

To: Board of Education
From: Terry McEwen, director, assessment, research & accountability
Re: 2018 Graduation Rate for USD 497
Date: November 26, 2018

Background:

Board Goal 1: Develop and align district expectations for curriculum and instruction to raise the achievement of all students.

Student Achievement

The report will focus on student performance, how universal screening data from AIMSweb Plus and MAP are portrayed for schools, the data from the behavioral screenings conducted at all levels (2018), and attendance and discipline trends for the 2018-19 school year (1st Quarter).

Data will be portrayed at the district level for each of the above areas. The data to be presented have been used by schools to plan strategically for the current school year (2018-19).

Graduation Rate

Graduation rates have been reported to the Board of Education annually; however, beginning with the class of 2009, the graduation rate calculation was changed at the federal level. The federal calculation is based on a cohort of students who collectively enter grade 9 (Freshman Year) in the same calendar year. They are then given four academic years to complete high school in order to graduate “on time.” The cohort is adjusted annually to reflect transfers into the cohort group and what are deemed “legitimate transfers out” of the cohort group. An example of a “legitimate transfer out:” student moves to another district in state and enrollment in that district is confirmed. An example of a transfer out of the cohort that would not be considered “legitimate” and thus count against the district as a “non-graduate:” student transfers to a non-accredited private school.

The graduation rate data reported always reflect the number of students who graduate in the four year “on time” cohort, plus transfers in, minus “legitimate” transfers out divided by the total number of students who were in the initial cohort (this number would include any “non-legitimate” transfer out of the cohort).

The report to the Board of Education will depict the graduation rates of “All” students and each reportable subgroup of students (Free/Reduced Lunch, Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners, and Race/Ethnicity designation) within our two “brick and mortar” high schools (Lawrence High School and Free State High School) from 2014 to the present in order to provide comparable data across the 5-year time period.

In addition, the report will include the graduation rate data from each individual high school (including the Lawrence Virtual School) for the same 5-year period.

For state and federal purposes, a reportable subgroup must be comprised of at least 30 students within said group. For our “in-district” purposes, the report will include subgroups of at least 10 students, as has been our practice since 2007.

Post-Secondary Success

A goal of the Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA) is focused on the post-secondary success of our students – the success rate is determined by the following:

A student must meet one of the four following outcomes within two years of High School graduation.

- Student earned an Industry Recognized Certification while in High School
- Student earned a Postsecondary Certificate
- Student earned a Postsecondary Degree
- Student enrolled in Postsecondary in both the first and second year following High School graduation

The state then calculates an Effective Rate, which is the Graduation Rate multiplied by the calculated Success Rate.

SRSS Screening Data

The current data on social-emotional/behavioral well-being of our students will be presented.

Report:

This report will look at 2018 student achievement and behavioral data, as well as the 2018 graduation rate in Lawrence Public Schools.