RECOGNIZING WASHINGTON STATE'S TOP PERFORMING SCHOOLS

The Washington Achievement Awards recognize the state's top-performing schools. Award recipients demonstrate the capacity to profoundly affect student learning.

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Washington State Board of Education identify award recipients using a new school Accountability Index designed to support continuous improvement efforts.

2009 Awards

AWARD CATEGORIES

Overall Excellence

Awarded to the top 5 percent of all elementary, middle, high, and comprehensive schools across the state.

Special Recognition Awards

High performing schools in the following areas receive special recognition:

- Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Extended Graduation Rate
- Gifted Education

Note: Schools closing the achievement gap will be recognized in the 2010 award program.

ACCOUNTABILITY INDEX

AN INTRODUCTION

2010.03.15

Washington's ACCOUNTABILITY INDEX is designed to identify and recognize the state's highest achieving schools and identify those in greatest need of help. The index:

- ✓ Provides a **fair** and **consistent** measurement of Washington's public schools
- ✓ Presents a **clear picture** of how our schools and districts are performing in five key areas, how they are improving over time, and whether they are closing the achievement gap
- ✓ Tells us more - in an easier-to-understand way - than the federal No Child Left Behind Act's requirements for Adequate Yearly Progress

The index is based on how schools and districts perform on a set of FIVE OUTCOMES and FOUR INDICATORS

Hypothetical Example of Accountability Index for a School:

INDICATORS	OUTCOMES					
	READING	WRITING	MATH	SCIENCE	EXTENDED GRADUATION RATE	AVERAGE
Achievement of non-low income students	7	6	6	2	5	5.20
Achievement of low income students	5	4	4	2	7	4.40
Achievement vs Peers	6	3	7	4	6	5.20
Improvement from the previous year	4	4	5	6	7	5.20
INDEX SCORES	5.50	4.25	5.50	3.50	6.25	5.00

INDIVIDUAL RATINGS

CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

OVERALL SCHOOL PERFORMANCE SCORE

TIER	INDEX RANGE
Exemplary	7.00 – 5.50
Very Good	5.49 – 5.00
Good	4.99 – 4.00
Fair	3.99 – 2.50
Struggling	2.49 – 1.00
Priority	TBD after in-depth analyses of those not making AYP in at least two consecutive years.

HOW ARE THE RATINGS CALCULATED?

- The index is the simple average of all the ratings in a given column or row from 1.0 to 7.0.
- The ratings are a reflection of the percentage of students who met standards in a given assessment (e.g. 7=90.1-100% of the students met standard, 6=80.1-90%).
- The ratings are calculated based a student's scores by category in a two-year period.
- The Achievement vs. Peers indicator reflects the how well a school performs compared to its "statistical peers" (i.e., schools with a similar percentage of low income, ELL, mobile, special education, and gifted students). The Improvement indicator reflects the amount of change in student performance that took place from the previous year.

THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Accountability | Graduation Requirements I Math I Science

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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