



The Grader

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your understanding during the numerous transitions taking place in parallel. On Monday, January 25, the Department advocated to the State Board of Education for language in the new [SB1430](#) which would allow a single accountability system for all public schools and districts. As proposed, SB1430 eliminates the “bell curve” inherent in [ARS 15-241](#) to letter grade B and D schools as “above” and “below” average respectively; it also allows for increased flexibility in the implementation of letter grades for schools. Although there is much anticipation for a new A-F system which reflects the flexibilities and principles of the new Every Student Succeeds Act, the development and implementation of the new state accountability system will largely depend on the final outcome of SB1430.

The Department’s plan to identify a new list or freeze the current list of Focus and Priority schools was due to the US Department of Education on Friday, January 29, 2016. The Department will update and publish its transition plan once it receives final approval. ADE will release new guidance as it becomes available and/or finalized so please check our website regularly for updates.

Thank you,

Yovhane Metcalfe, Ph.D.
Chief Accountability Officer

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Alternative Status Application Now Closed

After three months of availability, the window to apply or recertify alternative school status for the 2015-2016 school year closed on January 4th. In order to process current applications for new or recertified alternative status, no additional applications for new or continuing alternative status will be accepted at this time. ADE will release a finalized list of all schools approved for FY16 alternative status by March 1, 2016. Schools with FY16 approved alternative status will receive FY16 accountability determinations based on methodology specific to alternative schools. Please contact Robert.gray@azed.gov if you have any questions regarding your FY16 alternative school status.

Updated ADEConnect Guide

An updated ADEConnect Guide has been posted on the Accountability website and can be found [here](#). This guide presents instructions on getting started, pulling reports, downloading data and applications, and other ADEConnect tasks along with screenshots for each action.

New Staff Introductions

Caitlin Drake joined the ADE January 2016. She will be communicating with LEAs and Schools concerning policy, statistics, technical assistance as well as maintaining information regarding state and federal accountability. Prior to joining ADE she worked for the U.S. Census Bureau conducting interviews and collecting statistics for multiple federal surveys. Caitlin is a recent graduate with a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Arizona.



ELL News

The SDELL71—ELL Program Participation Report

The SDELL71 Report provides information on services provided to ELL students within a specific district or charter. The report documents student entry and withdrawal from ELL language programs. The report also provides information about the Integrity Result Status of data which has been submitted. An Integrity Result refers to the process of data meeting business rules referred to as “integrity checks.” For example, attempting to place a student in an language program will “fail” integrity if there is not an AZELLA record for that student in SAIS.

Records that **Fail Integrity** are displayed first in the SDELL71 Report. LEAs should review the report carefully to identify and correct records with “Integrity Result - Failed” errors because this data is used for accountability and funding purposes.

SDELL71		Arizona Department of Education		Page: 14 of 19					
		SDELL71 - ELL Program Participation Report		Print Date: 01/21/2016 03:03					
		Fiscal Year 2016 / School Year 2015 - 2016							
Requesting District CTDS :		07-02-98-000							
Requesting District Entity ID :		79275							
Requesting District Name :		Fountain Hills Unified District							
School CTDS	School Entity ID	School Name							
07-02-98-102	5165	McDowell Mountain Elementary School							
Integrity Result									
Failed									
SAIS ID	Last Name	First Name	Gender	Track	Grade	Program	Service Entry	Service Exit	Withdrawal Reason
			M	1	1	I	08/10/2015	-	N/A
			F	1	1	I	08/24/2015	10/28/2015	Withdrawn from school
			F	1	3	I	08/10/2015	-	N/A
Totals:		3							

Next, records that have **Passed Integrity** will be displayed.

