



WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Alternative School Accountability

State Board of Education

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Legislation



- In 2015, the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) was directed to develop a framework for alternative school accountability
- Goal: a model that yields **a more accurate representation of alternative school performance** than what is provided with WY's current state accountability model for all schools

Wyoming Accountability in Education Act (WAEA)



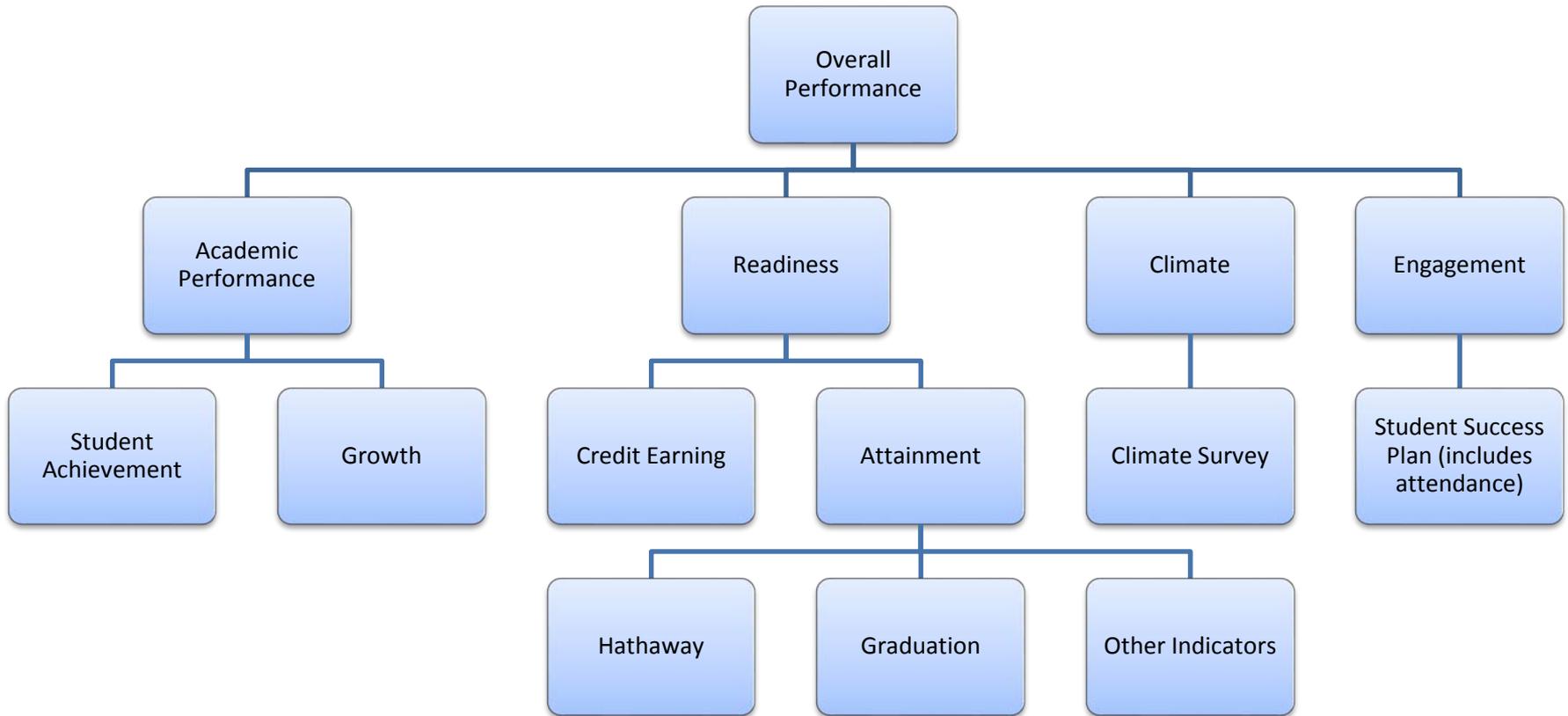
- Components of high school accountability under WAEA:
 - ❖ Achievement (based on composite ACT score)
 - ❖ Growth (Student Growth Percentiles)
 - ❖ Equity (consolidated subgroup)
 - ❖ Readiness
 - 9th grade credits earned (over credits required)
 - High school graduation rate
 - Tested readiness (based on Explore, Plan, ACT)
 - Eligibility for state scholarship (4 levels)

Framework for Alternative Schools



- Designed by committee of alternative school principals and superintendents, WDE staff, and the Center for Assessment
- Components of alternative school accountability will include:
 - ❖ Academic Performance
 - ❖ Attainment/Readiness
 - ❖ Climate
 - ❖ Engagement

Visual of Framework for Alternative Schools



A Deeper Look: Academic Performance



- Achievement
 - ❖ The same measures used for general school accountability will be used for alternative school accountability, but the cut scores may be different (spring 2018)
- Growth
 - ❖ The same growth model used for general school accountability will be used for alternative school accountability

A Deeper Look: Attainment/Readiness



- Based on “exit outcomes” for alternative school students:
 - ❖ Graduation (including extended time)
 - ❖ High School Equivalency Exam (HSEC)
 - ❖ Transfer to eligible post-secondary program (i.e. Job Corps)
 - ❖ Eligibility for state scholarship (4 levels)
 - ❖ Post-Secondary Credits Earned* (applied to graduates only)
 - ❖ Career/Industry Certification* (can apply to graduates or non-completers)
- Also includes credits earned over credits **attempted** each year

A Deeper Look: Attainment/Readiness (continued)



- Point value assigned to each exit outcome, for example:
 - ❖ Student graduates: 100
 - ❖ Student transfers to post-secondary program: 80
 - ❖ Student earns HSEC: 60
 - ❖ Student drops out: 0
- Point value also assigned for each level of state scholarship (4 levels)

A Deeper Look: Attainment/Readiness (continued)



- *Bonus points earned if students:
 - ❖ Earn post-secondary credits while enrolled in alternative school (AP/IB, Dual/Concurrent, etc.)
 - ❖ Earn an industry certification while enrolled in alternative school
 - ❖ Other
- Value of bonus points and cap amount TBD

A Deeper Look: Climate



- 20-question online student survey (4-point Likert scale) covering student perception about:
 - ❖ Trust
 - ❖ Respect
 - ❖ High Expectations
 - ❖ Support
- One open-ended question: “Is there anything else you want to tell us about your experience at this school?”

A Deeper Look: Engagement



- Initially considered using attendance rates, but logistics for collection and reporting, in addition to data security concerns, proved to be insurmountable at this time
- Instead, Engagement (including attendance) will be addressed through a Student Success Plan

Student Success Plan



- Students assigned to mentor who will help them set goals through a Student Success Plan (SSP)
- Components of the SSP will include:
 - ❖ Student goals and interests (including attendance goal)
 - ❖ Academic history
 - ❖ Attendance rate and history
 - ❖ Post-secondary plans and preparation activities

Student Success Plan

(continued)



- Used to provide relevant feedback and set actionable goals
- Mentor will meet with assigned student at least twice per year
- Assurance signed by principal and sent to state
- SSPs kept on file at alternative school
- Formally reviewed as part of 5-year accreditation process

Implementation Timeline



- First Pilot 2016-17 School Year (hold harmless)
- Refine during spring/summer 2017
- Second Pilot 2017-18 School Year (hold harmless)
- Refine during spring/summer 2018
- Set cut scores during spring/summer 2018
- Full Implementation 2018-19 School Year

Questions?



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