

ACCOUNTABILITY & RESEARCH

THE GRADER

November 2021 Edition

COVID DISCLAIMER	2
PANDEMIC IMPACT REPORT INFORMATION	2
SBE OCTOBER MEETING RECAP	4
PUPIL WITHDRAWAL MONITORING	5
SELF-REPORTED DATA MONITORING	6
REPORT CARD ROLLOVER	6
PUBLIC REPORT AVAILABILITY	7
4-YEAR GRADUATION REPORT COMING IN EARLY JANUARY	8
OCTOBER 1 ACCOUNTABILITY PUBLIC FILE RELEASE INFORMATION	8
TIMELINE	9



CONTACT

Achieve@azed.gov

(602)542-5151



COVID Disclaimer

Care should be taken when working with data from the 2020-2021 school year due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. ADE has made every effort to calculate the measure as it was in previous years. The pandemic may have impacted the data in unforeseen ways, and so all analysis needs to take pandemic effects into account. It is especially important to be careful when comparing data from past years as there may be missing data, a change in demographics or other unforeseen impacts.



Pandemic Impact Report Information

A On March 3, 2021, Governor Ducey signed Executive Order 2021-03 titled "Using Data to Support Success for Arizona Students". The order stated that the Arizona State Board of Education (Board) shall utilize the statewide assessment (AZM2) data, and other assessment or academic data, for the 2020-2021 school year to draw comparisons to prior years and identify the extent of learning loss that has occurred.

Board staff, ADE Leadership, and ADE Accountability have been participating in national meetings and consuming literature on learning loss and academic impact reporting over the past year and a half. Information gathered from these meetings has been shared with the technical groups throughout fiscal year 2021. In collaboration with outside stakeholders and national experts, academic and impact data will look at proficiency, growth, English Learner AZELLA performance, and mobility.

A list of collaborators:

- Arizona Department of Education
- Arizona State Board of Education
- Arizona State Board of Charter Schools
- Damian Betebenner, Ph.D. – Center for Assessment
- Adam Van Iwaarden, Ph.D. – Center for Assessment
- Paul Perrault, Ph.D. – Helios Education Foundation
- Eric Hedberg, Ph.D. – Abt Associates
- Joseph O'Reilly, Ph.D. – ASU Decision Center of Education Excellence
- State Board of Education Accountability Technical Advisory Groups (field, policy, and technical personnel)

A summary brief was provided to the Arizona State Board of Education in August and can be found [HERE](#).

During the September Board meeting, initial data and further information was provided and can be found [HERE](#).

Finally, during October the overall state results were provided and can be found here under each topic

[OVERALL Guidance](#)

[COVID Growth Impact](#)

[COVID Proficiency Impact](#)

[COVID English Learner Impact](#)

[COVID Enrollment & Mobility Impact](#)

To watch the presentation, click this [LINK](#) and move approximately 37 minutes into the meeting

The State Board will be providing the Executive Order COVID Impact report. Please watch their site for more information. Links to additional information and data will be sent in a Grader notification when made available.



SBE October Meeting Recap

The State Board of Education conducted a regular board meeting on Monday, October 25. Many important presentations were shared regarding relevant Accountability topics including COVID impact data, student mobility, student Growth and Proficiency, Low Achieving schools for Fiscal Year 2021, and moving forward with fiscal year 2022 Accountability components. For those who are interested, all meeting materials can be found [here](#). Below is a recap of some of those items.

2020-2021 A-F BUSINESS RULES

During this meeting, the Board officially approved the final 2020-2021 A-F Business Rules, which can now be found on our [Resources](#) page under “Technical Manuals & Codebooks”. These updated Business Rules include new graphs, the EL Proficiency and Growth statewide means, and the Special Education Inclusion average.

A-F PUBLIC FILE — A-F COMPONENTS AND IDENTIFICATION OF LOW ACHIEVING SCHOOLS

In addition to the Business Rules, the Board also approved the 2020-2021 A-F public file. This file does not contain any letter grades, but does have individual component scoring for Traditional, Alternative, and Non-Typical model schools. After discussions during the Special Board Meeting on October 27, the Board voted to display the below-average schools identified as Low Achieving (pursuant to HB 2402) in this file. The file is available on the [State Board’s A-F Letter Grades](#) page.

Please contact Achieve@azed.gov with any questions about how schools were identified in this file.



Pupil Withdrawal Monitoring

This year's pupil withdrawal monitoring has officially begun. Throughout the school year, schools will be randomly selected to participate in this year's pupil withdrawal monitoring. The initial five schools' Superintendents/Charter Holders and federal program personnel (where applicable) were notified on November 1st. Future schools will be notified on the first business day of each month from January to March.

The monitoring is specific to the "Official Notice of Pupil Withdrawal" form. A link to that document, which includes "Guidance and Procedures", can be found [here](#). Using the proper withdrawal codes ensures the accurate reporting of graduation, dropout, and persistency rates.

