

School Quality Rating Policy (SQRP) Overview



What is the SQRP and what schools does it cover?

The School Quality Rating Policy is the Board of Education’s policy for evaluating school performance. Through this policy, each school receives a **School Quality Rating** and an **Accountability Status** every year. Among other things, the SQRP helps to communicate to school stakeholders the academic success of individual schools and the district as a whole; provides a framework for school goal-setting; and guides the Board’s decision-making processes around school support and intervention.

All schools receive a rating, including neighborhood schools, magnet schools, charter schools, selective enrollment schools and option schools.

What indicators are included in the SQRP?

Because different schools serve different populations of students, the SQRP uses different indicators for each type of school. The included indicators are as follows:

<u>Elementary Schools</u>	<u>High Schools</u>	<u>Option Schools</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student attainment on the NWEA MAP test • Student growth on the NWEA MAP test • Student attendance • My Voice, My School survey • Student growth on ACCESS for English Learners • Data quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student attainment on the PSAT/SAT assessments • Student growth on the PSAT/SAT assessments • Student attendance • Graduation rate • Freshman on-track rate • Dropout rate • Students earning early college or career credentials • College enrollment and persistence • My Voice, My School survey • Data quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student growth on the STAR test • Graduation rate • Enrollment stabilization • Student attendance • Credit attainment

How is a school’s rating calculated?

For each of the indicators above, a school can score between one and five points. The indicator scores are then averaged (some indicators are weighted higher than others in this average). The weighted average – which will also fall between one and five points – is then used to determine a school’s rating and status based on the table below.

Overall Score		Minimum Attainment Percentile	School Quality Rating	Accountability Status
4.0 or more	OR	90th	Level 1+	Good Standing
Between 3.5 and 3.9		70th	Level 1	Good Standing
Between 3.0 and 3.4		50th	Level 2+	Good Standing
Between 2.0 and 2.9		40th	Level 2	Provisional Support
Less than 2.0		--	Level 3	Intensive Support

School Quality Rating Policy (SQRP) Overview



What does the school's rating mean?

- **Level 1+** is the highest performance – this is a nationally competitive school with the opportunity to share best practices with others
- **Level 1** is high performance – this is a good school choice with many positive qualities. Minimal support is needed
- **Level 2+** is average performance – Additional support from the network team is needed to implement interventions.
- **Level 2** is below average performance. The “provisional support” status requires increased support from the network.
- **Level 3** is the lowest performance; school is in need of “intensive intervention” directed by the district. Charter schools in this category are on Academic Warning List

What does a school's status mean?

A school's status determines who has decision-making power at the school level.

- **Good Standing** is a school that has met or exceeded the district's minimum performance standards. These schools must follow district policies and mandates, but the LSC retains all normal autonomy.
- **Provisional Support** means that the school needs increased support. The network and CEO may require the school to revise its Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP) and/or budget and may require specific professional development.
- **Intensive Support** means the school needs a high level of support. In addition to the interventions listed for Provisional Support, the Board of Education may – in extreme cases – take actions such as a turnaround or principal removal. These actions will not happen in all Intensive Support schools and require a public hearing.

What is the difference between attainment and growth? Which matters more?

Both attainment and growth measure a school's performance compared to other schools **nationwide**.

Attainment measures performance at a **single point in time** compared to schools nationally. So if a school's *attainment* is in the 85th percentile, that means the school had higher scores than 85 percent of the schools **who took the test at the same time**.

Growth measures performance **from one year to the next**. It evaluates a school's performance based on how much growth occurred compared to other schools nationally with the same pretest score. So if a school's *growth* is in the 85th percentile, that means the school showed more growth than 85 percent of the schools **who started at the same place the previous year**.

Both attainment and growth matter, but growth is weighted more in the SQRP. That is because schools start in different places, and growth takes that into consideration. Attainment is a good indicator of how ready students are for their next step (high school, college, careers). Growth is a good indicator of how much they are learning, and therefore how effective the school is at providing instruction.

Where can I find more information?

Principals, school offices and network offices are always great resources for more information. General information on SQRP can be found at cps.edu/sqrp and school-specific information is available on school profile pages (cps.edu/findaschool). The Department of School Quality Measurement is also available at 773-553-4444.