

PRINCIPLES OF AGREEMENT
A-F School Accountability
Adopted by the State Board of Education October 27, 2014

Philosophical Agreements:

- A through F achievement profile will examine solely academically relevant information.
- Multiple measures of performance provide more information about a school's quality than a single test score.
- The achievement profile must recognize academic growth as an essential element of measurement: Schools must not be penalized for low scores if significant gains are made over the course of the academic year. However, at least one year's of growth must remain the expectation to ensure student's stay on pace to graduate prepared.
- "A" schools must be truly excellent in their preparation of students for college and work as measured throughout the P-20 and career readiness system.
- All schools must have the opportunity to achieve "A" status.
- The system must meaningfully balance simplicity with transparency.
- Arizona's A-F achievement profile should align with and reinforce the State Board of Education's policy goals for academic achievement.

Technical Agreements:

- The A-F achievement profile shall provide timely, valid, and reliable information.
- The state shall produce information for schools that identifies the students included in each measure.
- School should receive data and accompanying technical documents so the schools may replicate and validate the findings.
- The achievement profile should reflect both growth of students not at grade level, as well as students at or above grade level.
- The achievement profile will reflect students' mastery of standards.
- The achievement profile will utilize multiple years of data as available and appropriate.
- The achievement profile will utilize postsecondary success measures

Implementation Agreements:

- In order to ensure that each new measure captures the intent, the state should pilot portions of the achievement profile.
- The state should verify the achievement profile to comply with technical requirements and/or statutes and State Board of Education rules.
- The state will present the achievement profile and other agreed to measures of school quality to parents, educators, and policy makers in a timely, informative, and easy to understand format. This includes releasing formula or other updates to how the annual profiles are determined prior to the start of the school year the profile will reflect.
- A coalition of technical and policy stakeholders must be consulted to create, evaluate and refine the methodologies used in the achievement profile to ensure transparency, feedback from the field and community, and compliance with Agreements.