

DIFFERENTIATED ASSISTANCE | TALKING POINTS

- The California School Dashboard is designed to shine a light on the students within a school or district that need the most support to be successful.
- Think of it as an equity spotlight, shining a light on a group or groups of students whose struggles may have been overlooked by the single-number rating system of the past.
- By showing which students need the most help and identifying their areas of struggle, the Dashboard helps communities make decisions about resources.
- The Dashboard will also help the state identify districts that need support to improve as well.
- If a student group within a district is very low-performing (red) across two or more Dashboard indicators representing the state's priorities for public education, that district will be eligible for differentiated assistance under the new Statewide System of Support.
- Student groups include ethnic and racial groups, low-income students, English language learners, students with disabilities, foster youth and homeless students.
- The state's priorities for education include pupil achievement (math and English test scores, English learner progress); school climate (suspension rates); and pupil engagement (graduation rates).
- Example: If a district's homeless students have very low test scores and a very high suspension rate that district will be eligible for differentiated assistance.
- These districts will work initially with experts within their county office of education to discover the root causes of lagging student performance.
- The Statewide System of Support also offers flexibility for districts to seek assistance from other education experts as well.
- Districts will work collaboratively with stakeholders to develop strategies for improving student group performance.
- Resources will be identified through the Local Control and Accountability process.
- Counties will monitor progress to ensure that all student groups improve.