

# RE • STORING NORMAL

## Business Rules: Technical Components to AQuESTT

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Officer, Office of School  
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**Lane Carr**

Administrator,  
Office of Policy &  
Strategic Initiatives



# Objectives

- Tour the AQuESTT business rules, and discuss some technical features of accountability calculations
- Highlight resources for accountability data including the NEP Secure, Adviser Validation, ELPA 21 On-track Report, and NSCAS

The background of the slide features a repeating pattern of circles in various shades of green and yellow. Each circle contains a small, light-colored arrow pointing in a clockwise direction, creating a sense of continuous motion or a cycle.

# **Business Rules**



# What are Business Rules?

AQuESTT

## AQuESTT Classification Rules – Version 3.0

6/22/2022

The following rules are used to calculate AQuESTT school/district classifications for accountability. The data used is collected from statewide assessment results and other data submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education by public school districts.

### Participating Districts and Schools

1. Every eligible public school and district is included and held accountable. The same process is used to classify districts and schools into four rating levels: Excellent (4), Great (3), Good (2), or Needs ~~Support to Improvement~~ (1).
  - 1.1. A school or district's overall classification rating is a combination of scores in the six tenet areas (Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Student Success; Transitions; Educational Opportunities and Access; College and Career Readiness; Assessment; and Educator Effectiveness). The rules for combining these areas into the overall ratings are defined throughout this document.
  - 1.2. Starting with the list of all Nebraska school buildings for the current school year as collected in NDE's District and School Information collection system, these school buildings will be excluded from eligibility:
    - 1.2.1. Schools with a *District Type* other than Public, such as Interim, State Operated, ESU, Non-Public, etc.
    - 1.2.2. Schools that are wholly SPED or Prekindergarten programs (*Kind of School* codes 16 or 20, or *High Grade Level* code "PK")
    - 1.2.3. Schools that are wholly Alternative Programs (*Type of School* code "NA")
    - 1.2.4. Note: any otherwise eligible school that contains any grade levels between Kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup>, and therefore may not have NSCAS assessments, is still included in the Classification process as an elementary school. The school's Status rating is copied from its district's Status rating as detailed later in this document.
  - 1.3. The list of eligible districts is defined by selecting all districts that contain at least one eligible school after taking into account the above rules.
  - 1.4. School ratings will be set per school building and school type (elementary, middle, high), so a single school building may have one or two "schools" due to how its grade levels are mapped as defined in this process.
    - 1.4.1. High school grade levels are generally defined as 9 through 12, secondary schools that have additional grade levels will be split into "Middle" and "High" schools at the 9th grade.
    - 1.4.2. Some school buildings may be split into "Elementary" and "Middle" schools according to particular grade level configuration and the elementary/middle

