Supporting Continuous Improvement in California’s Education System
Key Elements of a New Accountability System
Accountability Mechanisms

• **Political accountability**, operationalized through Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs)
• **Professional accountability**, through effective licensure, accreditation and professional development
• **Performance accountability**, monitoring the performance of schools / districts across the state’s eight priority areas, plus other local priorities.
A Multiple Measures Approach

Student Achievement
-- Test Scores Gains
-- English Proficiency
-- Evidence of College & Career Readiness

Student Engagement
-- Attendance
-- Dropout rates
-- Graduation rates
-- Evidence from student surveys

Other Outcomes
-- Completion of a college or career ready pathway
-- Completion of a workplace learning or community service experience

School Climate
-- Suspensions, Expulsions
-- Student & Professional Supports
  (student, teacher, and parent surveys)

Parent Involvement
-- Efforts to seek parental input
-- Evidence of parent participation
  (parent surveys)

Basic Services
-- Teacher Misassignment
-- Access to materials
-- Adequate Facilities

Implementation of Common Core
-- Access to CCSS instructional practices
  (student surveys)
-- Access to CCSS professional development
  (teacher surveys)

Course Access
-- Access to curriculum in the core academic subjects, STEM, the arts, and physical education
  (student surveys)
CORE Districts Accountability Criteria
Accountability Should...

1) Be designed to produce *continuous system improvement*, not just test scores;
2) Be *reciprocal*, with each level of the system taking responsibility for the contributions it must make to serve each child well;
3) Focus on *meaningful learning* for college, careers, and citizenship, using *more valid and authentic assessments*, reported in disaggregated form
4) Ensure adequate *resources* allocated intelligently to meet student needs well;
5) Develop and ensure *professional capacity and accountability*
6) Use *multiple measures* evaluated through systems of expert *review, judgment, and intervention*
7) Focus on *system capacity building*, shifting from a *test-and-rank* approach to an *assess-support-and-improve* model
8) Reflect ongoing *student, parent, educator and community input* and provide transparent and accessible information to the public.
Elements of a Continuously Improving System
Organizing and Reporting Information for Improvement

• Move from a single index to a dashboard of indicators

• Align state reporting and oversight with LCAP priorities (e.g. SARC, on-line data tools, identification of schools for intervention)
## Education Priorities Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Priority Areas</th>
<th>Measured By</th>
<th>Current Year Result</th>
<th>Previous Year Result</th>
<th>3 Year Average</th>
<th>Analysis of Progress</th>
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Focusing the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence (CCEE)

- Diagnosis of needs for schools or districts that volunteer or are referred for help by counties or charter school agencies
- Effective assistance to schools / districts

With other agencies, orchestrating:
- Knowledge sharing
- Learning supports
- Evaluation
School Quality Review
Possible Improvement Strategies

• Teams of expert educators trained to work with struggling schools
• School pairs and networks for learning
• Trained curriculum coaches
• School redesign initiatives based on research and best practices
Organizational Design Principles for the CCEE

1. **Professional staff** to review intervention strategies and oversee technical assistance activities

2. **Partnerships** that build on existing public infrastructure to the greatest possible extent

3. **Scalability**, to respond to new expectations and growing demand for assistance over time with a thoughtful phase-in process.
A unified long-term strategy could enable California to move from a compliance-driven system to one that is capable of system learning and continuous improvement.
To find the report, go to:
http://www.edpolicyinca.org