

# **Nevada School Performance Framework – What Does This Mean To Me?**

## **What is the Nevada School Performance Framework?**

Simply put, the School Performance Framework is a tool to transparently show you how your child's school is doing. We strongly believe in transparency and this approach to reporting allows the entire community to look at schools and easily see how they perform during a three-year period in relation to other schools in the state. Think of it as a consumer report that provides the community with a way to review how schools are making progress in helping students learn and an insight into how students are achieving academically. Depending on how schools perform during a three-year period, they are given a star ranking, with one star being the lowest ranking and five stars being the highest.

The state framework takes into account a combination of factors:

- Scores from the state CRT exam (measures proficiency in language arts, mathematics, science and reading in elementary, middle and high school students)
- Academic growth (year-to-year improvement in the performance of a student or a cohort of students)
- Gaps in the performance of different student subgroups.

Other factors such as average daily attendance are considered at every level (elementary, middle, and high school). Some factors are considered at just one level, such as high school graduation rates and performance on college readiness exams such as Advanced Placement, ACT and SAT.

Visit the Nevada Department of Education's website at [www.doe.nv.gov](http://www.doe.nv.gov) for more information.

## **How will this impact my school?**

In addition to holding the district accountable for academic performance, the transparent accountability system allows schools in need of improvement to learn and model behaviors from high performing schools. Valuable information provided by the school performance framework will serve as a resource for our leaders as they create school improvement plans. Additionally, individual student growth data will also continue to be available as a tool for teachers to inform parents of areas where extra attention is needed and intervene in subject areas that students may not be excelling in.

## **What were the district's results for the 2012-13 school year?**

The district saw an overall improvement among our middle schools and high schools, but our elementary schools largely retained the same star ranking as last year. Our goal is always to see more growth, but we are happy to see overall improvements in many of our middle and high schools.

## **What comes next?**

As we continue to raise the academic bar in Nevada by implementing the Common Core State Standards, we will not only increase our district's SPF results but also better prepare our students to for success in college or career so they can compete in a global economy. Our district has focused all resources and efforts on supporting teachers in the classroom so they can increase student achievement. For so long, we've been one of the fastest-growing districts in the nation. Now, we're going to become the fastest improving - and the framework allows us to document that in a fair and equitable way - but the schools must maintain that growth.

Also, Superintendent Pat Skorkowsky has restructured district resources so that all central office divisions are focused on one thing: providing the right support to schools so they can increase student achievement. We have five areas of focus:

**People**, led by Dr. Staci Vesneske. This area focuses on broadening the district's applicant pool, hiring new employees and retaining existing employees. Efforts include a renewed emphasis on return on investment and a laser-like focus on doing what works with people, time and money.

**Educational Opportunity**, led by Dr. Andre Denson. This area will focus on across-the-board training for staff in cultural competency, as well as looking at the district's behavioral schools. This will ensure equity in all schools, regardless of geographic location or socio-economic factors.

**Innovation**, led by Jhone Ebert. This area will move the district further into the 21st century, providing more flexibility to schools that deliver higher achievement, blended learning opportunities, overseeing professional development and helping to raise the academic bar through curriculum standards.

**Achievement**, led by Dr. Mike Barton. This area will focus on increasing student achievement at all levels, providing clear direction for district schools, including Zoom Schools. This will serve as an essential aspect of the district's efforts to reach every student, in every classroom.

**Results**, led by Kim Wooden. This division will tie in with the other four areas by evaluating the district's return on investment with a laser-like focus on focusing our people, time and money on what improves student achievement.