

**SPA Work Session
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**Suggestions for
Subgroup Accountability**

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Background

- DC advisors noted lack of subgroup analysis
- Need to add subgroups to help determine AYP
- Proposal at August SPA meeting was too complicated
- Consulted advisors, simplified proposed recommendations

Guiding Principles for Determining AYP

- Keep Accountability Index matrix unchanged
- Continue reporting all subgroup results for each grade (current policy)
- Use Index “rules” when making AYP decisions
 - N=10, no margin of error, combine grades across schools, same benchmarks and ratings
- Make necessary adjustments to indicators/outcomes
- Add more subgroups to aid transparency
- Have improvement goals, but do not tie them to AYP
 - 25% reduction goal for each group every 3 years with 2009 as baseline

Proposed Methods to Determine AYP

- Hold the “All” group accountable using the full Index
Requires ≥ 4 rated cells in matrix when making AYP decisions
(if < 4 , must submit improvement plan)

Schools and districts must have a 2-year average of at least 3.00 on the Accountability Index to make AYP.

21% of all schools in 2009 had 2-year average < 3.00

- Possible alternatives
 - Exclude ratings from writing & science (not much effect)
 - Use 2.50 as required 2-year average ($< 10\%$ had < 2.50)
 - Include improvement criterion (if 2-year average is below 3.00, must have at least one year of improvement to make AYP ... “safe harbor”)

Subgroup AYP

Add 4 more subgroups to make 12 total

Pac Is., multi-racial, non-low income, continuously enrolled

Adjust index and compute row averages

Use only reading, math, and extended grad rate
(add writing and science later)

No separate results by income level

Exited ELL and special education students count

Compute overall average of all subgroups

Schools and districts make AYP if the overall subgroup average improves at least once every two years.

Example

Ratings in **red** are less than the previous year.
Ratings in **green** are more than the previous year.

2009 Subgroup	READING			MATH			EXT. GRAD. RATE			Average rating	Change from previous year
	(all st.)	Peers	Improve.	(all st.)	Peers	Improve.	(all st.)	Peers	Improve.		
American Indian	4	4	4	1	5	4	1	4	4	3.44	0.33
Asian	6	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	6	4.78	0.56
Pacific Islander	4	4	4	1	5	4	1	4	4	3.44	0.22
Black	3	3	3	1	3	5	1	3	2	2.67	-1.00
Hispanic	3	4	4	1	4	4	1	4	4	3.22	-0.11
White	5	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	3.78	-0.22
Multi-racial	4	4	4	2	4	4	2	4	4	3.56	-0.22
Special education	2	4	4	1	4	4	1	2	1	2.56	-1.22
ELL	1	5	5	1	4	4	1	3	3	3.00	-0.11
Low income	4	5	5	1	5	4	1	4	4	3.67	0.22
Non-low income	6	4	4	4	4	4	1	4	4	3.89	0.00
Continuously enrolled	5	4	4	3	4	4	1	4	4	3.67	0.00
Average	3.92	4.08	4.17	1.92	4.17	4.08	1.58	3.67	3.67	3.47	-0.13

Possible Alternatives

Analyses should be conducted to see the impact of the most viable options.

- **Make decisions using row average of each subgroup**
- Break “all students” indicator into non-low income and income indicators (but N will often be <10)
- Count improvement cells twice (give it more weight)
- Look at extended graduation rate separately
- Require a certain level of improvement
(e.g., average must increase over a 2-year period)
- For ELLs, base decisions on improvement using the percentage in WLPT Levels 2 and 3 who are on track to meet standard when reaching proficiency in English

Moving in/out of “Improvement”

Moving into improvement always requires deeper analysis

- Data to be reviewed fall into 4 general areas
Contextual Data, Assessment Results, Teaching and Learning Issues, Other Data
- Schools/districts not making AYP in consecutive years move into “improvement” unless not justified by results of review.

Moving in/out of “Improvement”

- **If subgroup rows are used to decide AYP:**

If not making AYP in 2nd year for *same subgroup*, school advances to Step 1; if it doesn't make AYP for a new reason, it doesn't advance.

School choice & supplemental educational services apply only to students in subgroup(s) whose results are not making AYP.

(Currently it applies to all students, even those in groups doing well.)

- **When school/district in improvement makes AYP, it moves back a step (e.g., from Step 2 to Step 1); if it makes AYP in two straight years, it moves totally out of improvement.**

Summary

- Keep reporting all subgroup details on the Report Card (no “adjustments” are made).
- The Accountability Index remains unchanged and is used to make AYP decisions for the “all students” group (e.g., must have 2-year index average of at least 3.00 to make AYP).
- Use a modified Index with more subgroups to make AYP decisions based on the average ratings of all the groups, or for individual groups (e.g., improved at least once every two years).