

FIVE FAST FACTS ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DASHBOARD

State education officials have unveiled a brand new accountability and improvement system to show how California's public schools are performing — and to track their progress over time. It's called the California School Dashboard. And SBCUSD is already using it. Here are five things you need to know.

1. THE NEW DASHBOARD IS ALIGNED WITH CALIFORNIA'S ACADEMIC STANDARDS, BUT IT GOES WAY BEYOND TEST SCORES.

Published online, the California School Dashboard will feature an array of data to help parents, educators, and the public evaluate the strengths and challenges of their schools and districts. The dashboard will also help determine which schools require special assistance. You can access the dashboard at www.caschooldashboard.org. This information is available in other languages through Google Translate.

The California School Dashboard uses color-coded pie pieces and other gauges to present a more comprehensive set of metrics.

2. THE DASHBOARD IS BASED ON STATE AND LOCAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS THAT MIGHT LOOK FAMILIAR.

Each year, the California School Dashboard will display scores based on about a dozen state and local indicators. These indicators are specifically aligned with 10 priority areas spelled out in the state's overhauled funding formula. The same priority areas are also embedded in the local accountability plans that are updated annually by districts and charter schools.

THE STATE INDICATORS ARE:

- Chronic absenteeism
- Suspension rate
- English learner progress
- Graduation rate
- College and career
- Academic (English language arts and math)

State indicator results will be based on how schools or student subgroups performed overall (known as their "status"), as well as how much they improved or declined over a three-year period (referred to as "change").

THE LOCAL INDICATORS ARE:

- Appropriately assigned teachers, access to curriculum-aligned instructional materials and safe, clean and functional school facilities
- Implementation of academic standards
- Parent engagement
- School climate
- Coordination of services for expelled students (This applies to county offices of education only.)
- Coordination of services for foster youth (Again, this is just for county offices of education.)






Schools, districts, and county offices will self-report their local indicators based on locally available data.

3. THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DASHBOARD RELIES ON VISUAL GRAPHICS TO SHOW PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH.

For the state indicators, color-coded pie pieces will represent school and subgroup performance levels. Ranked from least favorable to most favorable, the performance levels are **RED** (one slice), **ORANGE** (two slices), **YELLOW** (three slices), **GREEN** (four slices) and **BLUE** (a full pie).

You can learn more about how each color is assigned by visiting the California Accountability Model & School Dashboard webpage at www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/ but the general idea is that the colors are gauges of how well the school or subgroup performed overall (status) and how much it improved or worsened over a three-year period (change).

HERE'S A SAMPLE:

State Indicators	All Students Performance	Status	Change
Chronic Absenteeism	N/A	N/A	N/A
Suspension Rate (K-12)		Very Low 0.5%	Declined -1.1%
English Learner Progress (K-12)		Low 62%	Increased +1.2%
Graduation Rate (9-12)		Medium 86%	Increased +5%
College & Career	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Language Arts (K-8)		Low 60 points below level 3	Declined -10
Mathematics (K-8)		Very Low 15 points above level 3	Declined Sig. -25

THE BREAKDOWN

The imaginary school on the left would have boasted favorable suspension and graduation rates but produced low English scores and very low math scores.

Again, those scores to the left refer to the state indicators. The local indicators will be represented differently. Rather than using color-coded pie pieces, the dashboard will note whether each local goal has been "met," "not met" or "not met for more than two years."

4. IT'S NOT JUST A TOOL FOR PARENTS AND THE PUBLIC. THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOL DASHBOARD WILL ALSO SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Under the provisions of the Local Control Funding Formula — that's the state's K-12 funding mechanism — schools and districts will be eligible for technical assistance from their county office of education if certain performance benchmarks are not met over time.

5. THE STATE HAS PUBLISHED GUIDES AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIVE A LITTLE DEEPER — AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ARE COMING.

The California Department of Education has compiled the following resources for those seeking more information:

- [Technical Guide for New Accountability System \(PDF\)](#)
- [Quick Reference Guide for California's New Accountability System](#)
- [Overview Video of the California School Dashboard \(English\)](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [FAQs](#)