

California School Dashboard Video Transcript

Did you know that California has a new way to look at how your school and your district are performing? It's called the California School Dashboard and it's basically a report card for your school and your district. The Dashboard is used to take a deep look into the many performance areas that are key to preparing students for college and career after graduation.

Ideally, your child attends a school that is clean and has the latest textbooks. A school that is a safe place to learn where parents are an active and supportive part of the community. A place where your child is engaged, motivated to learn, and taught to think critically so that they can graduate well prepared for college and career.

The CA School Dashboard was put in place to make sure this is the story for every child, in every school, in every district throughout California.

So how do we know how well schools and districts are doing? The Dashboard measures progress by looking at 10 different areas known as indicators. Four of the indicators are measured by the local school district and six of the indicators are measured by the state.

The Dashboard combines the local and state information to give a complete picture of how individual schools and districts are performing.

So how are the indicators used to tell a school and district's story? Let's take a look at the 10 performance areas.

Local indicators.

These are the four indicators that measure the performance of a school district as a group of schools. They are measured by the local school district.

Basic conditions.

Students have access to the latest learning materials such as textbooks in a safe and clean environment.

Parent engagement.

Parents provide input and are involved in school activities.

Implementation of academic standards.

Teachers are participating in professional development and using innovative strategies in the classroom.

School climate.

Students and parents feel connected to and safe in their schools.

For each of these local indicators, the district will assess their progress using “met”, “not met”, or “not met for two or more years”.

These are the six indicators that measure the performance of schools and school districts. These indicators are measured by the state of California.

College and career.

This is the percentage of students prepared for college and career after graduation.

Graduation rate.

This is the percentage of students who graduate with a high school diploma.

Academics.

This measures the academic progress of students in 3rd-8th grade in literacy and math.

English learner progress.

This is the percentage of English language learners who improve each year in their English language proficiency.

Chronic absenteeism.

This is the percentage of students absent for more than 10 percent of the school year.

Suspension rate.

This is the percentage of students who are suspended at least once from school during the academic year.

For each of these indicators the state rates them on a color scale ranging from blue to red with blue being the highest performance and red being the lowest.

Let's take a look at how all this could apply to a school district. For example, in this district, schools overall are meeting their basic needs, implementation of academic standards and parent engagement. However, they are not meeting school climate. Students are thriving where it is blue and green for academics, English learner progress, graduation rate, and college and career. However, this district needs to improve where it is yellow and orange for chronic absenteeism, and suspension rate.

The new California Dashboard provides a more transparent and detailed look at local schools and districts. The ultimate goal is to help schools to continuously improve and be more equipped to address the specific needs of all students and prepare them to be college and career ready. The new California Dashboard moves past looking only at a test score and allows you to have access to a more wholistic view of your child's school and district.

To learn more about the California Dashboard visit acee.org and search "dashboard".