

# Accountability Advisory Committee

## Goals and Design Principles

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The Accountability Advisory Committee (AAC) met monthly from January 2015 through September 2015 with the purpose of refining the Nevada School Performance Framework in anticipation of Nevada's ESEA Waiver renewal. The AAC meetings were facilitated by national experts in the area of accountability. Although this committee last met prior the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act, their work and recommendations do align well with most of the provisions of the new law. A copy of the recommendations document from the AAC is available on the Nevada Department of Education website under the workgroup meeting materials.

The following are the Goals and Accountability Design Principles developed by the AAC.

### Goals

- The system must provide clear, actionable information to help districts and schools evaluate and improve the effectiveness of their programs
- The system must accurately classify districts and schools with respect to performance standards in order to inform the public and policy makers
- Ratings should reflect and help promote
  - Improved academic achievement, especially with respect to growth and equity of outcomes
  - Progress toward and attainment of post-secondary readiness
  - Positive school climate

### Design Principles

- Growth should be weighted more heavily than status performance
- The full range of accountability performance should be accessible to schools of all types, including those that serve at risk students
- Outcomes should be consistent and comparable from school to school
- The outcomes should reflect and reward reduction in performance gaps
- Where reasonable and without sacrificing technical defensibility, the model should be as simple as possible to promote understanding
- Overall, indicators should be compensatory but incorporate established thresholds and weighting decisions