



**PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

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**Date:** December 20, 2024  
**To:** Members, Board of Education  
**From:** Elizabeth J. Blanco, Ed. D., Superintendent  
**Subject:** **INFORMATIVE MEMORANDUM Friday Communiqué**

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1. Academic Division:
  - a) School Sites' Eligibility for Every Student Success Act Planning Status
  - b) I Have A Dream Foundation – School Selection



## PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**To:** Elizabeth J. Blanco, Ed. D, Superintendent  
**From:** Helen Chan Hill, Ed. D, Chief Academic Officer  
**Re:** **School Sites' Eligibility for Every Student Success Act Planning Status**  
**Date:** December 20, 2024  
**CC:** David Rennie, Ed. D., Data, Research, & Continuous Improvement

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Each year the California Department of Education (CDE) releases a list of schools determined to meet specific planning for improvement conditions mandated by the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESSA mandates that state accountability systems (the California School Dashboard) identify schools for the status of Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) or Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI). In California, schools are reviewed to determine their eligibility for CSI status using the *All* student group. When a school is not eligible for CSI designation, ATSI eligibility is determined by looking at each student group within the school and reviewing the results using two consecutive years of California Dashboard outcome data.

Starting with the release of the 2023 California School Dashboard, schools would be identified for CSI and ATSI eligibility every three years. Each following year, schools previously identified as CSI or ATSI eligible schools would be reviewed to determine if they met exit criteria. This effectively means that schools identified for ATSI/CSI designations in 2023 can exit the designation during the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years; meanwhile, no new ATSI/CSI schools would be identified during those same school years.

The CDE also reviews schools annually to determine if they meet eligibility for Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI). TSI eligibility is considered annually only when a school is not eligible for CSI or ATSI designations. The TSI designation is applied to a school when one or most student groups meet the entry criteria for two consecutive years of California Dashboard outcome data. Since TSI eligibility is reviewed annually, the "exit criteria" is simply that the school is not eligible for TSI designation the following year.

Based on the 2023 California Dashboard, Pasadena Unified had 8 schools identified for ATSI eligibility and 2 schools identified for CSI eligibility. For the ATSI-eligible schools, the student groups identified were *Two or More Races* (1 school site); *Hispanic/Latino* (1 school site); *Black/African American* (1 school site); *English Learners* (1 school site); *Foster Youth* (1 school site); *Homeless* (1 school site); and *Students with Disabilities* (2 school sites).

The release of the 2024 California Dashboard shows improvement with only 2 school sites remaining in ATSI eligibility and none of the exiting schools eligible for TSI designation. The student groups continuing ATSI-eligible are *Homeless* (1 school site) and *Black/African American* (1 school site). Both of the CSI-eligible schools have maintained their eligibility for CSI designations.

Visit the CDE's website and mini-technical guide information regarding ATSI, CSI, and TSI criteria.<sup>1</sup>

Please share this information with the Board of Education.

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<sup>1</sup> Website: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/sw/t1/tsi.asp>      Technical Guide: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/documents/dbguideessa24.docx>



## PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**To:** Dr. Elizabeth Blanco, Superintendent  
**From:** Dr. Julianne Reynoso, Assistant Superintendent, Student Wellness and Support Services  
**Re:** **I Have A Dream Foundation-Selection**  
**Date:** December 20, 2024

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This communique provides a recent celebration regarding I Have A Dream Foundation selection.

We are proud to announce that I Have A Dream Foundation contacted the PUSD in September about the potential to select a new kindergarten cohort to join their foundation. Through a lengthy process, informational sessions, interviews and site visits, a PUSD has been selected. During the month of December, two of our schools were the finalists; McKinley and Madison. We commend the extraordinary efforts these leaders and schools made to welcome the I Have A Dream Foundation to visit classrooms and engage in conversation.

On December 17, we were notified by the Executive Director that they had selected James Madison Elementary school to build the next group of Dreamers. This is the third cohort PUSD has been selected for over many years.

These students and families will have the ongoing support of this foundation from Kindergarten through their 12<sup>th</sup> grade year and into the post-high school education. We are grateful for this journey and know that our students will have amazing doors of support opened to them.

Please visit their website to learn more. [I Have A Dream Foundation](#)

Please share this memo with the Board of Education.