



Parent & Community Member Overview

Accountability & School Performance Ratings

ACCOUNTABILITY 101

Federal accountability is defined in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Under ESSA, each state submits its own plan with achievement and graduation rate goals for schools, measures for how well schools are doing, and priorities for the use of federal funds.

Under ESSA, states set their own long-term and interim goals for schools. Wyoming's plan contains goals for achievement in math and reading, the on-time graduation rate, and English language proficiency. The data for several of these indicators derives from the state assessment results, which is the measure of how well students are performing on the state's standards.

Wyoming's goals are derived from baselines determined in 2017-18, having each school perform as well as schools in the top 35 percent:

- 88 percent Graduation Rate.
- Grade 3-8 Math = 57 percent of students Proficient or Better.
- Grade 3-8 Reading = 59 percent of students Proficient or Better.
- High School Math = 47 percent of students Proficient or Better.
- High School Reading = 53 percent of students Proficient or Better.
- Growth for students learning English = 59 percent of students learning English making progress.

State accountability is defined in the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act (WAEA). This law takes into account measures specifically related to educational goals in Wyoming.

Traditional schools receive one of four overall performance ratings:

- Exceeding Expectations.
- Meeting Expectations.
- Partially Meeting Expectations.
- Not Meeting Expectations.

School performance ratings are determined from a variety of indicators:

- Student growth.
- Readiness.
- Achievement.
- Equity.
- English language proficiency.
- Postsecondary readiness.
- Graduation rates.
- Credits earned.

For alternative schools, the measures are similar to traditional schools with the addition of Climate and Engagement as additional indicators. Alternative schools receive one of four School Performance Ratings:

- Exceeding Alternative Expectations.
- Meeting Alternative Expectations.
- Partially Meeting Alternative Expectations.
- Not Meeting Alternative Expectations.

Under ESSA, schools that are struggling the most are identified for support. As part of the WAEA, support is provided to help Wyoming schools increase student and school performance. This support includes statewide professional development and district accreditation, school improvement planning, monitoring, and onsite technical support. Additional support is available for schools partially meeting and not meeting expectations through WAEA and those schools federally designated as Comprehensive School Improvement (CSI) and Targeted School Improvement (TSI).

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE RATINGS HIGHLIGHTS

Traditional Schools

School Performance Level	Percent 2018-19	Percent 2021-22	Percent 2022-23	Percent 2023-24
Exceeding Expectations	14.5%	13%	13.4%	12%
Meeting Expectations	41.6%	36.3%	39.9%	41%
Partially Meeting Expectations	27.1%	29.1%	30.2%	29%
Not Meeting Expectations	16.8%	21.6%	16.4%	18%

Alternative Schools

School Performance Level	Percent 2018-19	Percent 2021-22	Percent 2022-23	Percent 2023-24
Exceeding Expectations	23.5%	21.4%	47.1%	42%
Meeting Expectations	47.1%	35.7%	29.4%	37%
Partially Meeting Expectations	17.6%	42.9%	11.8%	16%
Not Meeting Expectations	11.8%	0%	11.8%	5%

Combined

School Performance Level	Percent 2018-19	Percent 2021-22	Percent 2022-23	Percent 2023-24
Exceeding Expectations	15%	13.4%	15.2%	13.8%
Meeting Expectations	41.9%	36.3%	39.4%	39.9%
Partially Meeting Expectations	26.6%	29.7%	29.2%	27.6%
Not Meeting Expectations	16.5%	20.6%	16.2%	17.5%

The WDE would like to recognize 17 Wyoming schools meeting the benchmark of maintaining Exceeding Expectations for three ratings periods (2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24).

- Snowy Range Academy
- Spring Creek Elementary
- Parkside Elementary
- PODER Academy
- PODER Academy Secondary School
- Little Snake River Valley School
- Southeast Elementary
- Afton Elementary
- Cokeville Elementary
- Osmond Elementary
- Thermopolis Middle School
- Colter Elementary
- Sundance Elementary
- Burlington High School
- Summit Innovations School
- Black Butte High School
- New Frontier High School