# A-F School Grades 

Summer 2012

## Better Accountability for Schools



## 2012 Statewide School Grades

More than $66 \%$ of schools either maintained their grade or improved.

| Grade | 2012 Official |
| :---: | :---: |
| A | 39 |
| B | 198 |
| C | 275 |
| D | 250 |
| F | 69 |
| Totals: |  |

Final School Grades available at
http://webapp2.ped.state.nm.us/SchoolData/SchoolGrading.aspx

## Strengthening of Accountability

- Before School Grades, many schools were not held accountable for the achievement of subgroups of students. For example:
- 260 schools were not held accountable for ELL students.
- 100 schools were not held accountable for FRL students.
- 436 schools were not held accountable for SWD students.
- 20,400 more students are included in A-F grades.


## What's New?

- Key Changes in School Grading
- Calculation changes mandated by the federal government in New Mexico's NCLB waiver.
- Bonus points.
- Inaugural Opportunity to Learn (OTL) survey completed by over 194,000 New Mexico students.


## Validity of School Grade Results

- Do school grades meaningfully distinguish among schools?
- Yes.
- Grades made up of several components - the following charts demonstrate that grades do, in fact, differentiate schools well.
- Schools consistently perform well or poorly across all the components of the grade.

Percent Proficient and Above by School Grade: Elementary and Middle Schools


■ Percent Proficient and Above, math
$\square$ Percent Proficient and Above, reading

Percent Proficient and Above by School Grade: High School


■ Percent Proficient and Above, math
$\square$ Percent Proficient and Above, reading

Relationship between Student Growth and School Grades


## Graduation Rates by School Grades



Graduation Rate

New Mexico Public Education Department

College and Career Readiness by School Grade


## Student Performance and School Grades

- AYP forced focus on percent proficient and above.
- School grades includes a component of percent proficient and above, but, school grades also include growth.
- Initial reaction to a grade is to look at percent proficient and above, but this is not the sole basis for a grade - percent proficient and above does not tell the whole story.


## Breaking Down Performance

- Several components of school grades depend upon student SBA results.
- It is important to consider underlying student performance for each year used in grades.
- Correlation between Performance level and Scale Score $=0.91$.
- Correlation between Scale Score from year to year $=0.77$.
- How much does prior performance "explain" current year? 59.3\% .


## Breaking Down Performance

- Previous slide indicated that:
- Performance levels and scale scores are not perfectly related -- they always don't tell the exact same story.
- Student performance changes from year to year. In fact, a student's prior score explains about 59\% of the variability in current scores.
- This means student performance changes and school grades are designed to pick up those changes.


## School Grade Examples

- The following few slides provide examples of how school grades work.

School Grades: Example

| Elementary |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2012 |  |  |
| Baseline Grade | D |  |
| Preliminary Grade |  |  |
| Grade points | 43.0 |  |
| Current Standing | 19.5 |  |
| Proficient \& Above, math | 44 | This school received |
| Proficient \& Above, reading | 48 | a D and did fairly poorly in school |
| Average scale score, math | 39.5 | growth and Q3 |
| Average scale score, reading | 39.6 | growth |
| School Growth | 3.7 |  |
| Individual Student Growth |  |  |
| Q3 | 1.1 |  |
| Individual Student Growth |  |  |
| Q1 | 8.0 |  |
| Opportunity to Learn (OTL) | 9.4 |  |
| Bonus Point | 1.3 |  |

School Grades: Example

| Elementary | 2012 | 2011 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| Baseline Grade | D |  |
| Preliminary Grade |  | B |
| Grade points | 43.0 | 64.3 |
| Current Standing | 19.5 | 26.7 |
| Proficient \& Above, math | $44$ |  |
| Proficient \& Above, reading | 48 |  |
| Average scale score, math | 39.5 | 40.1 |
| Average scale score, reading | 39.6 | 41.0 |
| School Growth | 3.7 | 9.1 |
| Individual Student Growth |  |  |
| Q3 | 1.1 | 5.5 |
| Individual Student Growth |  |  |
| Q1 | 8.0 | 12.9 |
| Opportunity to Learn (OTL) | 9.4 | 10.1 |
| Bonus Point | 1.3 |  |

Elementary Performance:
2008-2009 to 2011-2012


## Student Growth

- The results indicate the mean math scale score for Q3 students is about 42.
- The average Q3-Q1 gap is about 16.87 .
- Q1 students grow about 1.73 scale score points per year more quickly than Q3 students.
- The mean growth for Q3 non-FAY students is -0.787 scale score points per year.
- FAY students grow about 0.56 scale score points per year faster.


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