SDELL71		Arizona Department of Education		Page: 15 of 19					
		SDELL71 - ELL Program Participation Report		Print Date: 01/21/2016 03:03					
		Fiscal Year 2016 / School Year 2015 - 2016							
Requesting District CTDS :		07-02-98-000							
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School CTDS	School Entity ID	School Name							
07-02-98-102	5165	McDowell Mountain Elementary School							
Integrity Result									
Passed									
SAIS ID	Last Name	First Name	Gender	Track	Grade	Program	Service Entry	Service Exit	Withdrawal Reason
			F	1	KG	I	08/24/2015	-	N/A
			M	1	KG	I	08/24/2015	-	N/A
			M	1	KG	I	08/24/2015	-	N/A
			M	1	2	I	08/10/2015	-	N/A
			M	1	2	I	08/10/2015	-	N/A
40071589	Romo	Sahara	F	1	3	I	08/10/2015	-	N/A
40894812	Youssef	Holly	F	1	3	I	08/10/2015	-	N/A
Totals:		7							

The SDELL71 Report (continued)

If a student has an AZELLA test that indicates he/she is eligible for ELL services, those services must be reported to ADE. Possible choices in SAIS when placing an eligible ELL student into a language program include:

Code	Language Program
A	Structured or Sheltered English Immersion (SEI)
B1	Bilingual/Dual Language with Waiver 1
B2	Bilingual/Dual Language with Waiver 2
B3	Bilingual/Dual Language with Waiver 3
I	Individual Language Learner Plan (ILLP)

Possible choices in SAIS when exiting an ELL student from a language program:

Code	Language Program Exit Reason
1	Reclassified as FEP by Reassessment
2	Withdrawn from school
3	Withdrawn by parent request
5	Transferred to a different program
7	Withdrawn due to SPED Criteria
8	Transferred to Different Track

Frequently Asked Questions

Originally we were told we would received SGP data in January. Is there a plan to share the SGP data from AzMERIT soon?

No growth data for the 14-15 AzMERIT test administration have been released yet. ADE is still processing all AzMERIT for calculating SGP data statewide; however, SGP data will not be released unless for use in high stakes school accountability determinations. We will provide updates to the timeline on growth and other accountability data to the field as it becomes available.

I'm looking for testing data for Fiscal Year 2015. Where can I find that?

Detailed instructions on how to access and download data can be found in the new [ADEConnect Guide](#). However, ADE did not upload **all** testing data for fiscal year 2015. SB1289 suspended A-F Letter Grades for fiscal years 2015 and 2016. Entities can find student level testing data in their respective Vendor files (AIMS/Pearson and AzMERIT/American Institutes for Research).

Where do I find graduation rates for 4 to 7-year cohorts for the 2015 year?

There is a lag time between when rates are calculated and graduation date depending on 4, 5, 6, or 7-year cohort. A time table and a brief description is shown below. The corresponding files for the fiscal accountability year can be found [here](#).

Because four-year graduates may graduate after the fiscal year their cohort year ends, all graduation data are lagged by one year every year. For each fiscal year's accountability determination, the four year rate would measure the prior fiscal year's cohort graduation; however, the prior fiscal year's cohort can represent both the four and five year rate based on the date of graduation. For instance, Cohort 2012 four-year graduates graduated as of August 31, 2012; any students who remain in school after August 31, 2012 and graduate before June 30, 2013 would be considered a five-year graduate. Accountability for each fiscal year and the subsequent cohort rates are described below unless indicated otherwise:

Fiscal (accountability) year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
4-year cohort	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
5-year cohort	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
6-year cohort	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
7-year cohort	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018

Frequently Asked Questions Continued

Why is the graduation rate reported here for Arizona's Bottom 25% subgroup higher than the graduation rate for all of Cohort 2014 (4-year cohort for FY2015)?

The reported Bottom 25% subgroup is not actually the lowest 25% of academic achievers in the graduating cohort. Students in this subgroup previously scored in the Bottom 25% at their school when they took the high school AIMS in FY2012. This subgroup consists of students from higher achieving schools and excludes all students who did not test on AIMS at the end of their sophomore year (all students who dropped out in grade 9 or before they were scheduled to test on AIMS in grade 10).

Why are students who previously tested proficient on AZELLA showing up on my SDELL73 report?

Please verify the Integrity results for students who you believe should not be showing up on your SDELL73 report. Students who have no integrity result may not be captured correctly in available reports.

