

ACCOUNTABILITY & RESEARCH

THE GRADER

August 2021 Edition

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New School Year

Arizona Educators:

Our hope is that this newsletter finds the opening of the 2021-2022 school year successful and that your students have returned eager and ready to learn.

We are providing you with the most up to date information and guidance as we move into an accountability reporting season without letter grades or school identification. Data will soon be pushed into the ADEConnect platform where schools and LEAs can see preliminary numbers for checking against their student level file. Directions and support on how to do that will be found throughout this newsletter.

Please reach out to us with any questions that you have so we can support your accountability questions and needs. Good luck with the launch of the new school year, and we wish you and your students the best year possible.

Sincerely,

Wendy Davy

Chief Accountability Officer



New Federal Accountability Reporting Platform on ADEConnect

This year the Accountability application on ADEConnect will receive an important update. Beginning in mid to late August, in order to access schools' accountability indicators, schools will now use the new "State and Federal Accountability" link, which is replacing the old "A-F Letter Grades" link. This change will not happen until the first set of data is pushed into the system. This new platform will provide a summary table that includes the results for your school(s) for both State and Federal Accountability.

School Improvement and Accountability have been working on building the new platform for reporting Federal Accountability and School Improvement data over the last year. The platform will provide a longitudinal look at a school's performance for most of the components in federal accountability. Arizona received a waiver from the federal government that provided the flexibility not to identify schools for school improvement for the 2020-2021 school year for low achievement. However, they did encourage ADE to share data with schools for the purpose of using data to support decisions and measuring the impact of the pandemic. Schools will be able to see this data by selecting CSI, ATSI, and TSI from the relevant columns in the updated platform.

Those who have access to the "Accountability" application on ADEConnect can access a preview via video of the new "State and Federal Accountability" platform. There is currently a message that includes a link to the video on the main page of the Accountability application.

More details on this update will be released later this month once data from the 2020-2021 school year is available on ADEConnect. Please contact Achieve@azed.gov with any questions.



Static File Inquiries and Data Correction Windows

Static File Version 2.0 will soon be available for schools and districts through ADEConnect. Schools and districts will be notified when it is available. There will be one more release of the static file after Version 2.0. Each release serves a unique and distinct purpose. Please be sure to review The Grader, and any communication from Achieve, for announcements regarding these files and to not miss important dates. Please reach out to Achieve@azed.gov should you have any questions.

Static File Version 2.0 – August – This file will include any student’s aligned assessment and growth data, and students who may have had corrections made in the school’s SIS.

The following items detail what should be checked:

- a. Only students that had valid assessments and were not left in any of the assessment correction applications will have assessments aligned to the student
- b. Only students that had a valid assessment from 2019 and were not left in any of the assessment correction applications will have previous assessments included
- c. Only students with assessments from b and c will receive growth in the following grades/subjects:

Subject	Grade	Growth Variable
ELA	5-8, 10	SGPP_CCR
ELA	5-8, 10	SGP_PPCRG (released with v3)
Math	5-8, 10	SGPP_CCR
Math	5-8	SGP_PPCRG (released with v3)
EL	K-12	ELGrowth

- d. Any questions or concerns regarding missing assessments or data should be sent to Achieve@azed.gov. Accountability will work with Assessments to identify issues with the data and take corrective action if required.

Static File Version 3.0 will be available in September and will be the final file.



New Pupil Withdrawal Form

The new Pupil Withdrawal Form is available and can be found [here](#). We recognize that schools may still have paper forms. Please feel free to exhaust those forms. If needed, the new codes can just be written on the form. Additional resources for withdrawing students and using the Pupil Withdrawal Form can be found on the [Pupil Withdrawals](#) page on our website.

The Pupil Withdrawal Form now includes a box that can be used to update a pupil’s withdrawal code. For instance, a school may use this box to update a student’s W4 to a W1 if they see the student has a subsequent enrollment. Additionally, based on feedback from end-users, the spacing on the form has been updated to include more room for school staff signatures.

Finally, as a reminder, ADE has introduced two new sets of codes: W41/S41 and W51/S51. These codes and their descriptions are listed below:

Code Value	Short Description	Description
W41	Withdrawn before scheduled end of school year with completed withdrawal form	Withdrawn before scheduled end of school year with completed withdrawal form signed by parent/guardian; awaiting confirmation/documentation from subsequent enrolling school.

Code Value	Short Description	Description
S41	Summer withdrawn with completed withdrawal form	Summer withdrawn with completed withdrawal form signed by parent/guardian; awaiting confirmation/documentation from subsequent enrolling school.
R41	Student re-entering after withdrawing from this school as a W41	Student re-entering after withdrawing from this school as a W41
W51	Student under 16 years of age withdrawn based on ARS §15-802(D)(2-5) with supporting documentation.	School received verification that a student under the age of 16 has withdrawn from school before scheduled end of school year; student does not intend to complete requirements for a high school diploma and qualifies with documentation based on ARS §15-802(D)(2-5) .
S51	Summer student under 16 years of age withdrawn based on ARS §15-802(D)(2-5) with supporting documentation.	School received verification that a student under the age of 16 has withdrawn from school during the summer; student does not intend to complete requirements for a high school diploma and qualifies with documentation based on ARS §15-802(D)(2-5) .
R51	Student re-entering after withdrawing from this school as a W51	Student re-entering after withdrawing from this school as a W51



EL Amendment Sunset

The EL Amendment App found within ADEConnect has assisted LEAs and ADE in addressing data issues for the A-F State Accountability system that may have occurred in English Learner data. Over the last few years, two major things have occurred: the development of AzEDS and changes in the appeal process for A-F State Accountability. Based on those changes, the EL Amendment application has become outdated and unnecessary. EL data has significantly improved, and schools can now appeal a letter grade based on data. Therefore, the EL Amendment Application will be retired. This does not impact the EL Reason application which is still a federal requirement for reporting why students were not assessed.



Introduction to New Accountability Staff



Cristi Darley Guevara

Data Analyst

Cristi was born and raised in Bogota, Colombia and moved to Arizona in 1999. She holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics and a M.S. in Business Analytics from ASU. Her areas of interest include big data analysis and modeling, process improvement, mathematics education, teacher education, adult and underserved learners and diversity issues. Prior to joining our team, she worked as teacher, academic researcher, and data consultant. In her free time, she loves to spend time with her family and traveling.



Timeline

Below are important dates and deadlines for accountability. Please check [The Examiner](#) (Assessment's newsletter) for the most up to date information on assessment data and corrections.

August 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mid-August: Static File Release v2.0 – This file will contain assessment results, assessment corrections, and growth data. This file needs to be reviewed for any issues regarding assessments• Late-August: First release of school-level aggregated data available in ADEConnect
September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Static File Release v3.0 – This is the final version that will contain all updated information• Potential updates to school-level aggregated data available in ADEConnect