



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 a plan with achievement and graduation rate goals for schools, measurements for how well schools are doing, and priorities for the use of federal funds. The purpose of ESSA school accountability is to identify low-performing schools and schools with low-performing subgroups. Schools in higher performance ratings under the Wyoming Accountability model are much less likely to be identified under ESSA. Not every Wyoming public school receives a rating unless it underperforms in the categories listed below.

Under ESSA, states set 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's school performance ratings. WAEA is designed to identify each school's performance and gives every Wyoming public school an individual rating.

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

As of the 2024–25 school year, 82% of Wyoming schools were rated as Partially Meeting, Meeting, or Exceeding Expectations. Approximately 17% of schools received a rating of Not Meeting Expectations. For the 2024–25 school year, 7% of the 338 schools in the state are designated Accredited with Support, meaning that they have not been meeting for three consecutive years.

Percent of Traditional Schools at Performance Levels

School Performance Level	2021-22 % of Schools	2022-23 % of Schools	2023-24 % of Schools	2024-25 % of Schools
Exceeding	13%	13%	12%	12%
Meeting	36%	40%	41%	44%
Partially Meeting	29%	30%	29%	28%
Not Meeting	22%	16%	18%	17%

- Alternative Schools are showing a 20% increase in Meeting or Exceeding Expectations from last year, now at 95%
- Graduates meeting the Post-secondary Readiness has increased over 10% in the past two years to 66.5%.
- 70% of 3-8 schools are Meeting or Exceeding in Achievement, an increase of 10% last year.
- The Wyoming Charter School Authorizing Board schools are included in this calculation, however last year all of these schools were Not Meeting. This year, Wyoming Classical (Casper) is Meeting, Prairie View and Cheyenne Classical are Partially Meeting.

Schools Exceeding Expectations for Six Consecutive Years

- Spring Creek Elementary - Albany County School District #1
- Burlington High School - Big Horn County School District #1
- PODER Academy School - Laramie County School District #1

Schools Exceeding Expectation for Five Consecutive Years

- PODER Academy Secondary School - Laramie County School District #1
- Summit Innovations School - Teton County School District #1

Schools Exceeding Expectations for Four Consecutive Years

- Sundance Elementary - Crook County School District #1
- Afton Elementary - Lincoln County School District #2
- Osmond Elementary - Lincoln County School District #2
- Black Butte High School - Sweetwater School District #1

Schools Exceeding Expectations for Three Consecutive Years

- Heart Mountain Academy - Park County School District #6
- John C. Schiffer Collaborative School - Sheridan County School District #2
- Farson-Eden Middle School - Sweetwater County School District #1
- Tongue River Elementary - Sheridan County School District #1
- Washington Elementary - Sweetwater County School District #2

Schools Moving Two Levels in Three Years

DISTRICT	SCHOOL	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Carbon #2	HEM Junior/Senior High School	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding
Crook #1	Sundance Secondary School	Partially Meeting	Exceeding	Exceeding
Fremont #2	Dubois Middle School	Partially Meeting	Partially Meeting	Exceeding
Goshen #1	Lingle-Ft. Laramie Elementary	Partially Meeting	Exceeding	Exceeding
Laramie #1	Alta Vista Elementary	Partially Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding
Natrona #1	Crest Hill Elementary	Not Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
Natrona #1	Pineview Elementary	Partially Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding
Natrona #1	Bar Nunn Elementary	Not Meeting	Not Meeting	Meeting
Natrona #1	Summit Elementary School	Partially Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding
Natrona #1	Midwest School	Not Meeting	Not Meeting	Meeting
Sublette #9	Big Piney Middle School	Not Meeting	Not Meeting	Meeting
Sweetwater #2	Harrison Elementary	Partially Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding
Sweetwater #2	Truman Elementary	Not Meeting	Not Meeting	Meeting
Sweetwater #2	Monroe Elementary School	Not Meeting	Exceeding	Meeting