

Michigan Accountability for Alternative Schools: Overview and Feedback

Alexander Schwarz

MDE Office of Accountability

ESSA: Getting to Approval



- Revised Plan approved by the U.S. Department of Education (USED) on November 28, 2017
 - Includes index plan (accountability system) to fulfil ESSA requirements and
 - Transparency dashboard for parents
- All changes to the originally-submitted plan are indicated in the revision posted at www.Michigan.gov/essa

Alternative Accountability Timelines



- 2016-17- Referent group meetings and feedback, alongside development of parallel alternative accountability system.
- 2016-17 accountability (Winter/Early Spring 2018) was run with no changes for alternative entities outside of identifying school type.
- Spring 2018- Michigan will be applying for a waiver for alternative accountability.
- 2017-18 accountability (Fall 2018) will be run. Accountability for alternative schools is dependent on waiver.

Referent Group Feedback



- Student Growth and Course Completion were ranked highly
- Group differed on most other components, with Attendance particularly variable
- Student Attainment, Climate/Culture, Achievement, Participation and Compliance were generally ranked lower
- Preference for using additional years of data

Referent Group Feedback



- •Attendance: Traditional attendance measures are particularly difficult for alternative accountability- goal should be getting/keeping kids in school.
- Assessments: State assessments are inadequate for alternate accountability proficiency measures; interest in local assessments.
- •Growth: Traditional metrics are problematic; local growth measures may be options.
- •Grad Rate: Broader completion rate instead of traditional graduation rate; maybe also use longer span (7-year cohort).
- Climate: Interest in using some type of school climate surveys.

Student Attendance- Three Approaches



- 1. Attendance rate- Aggregate student total possible attendance days for denominator and student days attended for numerator.
 - Minimum of 10 enrolled students.
 - Highest rate of first, second or third year prior is attendance rate.
- 2. Average days absent.
- 3. Chronic absence- 10 days or more?

Student Attendance: Three Approaches



Measure	Description	Always Rewards Increased Student Attendance	Effectively Conveys Urgency	Current Public Measure	Works well for all school types (including online)
Overall Attendance Rate	Buildingwide sum of [Total Days Attended] divided by buildingwide sum of [Total Days Scheduled].	YES	X	YES	YES
Percent Chronically Absent	Percent of students buildingwide that have been absent more than 10 days.	X	YES	YES	x
Average Days Absent	Buildingwide average of the number of days absent.	X	YES	х	X

Student Attainment- Definitions



- GED Completer
- Completed Gen Ed with Certificate
- Expected to Continue
- Received Special Ed Completion Certificate
- Special Ed- Reached Maximum Age

Michigan's Accountability System Under ESSA



Parent Dashboard for School Transparency

launched January 9, 2018



- Parent-tested, easy to use
- Based on performance indicators similar to the Index, PLUS many more metrics important to parents
- Used to help parents make informed decisions and hold rich conversations around school quality
- Ability to compare school values to similar schools and state averages

www.MiSchoolData.org/ParentDashboard

Michigan School Index System

initial public release March 30, 2018



- Fulfils ESSA accountability requirements
- Based on six key performance indicators, including academic proficiency and growth
- Used to determine support identification categories under ESSA (CSI, TSI, ATS)

www.MiSchoolData.org

Under K-12th grade menu



Thank You!

Alexander Schwarz

MDE Office of Accountability

schwarza@michigan.gov

517-373-1292