

WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Wyoming Alternative School Accountability

(under WAEA)

Three Models

- State model for **traditional** schools
- State model for **alternative** schools
 - Both state models are prescribed by the Wyoming Accountability in Education Act (WAEA)
- Federal model for **all** schools
 - The federal model is prescribed by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

[Comparison Document](#)

Technical Advisory Group

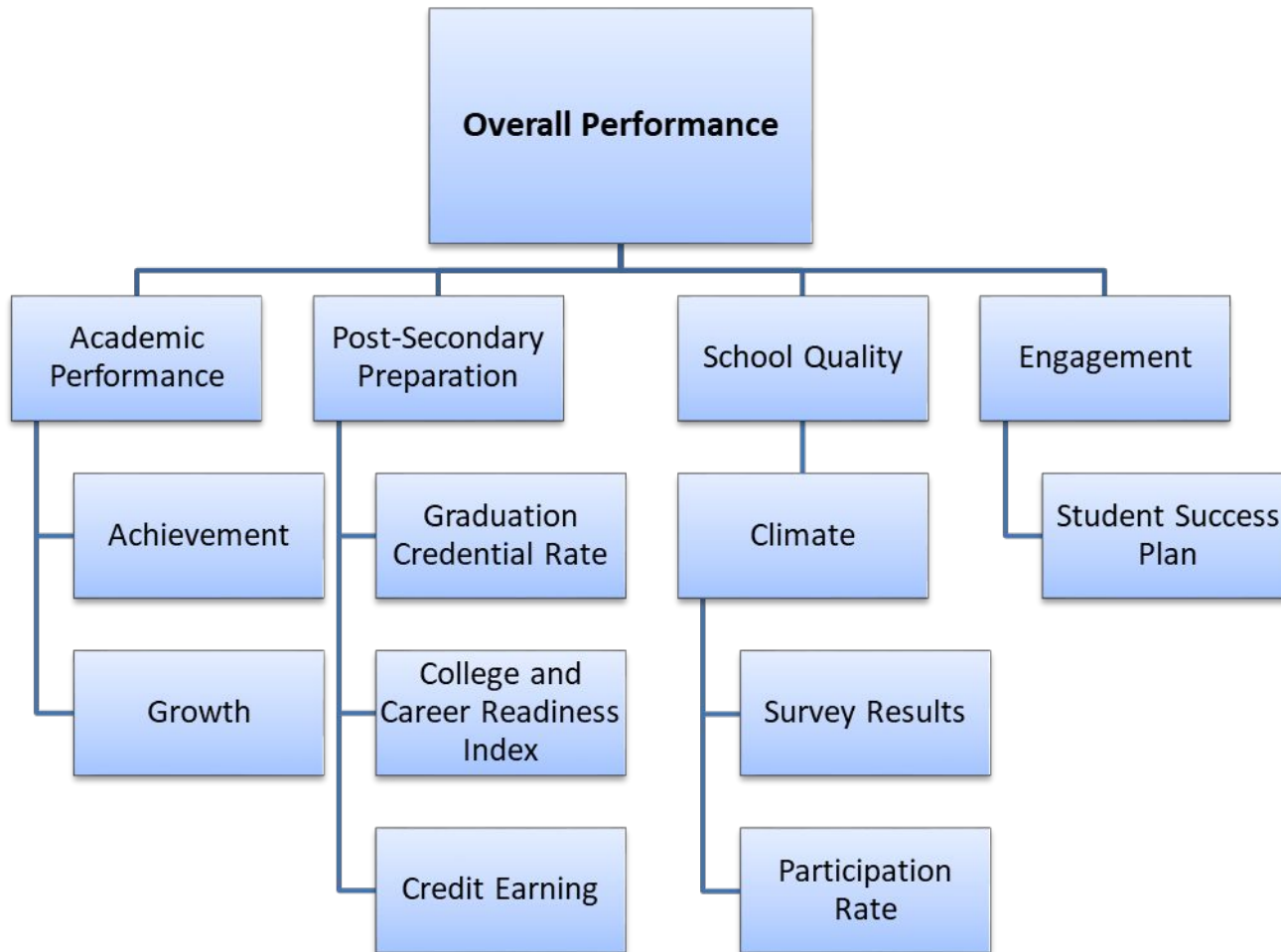
- In 2015, the legislature directed the WDE to establish a technical advisory group to develop an accountability model for alternative schools
 - Representation consisted of principals and superintendents from Wyoming alternative schools, as well as two national experts from the Center for Assessment
- There were two pilot years: 2016-17 and 2017-18
 - 2018-19 is the first accountability year in which the alternative school performance ratings will be made public
 - 2018-19 is the first accountability year in which alternative schools will participate in the Statewide System of Support under WAEA

