



COLORADO SCHOOL DISTRICT 27J
GOVERNING POLICY OF
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Goal: Academic 1.1

Date Adopted/Last Revised: October 1, 2015

- 1.1 The graduation rate will increase by 2% per year until 95% is attained at which it will not drop lower.

I interpret graduation rate to mean: the same as the definition from the Colorado Department of Education: The graduation rate is a cumulative or longitudinal rate which calculates the number of students who actually graduate as a percent of those who were in membership and could have graduated over a four-year period. The rate is calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the membership base. The membership base is derived from the end-of-year count of eighth graders four years earlier and adjusted for the number of students who have transferred into or out of the district during the years covering grades 9 through 12. Graduation rates are calculated based on high school graduates only. A graduate is a student who completed locally-defined requirements for graduation. If a student is not considered a graduate by the local board of education, then he/she is not included in the graduation rate calculation.

I interpret completer rate to mean: the same as the definition from the Colorado Department of Education: The Completer Rate is a cumulative or longitudinal rate which calculates the number of students who graduate, receive certificates or other designations of high school completion. It is also calculated as a percent of those who were in membership and could have graduated or completed over a four-year period (i.e., from Grades 9-12). Completer rates are calculated based on all students who are graduates, plus those who are not considered graduates but receive another certificate or designation of high school completion.

Achievement of Goal 1.1: Graduation

Data Reported

Graduation rate is calculated based on October count and graduation data, according to a formula followed by the Colorado Department of Education “Rules for the Administration of Colorado Data Reporting for School Accreditation.”

This report on the expectations of the board through Goal 1.1 presents historical graduation rate data as the goal requires an increase in the graduation rate over time. Graduation rate calculation has been revised by the Colorado Department of Education.

Beginning with the 2010 graduating class, Colorado began calculating a four-year graduation rate, a five year, a six year and a seven-year graduation rate. Colorado has maintained that calculation structure. The formula and methodology are based on the standards set by the National Governors Association “Graduation Counts Compact.”

Colorado defines “on-time” graduation as students who graduate from high school four years after entering ninth grade. In addition to this 4-year rate, the state calculates 5-,6-, and 7- year graduation rates. The state also calculates corresponding completion rates, which include graduates along with students who are determined to have completed high school upon receipt of a GED or some other form of certification.

For the purposes of this report, we have included multiple years of graduation data, also with completion data so that the impact of the changing criterion can be clearly seen. Complete graduation and dropout statistics for the state can be found on the Colorado Education Statistics and Data website:

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/gradratecurrent> and on the CDE District Dashboard <https://www.cde.state.co.us/code/schooldashboard>

CDE Dropout Statistics can be found <https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/dropoutcurrent>

Graduation

Table 1: School District 27J Total Four Year Graduation Rate (%)

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Colorado Graduation Rate | 78.9 | 79 | 80.7 | 81.1 | 81.9 |
| 27J Schools Graduation Rate | 77.5 | 77.4 | 81.5 | 84.1 | 86.2 |
| Bolt | 56.2 | 75 | 86.4 | 70.4 | 100 |
| Innovations and Options | 19.8 | 14.4 | 30 | 31.7 | 57.8 |
| Brighton High School | 78.7 | 81 | 83.1 | 88.2 | 88.9 |
| Eagle Ridge Academy | 90.3 | 98 | 98.2 | 96.3 | 94 |
| Prairie View High School | 86.1 | 84.3 | 88.3 | 89.5 | 89.9 |

27J Schools overall graduation rate increased 2.1% over last year's record high graduation rate. This is the 5th year the district has recorded increases in graduation rate and the 3rd year 27J schools has outpaced the Colorado Graduation rate.

Table 2: Graduation Rate Percentage of Adams County Districts (%)

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bennett 29J | 77.1 | 88.6 | 87.2 | 87.8 | 93.3 |
| Strasburg | 83.1 | 85.6 | 86.2 | 89.3 | 88.6 |
| 27J Schools | 77.5 | 77.4 | 81.5 | 84.1 | 86.2 |
| Adams 12 Five Star | 80.6 | 83.6 | 84.3 | 83.3 | 84 |
| Colorado | 78.9 | 79 | 80.7 | 81.1 | 81.9 |
| Mapleton 1 | 64.6 | 59 | 60.4 | 68.7 | 78.3 |
| Westminster Public Sc. | 56.3 | 57.8 | 67.9 | 69.3 | 72.5 |
| Adams 14 Commerce City | 65.8 | 65.6 | 64.3 | 63.3 | 66.8 |

Table 2 shows 27J Schools graduation rates in comparison to the state and other Adams County school districts. Adams 12 Five Star is the largest comparative school

district. Strasburg and Bennett represent the smallest cohorts of students in Adams County.

27J Schools remained in 3rd place among Adams County school districts.

Table 3: 27J 4 Year Graduation Rate by Gender and Ethnicity by Percentage (%)

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| All Students | 77.5 | 77.4 | 81.5 | 84.1 | 86.2 |
| All White Students | 82.9 | 81 | 84.2 | 86.1 | 88.3 |
| White Female | 89.4 | 87 | 89.2 | 91.9 | 88.7 |
| White Male | 77 | 76 | 78.7 | 80.6 | 84.0 |
| All Hispanic Students | 70.9 | 73 | 78.7 | 81.2 | 82.8 |
| Hispanic Female | 76.7 | 78 | 83.5 | 87.5 | 85.9 |
| Hispanic Male | 64.9 | 70 | 74.4 | 74.9 | 79.9 |

Table 3 presents additional details of graduation rates of our diverse student population. Hispanic students make up our largest minority student population. On time graduation rates among minority students continues to show growth although Hispanic females on time graduation rate dropped 1.6% while Hispanic male students on time graduation increased 5%.

