

**FIGHT CRIME:
INVEST IN KIDS**
COUNCIL FOR A STRONG AMERICA
CALIFORNIA

**Analysis of School Climate in 2017-18 LCAPs
of 50 Largest School Districts**
Brian Lee
California State Director

Who is Fight Crime: Invest in Kids & Why School Discipline/School Climate?

- 400 California police chiefs, sheriffs, district attorneys and victims of violence
- Focus on evidence-based strategies that keep kids away from crime
- Part of national organization >5,000 members
- Help lead Fix School Discipline Policy Coalition
- Research connection: suspended students more likely to drop out and turn to crime

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Our 3rd LCAP analysis of 50 largest CA districts

- First where CA School Dashboard used/performance standards applied

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**California School Dashboard:
Determining colors for suspension rates,
Unified School Districts**

Level		Suspension Change				
		Increased Significantly by greater than 2.0%	Increased by 0.3% to 2.0%	Maintained Declined or increased by less than 0.3%	Declined by 0.3% to less than 2.0%	Declined Significantly by 2.0% or greater
Suspension Status	Very Low 1.0% or less	N/A	Green	Blue	Blue	Blue
	Low Greater than 1.0% to 2.5%	Orange	Yellow	Green	Green	Blue
	Medium Greater than 2.5% to 4.5%	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green	Green
	High Greater than 4.5% to 8.0%	Red	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Yellow
	Very High Greater than 8.0%	Red	Red	Red	Orange	Yellow

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**California School Dashboard—
Performance Standards**

- Getting to Green
- “Low” suspension rate =
 - 1.25% (elementary school districts)
 - 2.5% unified school districts
 - 3.5% high school districts

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**California School Dashboard
& School Climate**

- California is 1 of only 3 states with a distinct state indicator for suspension rates

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California School Dashboard Sacramento City Unified

State Indicators	All Students Performance	Total Student Groups	Student Groups In Red/Orange
Chronic Absenteeism (C)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Suspension Rate (K-12)		13	11
English Learner Progress (1-12)		1	0
Graduation Rate (9-12)		12	8
College/Career (9-12)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Student Services (K-12)	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Language Arts (K-8)		13	11
Mathematics (K-8)		13	10

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California School Dashboard Sacramento City Unified—Suspension Rates

	Student Performance	Number of Students	Status	Change
All Students		42,841	High 6%	Increased +0.6%
English Learners		8,637	Medium 4.5%	Increased +0.7%
Foster Youth		420	Very High 20%	Increased +0.6%
Homeless		640	Very High 12.7%	Increased Significantly +4.2%
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged		30,383	High 7.3%	Increased +0.6%
Students with Disabilities		4,426	Very High 30.6%	Maintained +0.1%
African American		6,359	Very High 14.6%	Increased +0.2%
American Indian		249	High 7.2%	Increased +0.5%
Asian		7,443	Low 1.7%	Maintained +0.2%

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California School Dashboard Sacramento City Unified—Suspension Rates by School

LEVEL	Increased Significantly	Increased	Maintained	Declined	Declined Significantly
Very Low	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caroline Wernick Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samuel Elementary Wendy O'Neil Phonix A. Hanks Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott S. Anthony Elementary
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. John's Elementary 20th Century 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cassell/Torrance Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pond
Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Grove Middle/Juniata Caleb Greenwood Elementary Carleton Middle Calvin Smith Jr. Middle Fox Bacon Middle Tennessee James Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Golden Grove Elementary Oak Ridge Elementary Philip Daniels Elementary Shelby Elementary William Lund Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wood-Larkin Elementary Elmer Creek Elementary Lawrence De Voe Wilbur Middle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. M. Wilson Memorial James Marshall Elementary John Seward Elementary Marygrove Elementary School of Engineering & Design
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red Brown Elementary Shelby Kenda Elementary Robinson Park Elementary General Ford Elementary Mark Twain Elementary Pacific Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacramento City Unified (District Placement) 11 Schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> O. W. Stephens Elementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Albert Einstein Middle Arthur A. Benson Middle Chickadee Middle Sidwell Elementary Parkway Elementary Oliver Elementary


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Local Control and Accountability Plan Template

2017-20 Plan Summary


Greatest Needs
Referring to the LCFF Evaluation Rubrics, identify any state indicator or local performance indicator for which **overall performance was in the "Red" or "Orange" performance category**...What steps is the LEA planning to take to address these areas with the greatest need for improvement?

