

LESN Listserv Responses January 30, 2012

State School Accountability/ Grading Systems

Colorado	<p>The school accountability process in Colorado results in accreditation, or certification by the SBE that a district meets the requirements established in the Education Accountability Act, and all related rules adopted by the SBE. Accreditation also indicates that a district is complying with all requirements for improvement planning, and is following required policies concerning financial operations, reporting, truancy, and school safety. The SBE annually reviews the performance of schools and districts in the state and, based on the level of attainment on the four performance indicators, enters into accreditation contracts with the districts based on one of five categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accredited with Distinction means the district met or exceeded state expectations;• Accredited means the district met expectations and is required to implement a performance plan;• Accredited with Improvement Plan means the district has not met expectations and is required to implement an improvement plan;• Accredited with Priority Improvement Plan means the district has not met expectations and is required to implement a priority improvement plan; and• Accredited with Turnaround Plan means the district has not met expectations and is required to implement a turnaround plan.
Florida	Florida grades schools A-F and has for some time
Georgia	Georgia is working on fully implementing a College and Career Performance Index (CCRPI), which was included as a component of our NCLB waiver. It uses a combo of numerical and star ratings.
Idaho	Idaho adopted a 5-Star ranking as part of its NCLB waiver.
Indiana	Indiana has an A-F accountability system. Our General Assembly first passed the requirement for a state accountability system in 1999. We originally used terms such as Exemplary, Commendable and Academic Probation to label schools. In 2010 we moved to a letter grade system and in 2011 we changed the metrics on how schools are graded to include student growth

	and other factors. The new metrics were included in the state's waiver application.
Kansas	In addition to the NCLB categories – although we have recently been granted a waiver but have yet to establish a new system related to that – our state has an accreditation system and categories can be seen at the link below if you click on KAR 91-31-38. http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1694
Michigan	Michigan has a color system as a result of NCLB waivers.
Montana	Montana does not currently have an A-F or star-based accountability system. Our Office of Public Instruction does post data on a school district education profile that includes grad rates and test results, etc.
Nebraska	Nebraska launched its accountability system this past fall. A document describing Nebraska's system (Nebraska Performance Accountability System, or NePAS) is linked below. The system reports data derived from statewide assessments in reading, math, science, and writing, as well as graduation rates. Some of these data are ranked by grade ranges within a district, as well as on a district-wide basis. However, the system contains no aggregate rank or grade of a district based on an index of indicators.
Nevada	As part of its successful 2012 NCLB waiver application, Nevada's Department of Education has instituted a new 5-star school assessment system which will be implemented beginning in February 2013. The new system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases the number of at-risk students (IEP, ELL, low income) captured in the assessment; • Offers a continuum of rewards, recognition, supports, and penalties to a school, based upon outcomes; • Allows for local priorities to be included in the assessment score; and • Overlaps with the federal requirement to identify Priority, Focus and Reward schools.
New Mexico	Last year, as part of an NCLB waiver, we moved to an A-F school grading system.
Ohio	Ohio is moving to an A-F rating scale. We're phasing it in, starting with grading some

	performance measures for the 2012-2013 school year.
Oklahoma	Oklahoma just implemented an A-F grading system.
Rhode Island	Rhode Island posts school report cards that include student proficiency rates. http://www.ride.ri.gov/RIDE/reportcards.aspx
Texas	Texas' accountability system has the following ratings: Exemplary Recognized Academically Acceptable Academically Unacceptable
Utah	Utah has a new accountability system that was adopted under a federal waiver. Currently, that accountability system assigns points to schools, but the points are not converted to a letter grade or other designation, except certain Title 1 schools are designated as priority, focus, or reward schools. The Legislature adopted a school grading system in the 2011 General Session that assigns letter grades to schools, but the implementation of the school grading system has been delayed. In the 2013 General Session, it is expected that the Legislature will address whether to implement the school grading system.
Washington	Washington State currently uses the following labels for its accountability system: Exemplary Very Good Good Fair Struggling
Wisconsin	In Wisconsin each school receives an index score of 0 to 100 which in turn places it in one of the following rating categories: Significantly Exceeds Expectations Exceeds Expectations Meets Expectations Meets Few Expectations Fails to Meet Expectations

Our system is the result of an NCLB waiver.