

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Clark County School District unveils high school ranking system ***School Performance Framework for high schools highlights models of excellence***

LAS VEGAS - In honoring their commitment to be open and transparent about our schools, the Board of Trustees and Clark County School District (CCSD) Superintendent Dwight D. Jones unveiled the second portion of CCSD's transparent ranking system that allows the community to hold the district accountable for student performance today. The announcement was made at Cimarron-Memorial High School.

The School Performance Framework (SPF) for high schools compares all of the district's high schools to their counterparts.

"The goal of the School Performance Framework is to allow educators to work together and learn from each other," said CCSD Board of Trustees President Dr. Linda Young. "Like the elementary and middle school rankings, the high school ranking system gives us an opportunity to recognize our areas of excellence while focusing more attention and resources on schools that need improvement."

Under the system, schools receive scores on four categories: graduation, academic growth, college and career readiness and school climate. Schools are then placed in one of five categories: "Five Stars" for highest performing schools; "Four Stars" for exceeding expectations; "Three Stars" for schools that are meeting but not exceeding academic standards; "Two Stars" for schools close to meeting minimum standards; and "One Star" for low performing schools.

Schools achieving "Five Star" status will be given more flexibility over curriculum, budget and day-to-day operations. "Five Star" schools will also serve as model schools for lower performing schools to emulate.

The SPF utilizes data from the recently developed Nevada Growth Model that tracks individual student academic growth from year-to-year using various demographics, including ethnicity and achievement level. This method of growth measurement allows the community to recognize gains made by schools each year and also provides schools and families with individual growth data on every student. Having individual student growth data allows educators to intervene earlier when students begin to fall behind and ensure schools continue to challenge and provide our high achieving students with opportunities to grow.

Superintendent Jones calls the SPF comparison system a turning point in the district's ongoing commitment to raising the bar and improving education for every student. "For our high schools, the School Performance Framework captures more than just academics," said Jones. "While test scores are a factor, we know that the high school experience is about more than standardized testing. The rankings show us which schools are doing a great job at educating students in and out of the classroom."

Jones also noted that the framework ranking system affirms the district's pledge to have every student "Ready by Exit" to compete in college or career without remediation. More than a third of a school's overall score focuses on college and career preparation. "This is the true test of our goal to have every student 'Ready by Exit' to succeed in college or career," said Jones. "The college and career readiness category, perhaps more than any other, will be a measure of our progress at all grade levels in the years to come."

CCSD is proud to recognize the 14 high-performing "Five Star" schools. Deputy Superintendent Pedro Martinez said recognizing high achieving schools is an important part of the district's efforts to give every student a quality education.

"We want to raise our academic standards districtwide," Martinez said. "Our One and Two Star schools are just as capable of success as our Four and Five Star schools. We want our high performing schools to serve as models of excellence for others to follow."

The School Performance Framework is the product of tireless research and feedback and was led by the Technical Advisory Panel on Academic Growth, made up of seven teachers, six principals, two parents and community members.

Giving high-performing schools more independence allows the district to focus more of its time and resources on raising academic achievement at schools not performing to their full potential. Schools can earn additional stars by raising academic performance among students.

Results of the rankings will not be used to evaluate school administrators or teachers this school year. It's important to note this new system was developed with the input of teachers and is meant to be a learning and improvement tool.

CCSD officials are proud to have completed the implementation of the Nevada Growth Model and launch the framework ranking system for high schools. These reforms position the district to be in compliance with the new state law (NRS 391.3125) mandating academic achievement be used in educator evaluations when it goes into effect July 1, 2013.

For more information about the School Performance Framework or the "Five Star Schools," visit ccsd.net

School Performance Framework Designations

These schools received a score of at least 80 on the School Performance Framework and met the Federal Government's Adequate Yearly Progress targets.

A Tech

Boulder City HS

CSNHS East

CSNHS South

CSNHS West

East CTA

Indian Springs HS

Las Vegas Academy

Moapa Valley HS

NW CTA

SW CTA

VT CTA

West CTA

West Prep at West Hall

These schools received a score of at least 65 on the School Performance Framework and met the Federal Government's Adequate Yearly Progress or AYP Watch targets.

Centennial HS

Clark HS

Coronado HS

Green Valley HS

Laughlin Jr/Sr HS

Liberty HS

Sandy Valley Jr/Sr HS

SECTA

Shadow Ridge HS

Virgin Valley HS

These schools received a score of at least 51 on the School Performance Framework.

Arbor View HS

Basic HS

Cheyenne HS

Foothill HS

Las Vegas HS



Legacy HS

Palo Verde HS

Rancho HS

Sierra Vista HS

Silverado HS

Spring Valley HS

Virtual HS

These schools received a score of at least 30 on the School Performance Framework or met the Federal Government's Adequate Yearly Progress targets and scored below 30.

Bonanza HS

Canyon Springs HS

Chaparral HS

Del Sol HS

Desert Oasis HS

Desert Pines HS

Durango HS

Eldorado HS

Sunrise Mountain HS

Valley HS

These schools received a score below 30 on the School Performance Framework.

Cimarron-Memorial HS

Mojave HS

Western HS

An appeals process will be available. Until the appeals process is complete this will remain a preliminary document.

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