Technical Advisory Panel

Statement to the State Board of Education Regarding the Higher Bar Sub-Indicators

August 31, 2023

The proposed higher bar data are highly complex and incorporate data from multiple sources coming from outside CDE including self-reported data from schools and districts. As a result, these data are not of the same quality as most other data used in the performance frameworks. Additionally, there are built-in inconsistencies in how some of the data is coded and it will be labor-intensive to gather and maintain these data. Finally, because of these challenges with the data, it is likely that the measure will not be as accessible and transparent to many users as are other measures on the current performance framework. Moreover, CDE research shows that these higher bar measures will be highly correlated with other PWR measures and therefore will not result in further differentiating performance between schools and districts on the PWR indicator. At the same time, the addition of these measures may reduce the ease with which these frameworks can be understood or explained to schools and communities. Based on these concerns and others around data quality and equity of impacts, and in alignment with the statute that states that these accountability measures must be "fair, balanced, objective, and transparent" [C.R.S. 22-11-102 (2)(e)], it is the professional and technical opinion of the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) that the available data needed to calculate these new measures does not meet the statutory requirements and, therefore, should not be included in the school and district performance frameworks at this time.