

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HUMBOLDT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY 2055
ADMINISTRATION

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY AND AUTONOMY

The Humboldt County School District Board of Trustees and Administration is committed to meeting the highest standards of Nevada's School Performance Framework (NSPF). Consistent with the expectations defined with the NSPF, Humboldt County School District is committed to supporting the needs of each individual school based upon an "autonomy model" prescribed by the Nevada Department of Education. The intent of such a model is to ensure supports are in place to enhance student academic performance and lead to site based autonomous decision making. In meeting this intent, this policy details a comprehensive accountability system for schools under the direction of the Humboldt County School District.

In response to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver granted to the Nevada Department of Education in August 2012, a comprehensive system of accountability and supports was prescribed across various platforms; to include individual school sites. The Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) was developed and adopted as a method for identifying and classifying individual school performance using various methods including student proficiency, student growth data, and subpopulation academic gap reduction.

Under the NSPF, schools are provided a star rating based upon overall performance. A 5-star rating represents the highest level of performance, while a 1-star rating represents performance within the lowest 5% in the state. These determinations are the foundation for a differentiated system of recognition, accountability, autonomy, and support.

The Nevada Department Education has developed and provided a "user guide" regarding the development of School Performance Plans (SPP) based upon the NEPF. This guide details minimum expectations associated with individual school ratings.

	5 Star	4 Star	3 Star	2 Star	1 Star	Focus
Autonomy in school improvement planning and implementation	X	X				
Participation in statewide Student Achievement Gap Elimination (SAGE) school improvement planning process			X	X	X	X
Conduct or review NCCAT-S			X	X	X	X
Prescribed Scheduling				X	X	
Use of Core Instructions				X	X	
Option Model School Visits			X			
Required School Visits				X	X	
Interventions						X

Consistent with the recommendations of the Nevada Department of Education, Humboldt County School District will implement a continuum of autonomy and supports based upon an individual school sites rating as provided through the NEPF. Utilizing a modified continuum based on the “Recognition, Supports, and Interventions within Nevada’s Managed Performance Empowerment (MPE) Continuum” provided by NDE, the following will be utilized in Humboldt County School District.

Understanding that the schools within Humboldt County School District are of varying sizes which can significantly impact the ultimate star rating, a tiered approach of identification for supports will be implemented. Schools receiving a 2-star designation will be placed on “warning status” following the first year of said designation, and placed into the matrix after two consecutive years of designation at a 2-star status. Schools designated as a 1-star school will be immediately placed within the support system as designated and identified as a “Targeted Assistance– Year 1” school and placed within the matrix at the 1-star level. All other star levels will enter the matrix at their reflective levels.

Upon identification within the “warning” category, should a school the next year obtain a designation as 3 star or higher, the school will be placed within the appropriate matrix level and the “warning” designation would be removed. Should a school placed in “warning” status obtain a second year designation as a 2-star school for a second consecutive year, the school will be identified as “Targeted Assistance – Year 1.” A subsequent year will have the designation noted as “TA – Year 2”, and so forth. If in a subsequent year, should a school obtain a rating of 3 or higher, the school would be identified as “TA – Year 2 Hold.” Upon a second consecutive year of obtaining a 3 star or higher rating, the school will be designated as a 3 Star school or higher corresponding with most current star rating. In the event a school designated in “TA Year 2- hold” does not make a 3-star status for a second year their rating would be identified as “TA Year 3.” In simple terms it takes two years for a 2 Star school to enter the matrix and two years to be removed. During “Hold” status all supports within the matrix remain to ensure momentum is continued at the site.

Star Rating	HCSD Continuum of Supports
5 Star	- Autonomy in School Performance Plan development - Flexible use of teacher allocations in collaboration with the District - Site based decision making on use of core instructional materials - Pay for performance/financial incentives (as funded by NDE) - Public recognition
4 Star	- Autonomy in School Performance Plan development with District review - Flexible use of teacher allocations in collaboration with the District - Site based decision making on use of core instructional materials - Pay for performance/financial incentives (as funded by NDE) - Public recognition
3 Star	- Participation in SAGE School Performance Plan development - Collaborative flexibility in use of teacher allocations - Collaborative flexibility on use of core instructional materials - Optional visits to model school sites - Public recognition, as appropriate (ex. Significant reduction in academic gap)
2 Star	- Participation in SAGE School Performance Plan development - Required engagement of school district personnel to support SPP development and monitoring - Demonstrated link to the SPP for all budget expenditures - Prescribed use of core instructional materials - Prescribed scheduling - Required model school visits - Required embedded professional development that aligns with the SPP - Differentiated supports determined by the district, with a focus on capacity building - Required data management plan with ongoing instructional support
1 Star	- Participation in SAGE School Performance Plan development - Required engagement of school district personnel to support SPP development and monitoring - Demonstrated link to the SPP for all budget expenditures - Prescribed application of teacher allocations - Prescribed use of core instructional materials - Prescribed scheduling - Required model school visits - Required embedded professional development that aligns with the SPP - Differentiated supports determined by the district, with a focus on capacity building - Required data management plan with ongoing instructional support

For purposes of this policy, core instructional materials are defined as:
Curriculum is a dynamic system reflecting a set of processes; planning, enacting and evaluating that is embedded within specific settings which are influenced by a series of factors. The

purpose of curriculum is to offer a framework to ensure implementation of Nevada Core Content Standards. Core instructional materials are the time, schedules, budget, personnel and resources that are utilized to implement the curriculum by students and all instructional staff.

The materials are specific learning resources that ensure students' acquire facts, skills, or opinions to develop cognitive processes as demonstrated on state and district mandated assessments. Instructional materials may be printed or non-printed, and may include textbooks, technology-based materials, other educational materials, and tests. The Humboldt County School District will use the HCSD Continuum of Supports prescribed levels of support and autonomy based on the school performance rating and determine the level of autonomy based on the factors listed.

Reference:

NDE School Performance Plan User Guide

Common Core and More Professional Development: July 2014 – Curriculum definition