Purpose of Alternative School Accountability

- To meaningfully differentiate among alternative schools based upon their performance using indicators that are better aligned with their unique mission
- Allows alternative schools to examine how they are doing relative to other alternative schools, rather than comparing them to traditional high schools

WAEA Alternative School Indicators

- Academic Performance (45%)
 - Achievement (20%)
 - Growth (25%)
- High School Certification Rate (25%)
- Credit Earning (5%)
- College & Career Readiness (15%)
- Student Support (10%)
 - School Climate (10%)
 - Engagement (*)



Achievement (20%)

- The Achievement score is based on FAY student performance on WY-TOPP in grades 9 & 10
- An Achievement index is used to calculate an alternative school's score for this indicator
- The school's score is based on the average index score (30 = meets target, 50 = exceeds target)

Student Performance Level	Student Index Score
Below Basic	0
Basic	50
Proficient	100
Advanced	150

Growth (25%)

- The Growth indicator is calculated the same way for alternative schools as it is for traditional schools
- Growth is based on the change of student performance from year to year relative to “academic peers”
 - Academic Peers are students in the same grade with similar test scores
- Growth is measured in grades 9, 10, and 11 in alternative high schools (based on WY-TOPP and ACT)
- 40 = meets target, 50 = exceeds target

High School Credential Rate (25%)

- This indicator includes all four-year, on-time graduates *plus* 5th-, 6th-, and 7th-year graduates *plus* HSEC recipients
- It is a lagged indicator
 - 2018-19 accountability score is based on 2017-18 completers
 - HSEC must have been completed by February of accountability year (i.e. 2018-19) to be included
- 67 = meets target, 83 = exceeds target

Credit Earning (5%)

- The Credit Earning indicator is based on students in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade for the first time who completed $\frac{1}{4}$ of the credits needed to graduate on time
- It is a lagged indicator
 - 2018-19 accountability score is based on 2017-18 9th, 10th, and 11th grade FAY students
- 67 = meets target, 83 = exceeds target

College & Career Readiness (15%)

- The CCR indicator is based on observed outcomes of student completers

Outcome	0 points	10 points	20 points	30 points
Hathaway SC	No evidence	Provisional Opp	Opportunity	Honors/Performance
ACT	No evidence	17-18	19-20	21+
CTE	No evidence	Concentrator	Completer	Qualifying Score
WorkKeys	No evidence	Bronze (9)	Silver (12-14)	Gold (15+)
Additional	No evidence	Intern/Work	ASVAB 45+	College Credit

- It is a lagged indicator
 - 2018-19 accountability score is based on 2017-18 completers
- 15 = meets target, 20 = exceeds target

School Climate (10%)

- This indicator is based on student perceptions related to *staff support & respect, student support & respect, and high expectations*
- Students complete a 24-question, 4-point Likert scale survey each fall and spring
- Participation rate requirement is 85% combined (fall + spring)
- School score based on survey average as long as participation rate is met; otherwise, school is below target
- 2.8 = meets target, 3.3 = exceeds target

Engagement

- The Engagement indicator is based on a student success plan (SSP) that promotes holistic development of life skills associated with post-secondary success
- Elements include ≥ 2 meetings per year with assigned mentor, goal-setting, career-planning activities
 - A fillable SSP form is available from the WDE or districts may use their own document
- For purposes of accountability principals must sign and submit a document to WDE indicating a) compliance with the SSP process and b) the availability of artifacts demonstrating participation
- Any school that does not submit the SSP assurance will have the final performance rating reduced by one level.

Overall School Performance Rating

- For alternative schools, the overall cut scores are:
 - Partially Meets Alternative School Expectations = 1.4
 - Meets Alternative School Expectations = 1.7
 - Exceeds Alternative School Expectations = 2.3

See the [2019 Accountability Implementation Manual](#) for more information about alternative school accountability.

Questions?

Sean McInerney

sean.mcinerney@wyo.gov

307.777.8752

Julie Magee

julie.magee@wyo.gov

307.777.8740