

## **INTERNAL MONITORING REPORT**

February 17, 2016

Policy: **1.2.1 Dropouts**  
Policy Category: **Ends**  
Period Monitored: **July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015**

This is my monitoring report on the Board of Education's Ends Policy 1.2.1 Dropouts. This report is presented in accordance with the Board's monitoring schedule. I certify that the information is true and complete.

Chris Gdowski, Superintendent

February 12, 2016

**POLICY WORDING:**

*Each Adams 12 Five Star Schools middle school and high school will have a dropout rate below the state average dropout rate.*

*Using appropriate data, the policy interpretations shall include District, school and sub-group dropout rates.*

**INTERPRETATION:**

I interpret the following language:

*Each Adams 12 Five Star Schools middle school and high school will have a dropout rate below the state average dropout rate.*

to mean:

The Dropout Rate as reported for each District-administered, middle school and high school, excluding charter schools, shall be lower than the state dropout rate of 2.5%. The Dropout Rate for each District-administered alternative school shall be lower than the State dropout rate for alternative schools of 17.9%.

**DATA REPORTED:**

**2015 DROPOUT RATES  
(Reported as percentages)**

**District Level Data**

	2012	2013	2014	2015	Compliance
Colorado All Schools (including charter and alternative)	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.5	-
Adams 12 All Schools (including charter and alternative)	4.2	3.4	2.5	3.3	No
Colorado Alternative Schools Only	20.1	18.6	16.7	17.9	-
Adams 12 Alternative Schools Only	23.3	17.0	18.3	21.9	No
Colorado Without Alternative Schools	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.7	-
Adams 12 Without Alternative Schools	3.3	2.7	1.7	2.2	No

### District Administered Middle and High School Level Data

	2012	2013	2014	2015	Compliance in 2015
Colorado	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.5	-
Century MS	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	Yes
Horizon HS	2.3	0.9	0.8	2.0	Yes
Hulstrom MS	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	Yes
Legacy HS	0.8	1.0	0.4	1.0	Yes
Mountain Range HS	2.7	1.3	1.4	2.0	Yes
STEM Lab	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Yes
STEM Launch	-	0.8	0.5	0.6	Yes
Northglenn HS	3.4	2.9	1.4	2.8	No
Northglenn MS	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0	Yes
Pathways	-	18.6	23.6	25.3	No
Rocky Top MS	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.5	Yes
Shadow Ridge MS	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	Yes
Silver Hills MS	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	Yes
Thornton HS	3.2	3.7	4.5	3.7	No
International School at Thornton MS	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.3	Yes
Vantage Point HS	20.6	13.1	10.1	16.6	Yes
Westlake MS	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.0	Yes

### Charter School Level Data

	2012	2013	2014	2015
*COVA (7-12)	9.2	8.9	5.0	N/A
Stargate MS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Prospect Ridge Academy	-	1.1	0.4	0.0
*The Academy (7-12)	1.3	0.7	1.0	N/A
Westgate (7-8)	8.7	1.0	0.0	0.0
Global Village	-	-	-	1.9

\*Schools no longer chartered in Adams 12

#### COMPLIANCE STATEMENT:

The District's performance at District-administered middle and high schools complied with the standard in 14 of 17 eligible schools. Northglenn High School, Thornton High School, and Pathways Futures Center were not in compliance. Northglenn High School moved out of compliance for the 15-16 school year as their dropout rate was 2.8% versus the state rate of 2.5%. Thornton High School's dropout rate remained out of compliance because their rate was 3.7% versus the state rate of 2.5%. The Pathways Future Centers was out of compliance for alternative schools. Pathways dropout rate for 2014-15 was 25.3% versus the state rate of 17.9%.

## **INTERPRETATION:**

I interpret the following language:

*Using appropriate data, the policy interpretations shall include District, school and subgroup dropout rates.*

to mean:

Data reported from CDE will be used and that data will be reported overall by district and disaggregated by subgroups. Subgroups are interpreted to be those reported by CDE. To be in compliance, the district's rate will be at or below the state rate for each sub-group. Those subgroups include:

- Male
- Female
- Native American
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- White
- Pacific Islander
- Two or More Races
- Students with Disabilities
- Limited English Proficient
- Economically Disadvantaged
- Migrant
- Title 1
- Homeless
- Gifted and Talented

**DATA REPORTED:****2015 District Dropout Rates by Subgroup**  
(Reported in percentages)

	<b>District 2012</b>	<b>District 2013</b>	<b>District 2014</b>	<b>District 2015</b>	<b>Colorado 2015</b>	<b>Compliance</b>
Male	4.6	3.6	3.0	4.0	2.9	No
Female	3.8	3.2	2.0	2.5	2.2	No
Native American	8.2	3.2	1.9	8.8	4.7	No
Asian	1.7	1.0	1.2	0.7	1.4	Yes
Black or African American	6.5	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.7	Yes
Hispanic or Latino	4.6	3.6	3.1	3.7	3.9	Yes
White	4.1	3.6	2.2	3.2	1.6	No
Pacific Islander	2.2	2.9	2.9	8.8	3.3	No
Two or More Races	3.0	1.9	2.9	2.7	1.9	No
Students with Disabilities	3.8	2.5	3.3	3.5	3.0	No
Limited English Proficient	4.3	4.7	3.3	3.3	4.1	Yes
Economically Disadvantaged	4.0	3.3	2.3	3.2	3.1	No
Migrant	3.2	0.0	3.6	3.4	4.1	Yes
Title I	1.9	0.9	0.3	0.4	4.1	Yes
Homeless	10.7	8.7	7.4	3.1	6.1	Yes
Gifted and Talented	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.9	0.5	No

**COMPLIANCE STATEMENT:**

Given the complexity of attempting to disaggregate charter school data from these subgroup measurements, the foregoing data reflects the aggregate performance of District administered schools as well as District charter schools.

The District's performance complied with the standard established for seven of 16 subgroups. The District's performance was "Non-Compliant" in the other subgroups listed above in the graph.

There were three factors that contributed to the increase in the district's dropout rate for 2014-15. Without the negative impact of these three variables we would likely be under the state dropout rate.

1. Variable 1 - There were a significant number of COVA dropouts - more than 100 - included in our dropout rate data for 2014-2015. We expect COVA dropouts will not be included in our data for 2015-2016. Depending on the accountability procedures approved by CDE regarding removal of COVA's data in the District's dropout rate, compliance could be met as early as the 2016-2017 school year. This range of time exists primarily due to the effect of COVA's graduation and dropout rate data on the district's overall percentages. Under current CDE procedure, these numbers do not immediately drop off of the District's dropout rate data.
2. Variable 2 - The state considers a student a dropout if they withdraw from AD12 and fail to enroll in another school during the same academic year, even if the student enrolls in a school for the next school year. We can improve our data by improving our processes of tracking withdrawn students to ensure that they are getting enrolled elsewhere during the same school year.
3. Variable 3 - Students who do not attend school during May of each year will be treated by CDE as dropouts unless we code them as non-attenders. The common practice in our district is to not code these students as extended absentees but as dropouts. This practice improves our attendance rates but elevates our dropout rates. As a district we will change the coding this year, so that these students are reported as unexcused or extended absentees rather than dropouts.

It is anticipated that the District's performance will result in compliance as early as the 2016-2017 school year as the three variables above are addressed.

**The Board acknowledged receipt of a monitoring report as of February 17, 2016, for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, of the Superintendent concerning Board Policy 1.2.1 Dropouts, and found the superintendent's interpretations were reasonable and supported by data that was relevant, justified and complete.**