

5/29/2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The System for School Success is Alaska's accountability system designed to celebrate success in our schools and identify areas we can focus on to help provide additional support. This accountability system fulfills the requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to regularly evaluate school efficacy and close gaps in student achievement.

A brief overview of Alaska's accountability system can be found at:

education.alaska.gov/akaccountability/schoolsuccess/accountabilitysystems.pdf.

Alaska's accountability system allows the Department of Education (DEED) and schools to:

- Articulate goals for student achievement, growth, and success
- Collect, analyze, and report on school performance
- Recognize high-performing schools and provide additional support to schools when needed

School report cards can be found on the [Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's website](#) under System for School Success.

As of May 21, 2024, IDEA received a late school designation for the 22-23 school year of Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI). Specifically, one student group performed below the performance threshold. While this is partially related to the testing participation rate – and parents' rights to opt out of testing – IDEA will take this opportunity to reflect on the data, current performance, and current practices to determine what we can do to support this group of students. In doing so, we will begin developing a three year plan in partnership with our parents, staff and other stakeholders.

IDEA believes that we can use this opportunity to ensure that our individualized support for students includes adequate resources and strategies for this student group – and all of our student groups.

If you would like to be involved in the discussion and development of a plan, please email Melissa Fritsch or Dean O'Dell. Please especially consider joining if you have ties to English Learner (EL) students – i.e., students who may be learning English as a second language – or if you have an interest in EL strategies or school improvement in general.

[Additional Targeted Support and Improvement](#)

(education.alaska.gov/akaccountability/schoolsuccess/TSI-ATSI.pdf)

Sincerely,

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