Schools that serve students in grades 6 through 12 may want to review the [Graduation, Dropout, and Persistence Rate Technical Manual](#) to understand how exit codes affect these measurements.

Schools that are selected can expect the following steps for the monitoring:

- District and Charter Holders will be notified via their federal program personnel and Superintendents.
- Contacts on whom to work with for the monitoring will be established.
- Materials will be shared on the process to include help documents, contacts, and forms to be used.
- A technical review will be conducted.
- Schools not meeting a threshold of 95% accuracy during the technical review will go through further analysis.
- If the second analysis does not result in an 80% accuracy or higher threshold, the schools will be asked to meet additional criteria for the following year.



Self-Reported Data Monitoring

Starting in December, we will be conducting a basic audit of Self-Report spreadsheets used for A-F Letter Grades Components. This includes CCRI for Traditional and Alternative schools, as well as Credits Earned and On-Track to Graduate for Alternative schools. A small sample of Traditional 9-12 schools will be selected at random to provide their completed CCRI spreadsheet from 2020-2021 school year. Additionally, a small sample of Alternative 9-12 schools will be selected at random to provide their completed 2020-2021 spreadsheet for CCRI, Credits Earned, and/or On-Track to Graduate. The person who submitted the points for 2020-2021 (indicated in ADEConnect) will receive a direct notification from our team along with a due date by which they will be required to provide their completed spreadsheet.



Report Card Rollover

ADE is working on updating the Arizona School Report Cards to display data from the 2020-2021 school year. The rollover is planned for December 2021. We also plan on releasing Version 4.0, which has the following additions, updates, or changes:

GENERAL WEBSITE UPDATES

- Enhanced comparison reporting
- High Contrast display options
- CTED data
- COVID data impact narratives continued

- School, LEA, and State Comparison Tables

Although some of these items have already been deployed, there are some brand new features planned.

SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS

School characteristics is still touted as one of the most valuable pieces of information found on our school report cards. In order for this to be up to date, LEAs or schools must submit this information through the School Report Card Admin found on ADEConnect. If you do not see this option, you must reach out to your Entity Administrator and request that they assign this role to your account. Accountability staff cannot do this for you. Instructions for completing school characteristics are available [here](#):

- [Full Guide to Update School Characteristics in SRC Admin found on ADEConnect](#)
- [Abbreviated Guide to Update School Characteristics in SRC Admin found on ADEConnect](#)

School characteristics can be updated whenever a school chooses to do so. Our analytics show an average of 10,000 hits per month over the last 90 days. Don't be one of the schools to have those sections blank when parents are searching!



Public Report Availability

The Public Assessment File for the 2020-2021 school year is now available on Accountability's [Data](#) page. This file has the results of the state assessments aggregated by school, LEA, county, and at the state level. When working with this file, consideration must be made when making comparisons between multiple years because of the COVID-19 pandemic. New this year is an inclusion of a percent tested variable at the school and state level. The percent tested variable is calculated using the A-F Business Rules and serves as another data point for consideration in reviewing results.

In addition to the Assessment file, the Cohort 2020 5-Year Graduation report is also now available on the [Data](#) page.



4-Year Graduation Report Coming in Early January

In July 2021, The Grader notified readers that Cohort 2021's 4-Year Graduation Rate will be published in early January of 2022. While reporting the 4-Year Graduation Rates in January will not change any part of A-F and Federal Accountability calculations, it allows ADE Accountability to publish timely graduation data to stakeholders and policymakers. As such, it is very important that schools have completed any data corrections or summer/fall graduations for students in Cohort 2021 by the end of December 2021.



October 1 Accountability Public File Release Information

The 2021-2022 October 1 Enrollment File will be available in late February early March 2022. This file is the official unduplicated student enrollment data that is released yearly by the Arizona Department of Education. This datafile serves multiple purposes. For instance, it provides counts for federal reporting (School Report Card enrollment), it is used for program participation monitoring, and it is a tool for aiding decisions based on the proportions of students in a variety of contexts. Stakeholders who use the file span many agencies inside and outside the state of Arizona. The critical nature of this file requires that we take careful measure to ensure the accuracy of the data. We want to remind our data consumers that although the October 1 date has already passed, the October 1 Public File is not yet ready to be released. It takes 3-4 months after the October 1 date has passed to ensure consistent quality reporting. Please be patient as we carefully attend to this data process and be on the lookout for the public release after the new year.



Timeline

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

November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11/1 A-F Public File (Component Scoring) release on the State Board of Education's website• 11/1 Begin Pupil Withdrawal Monitoring• No Arizona State Board Meeting
December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12/1 Begin Self-Reported Data Monitoring• 12/13 Arizona State Board Meeting• TBD Arizona School Report Card Rollover