accomplishments of the school related to its mission, goals and objectives
- information from the school accountability committee about its accomplishments
- any other information that helps provide parents and community members with a comprehensive view of the school's challenges and achievements

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:

- includes two-way communication involving both listening and telling activities
- has a primary goal of building productive relationships between the district, Board, staff, parents, students and community members
- promotes dialogue between the district, Board, staff, parents, students and community members around issues of importance to the community
- is targeted to include different messages and different strategies depending on the audience
- 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.

Each school shall notify students' parents/guardians of the availability of its annual accountability report on the Internet. Upon request, the school shall provide a printed copy of the report to students' parents/guardians and members of the public. The state-generated report shall be available by January 15 each year. Schools may supplement the state-generated report with information on the Internet and in print.

ADOPTED 2008

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*, Accreditation
 IKE, Ensuring All Students Meet Standards
 IL, Evaluation of Instructional Programs
 ILBA, District Program Assessments
 ILBB, State Program Assessments