Performance Gaps
Referring to the LCFF Evaluation Rubrics, identify any state indicator for which performance for any **student group was two or more performance levels below** the "all student" performance. What steps is the LEA planning to take to address these performance gaps?




California School Dashboard & School Climate

- Districts, with just two exceptions, follow these basic requirements:
 - The 5 districts (10%) with Orange or Red overall do highlight
 - 29 of 31 districts with subgroups performing two levels below call out subgroups



Districts should do more to utilize Dashboard

- **Should establish distinct goals for under-performing subgroups**
 - Only 40% calling out subgroup under-performance provide distinct subgroup goals.
- **Should identify low-performing subgroups that are not "two below"**—38% do
- **Include colors in year-by-year suspension goals**—only 20% do
- **Set color goals for schools**
 - Only 20% include any reference to color performance for schools and only 2 actually provide goals for what color ratings



**Other Findings:
Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs)**

- Increased Commitment to EBPs
 - 92% include—Increase from 70% in 2014-15 & 84% in 2015-16
 - More than half of EBP districts (24 of 46) say they are expanding
- Praise for EBPs
 - *Oakland*: Restorative Practices and other approaches like PBIS are “dramatically reducing suspensions and increasing student time in class.”
 - *Santa Ana*: “Suspension and expulsions have been reduced significantly with the implementation of PBIS and Restorative Practices.”

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**Room for Improvement—
Evidence-Based Practices**

- Funding levels unclear in half of districts with EBPs
 - Example: San Diego—part of \$20 million that also includes more teachers to reduce class size
- Funding, when clear, may be inadequate. Among the districts with some dedicated funding:
 - 10 dedicate \$100,000 or less annually
 - 12 dedicate between \$100,000 and \$500,000.
 - 8 dedicate between \$922,000 and over \$14 million

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**Room for Improvement—
Evidence-Based Practices**

- Often do not spend as much as planned
 - More than ½ of districts (13 of 24) reported spending less
 - Including 7 underspending by \$300K+

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Vary in Ambitiousness of Suspension Rate Goals

- **Ambitious**
 - Half (8 of 16) of districts with Yellow for all students propose suspension goals that would lead to Green
- **Not ambitious**
 - 5 districts start with Green, but goals could downgrade to Yellow
 - Only 1 of 4 Orange districts have goals to improve color within 3 years
 - Already meeting goal – Kern Union HSD and Santa Ana

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Lack of Current Year Suspension Rate Data

- **Significant reduction in districts providing current year data**
 - from 48% in 2015-16 to 30% in 2017-18.

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School Climate Surveys Local Indicator

- **Goals generally**
 - 20% (10 of 50) of districts still have no goals on climate survey outcomes, unchanged since 2015-16
 - 8 going backwards
 - 2 districts set goals simply to meet the new Dashboard requirement of just conducting a survey and reporting findings, rather than setting specific outcome goals

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**School Climate Surveys
Local Indicator**

- Safety & Connectedness
 - Only 50% of districts have goals on both Safety and Connectedness
- Student, Parent & Staff Surveys
 - 24% of districts include survey outcome goals for all three of students, parents and staff
 - Only half have both Safety and Connectedness goals for each group

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What You Can Ask for ...

- Suspension reduction goals
 - Subgroup-level
 - Improve color
 - School-level goals
- Updates
 - Current year data on suspension rates
- Evidence-based practices
 - Dedicated funding
 - Sufficient & detailed funding
- Climate Surveys
 - Goals for safety & connectedness
 - Students, parents & staff

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For full analysis, please see:
Using the California School Dashboard and LCAP to Improve School Climate

Available Online:
<https://bit.ly/2i7kNjY>

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