Completion Rate

The completion rate includes all students who graduate with a regular diploma plus students who complete 4-years with a high school equivalent or non-diploma certificate. It is important to note that graduates are included in the completer rate, therefore the completion rates for any school or district will be greater than or equal to the graduation rate.

Completion Rate is a significant data point for 27J students. As we consider the significance of the 27J Mission of “*every child having a future*”, a diploma or its equivalent is a must. It is more important that a student obtains a diploma and is prepared for a future, than it is that they graduate on time. This will be especially true as we move to demonstrations with the class of 2021.

Table 4: Completer rate seven years after entering high school. A completer rate indicates how many students eventually graduated from high school or received a GED after the typical 4-year, on time, graduation rate.

| | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Strasburg | 95.2 | 96.2 | 95.6 | 94.4 | 91% |
| Adams 12 Five Star | 84.4 | 84.7 | 87.6 | 90.3 | 91.1 |
| Colorado | 87.8 | 88.3 | 88.4 | 89.1 | 89.2 |
| 27J Schools | 89.4 | 89.5 | 87.4 | 87.8 | 87.1 |
| Bennett 29J | 91.3 | 90.5 | 81.5 | 87.0 | 97.7 |
| Adams 1 Mapleton | 67.4 | 76 | 80.8 | 82.1 | 76.8% |
| Westminster | 82.2 | 76.3 | 77.2 | 75.5 | 79.5% |
| Adams 14 Commerce City | 75.8 | 77.7 | 76.6 | 75.9 | 76% |

Table 4 shows the 7-year completer rate for 2016-2017. We cannot calculate the 7-year completer rate for any year more recent than 2016-2017, because 7 years have yet to pass. If you recall from Table 1, 27J's 4-year on time graduation rate was 77.4% meaning that we successfully recovered and supported an additional 9.7% of students beyond that 4-year graduation rate.

Table 5: Completer rate seven years after entering high school per 27J School.

| | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total 27J 7 Completion | 89.4 | 89.5 | 87.4 | 87.8 | 87.1 |
| Bolt | | 100 | 85.7 | 80.0 | 85 |
| Innovations and Options | 40.8 | 61.3 | 48.8 | 60.5 | 58.3 |
| Brighton High School | 89.2 | 90.5 | 89.1 | 88.5 | 87.6 |
| Eagle Ridge Academy | 98.1 | 88 | 98.9 | 97.8 | 99 |
| Prairie View High School | 94.6 | 92.7 | 91.6 | 92.8 | 92.2 |

Table 5: Prairie View High School exceeds a 90% completion rate for the 5th year in a row despite dropping .6%. Overall 27J experienced the lowest 7-year completion rate in 5 years.

Table 6: 27J 7 Year Completion Rate by Gender and Ethnicity by Percentage

| | 2012-2013 | 2013-2014 | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| All Students | 89.4 | 89.5 | 87.4 | 87.8 | 87.1 |
| All White Students | 91.8 | 93 | 92 | 91.9 | 90.2 |
| White Female | 93.9 | 98 | 93.4 | 96.3 | 94.8 |
| White Males | 89.7 | 89 | 90.5 | 87.9 | 86.5 |
| All Hispanic Students | 86.2 | 85 | 82.2 | 82.7 | 83.3 |
| Hispanic Female | 90.1 | 88 | 89.1 | 86.9 | 89.9 |
| Hispanic Male | 82.5 | 81 | 75.9 | 78.3 | 77.7 |

Dropout Rates for Alternative Education Campuses (AEC) In the 2018-19 school year, there were 93 Alternative Education Campuses located in 47 local education agencies (districts, BOCES and CSI). At least 90% of the students served at AEC schools are considered at high risk of dropping out. These alternative programs play an important role in the successful graduation and completion of 27J Students.

Table 7: Comparison of Drop-out Rates for Alternative Education Campuses in Adams County.

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Innovations and Options | 29.6% | 20.7% | 16.8% | 12.4% | 8.4% |
| Westminster Public Schools Alternative Schools | 18.2% | 17.2% | 16.6% | 13.5% | 9.8% |
| Colorado School Dropout Rate All Alternative Schools | 18.6% | 18.3% | 16.9% | 15.4% | 14.7% |
| Adams 12 Five Star Alternative Schools | 12.4% | 13.6% | 11.6% | 16% | 13.9% |
| Mapleton Alternative Schools | NA | NA | NA | 27.7% | 20% |
| Adams 14 Alternative Schools | 40.7% | 35.3% | 32% | 31.9% | 26.1% |

Credit to our alternative school, **Innovations and Options** which has decreased its dropout rate from 29.6% in 2016 to 8.4% in 2020. Innovations and Options has a lower dropout rate than the state average for Alternative Campuses for the 3rd year in a row and the 2020 total is the lowest dropout rate of any alternative education campus (AEC) in Adams County.

The goals of this monitoring report asks that 27J increase graduation rates of our students by 2% every year until we reach 95%. 27J graduation rates increased from 84.1% to 86.2% in the past academic year.

Conclusion: I report compliance