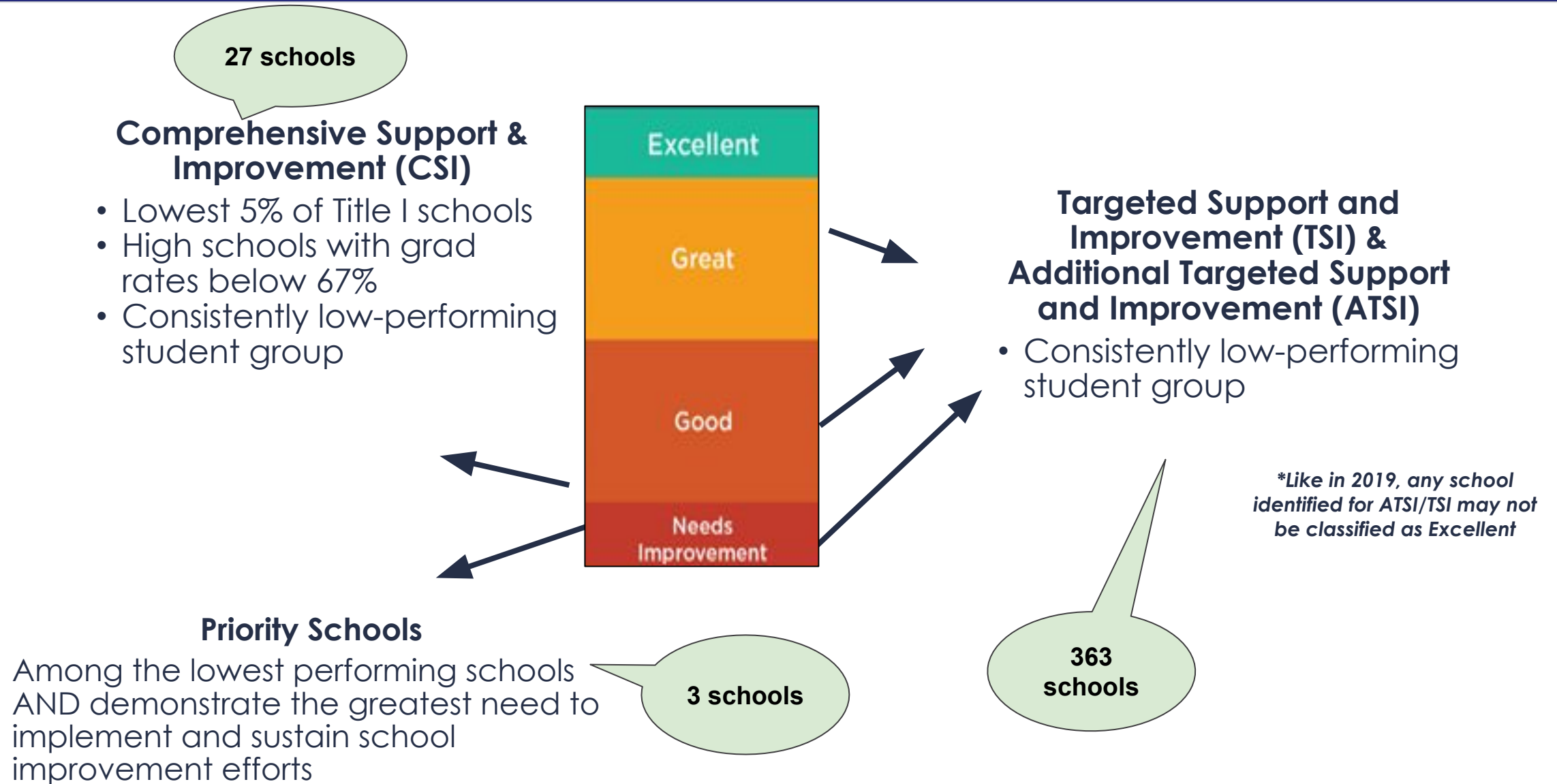
DRAFT

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## Business rules

- Lay out the consistent instructions to determine how a process, operation, or calculation is performed.
- Create consistency and establish agreed upon ways of measuring and accounting for anomalies or special circumstances.
- Serve as the mechanics under which accountability classifications and designations are created.

# Classifications & Designations



# Classifications & Designations

## Classification Business Rules

AQESTT

AQESTT Classification Rules – Version 3.0

6/22/2022

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## Designation Business Rules

AQESTT

ESSA Designation Rules – Version 2.1



V. 9/25/19-4.22.22

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires each state to determine a process for designation of schools most needing support. These supports fall into three categories:

- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) – Lowest performing five percent of Title I schools and any public high schools with graduation rate below 67%, or public schools with consistently underperforming student groups for 3 years.
- Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) – Any public school with one or more student group(s) performing at or below the performance level of students in the lowest 5 percent of Title I schools (i.e. CSI schools).
- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) – A public school with one or more consistently underperforming student groups

The purpose of this document is to outline the business rules for identification of these schools.

### Section 1: Indicators

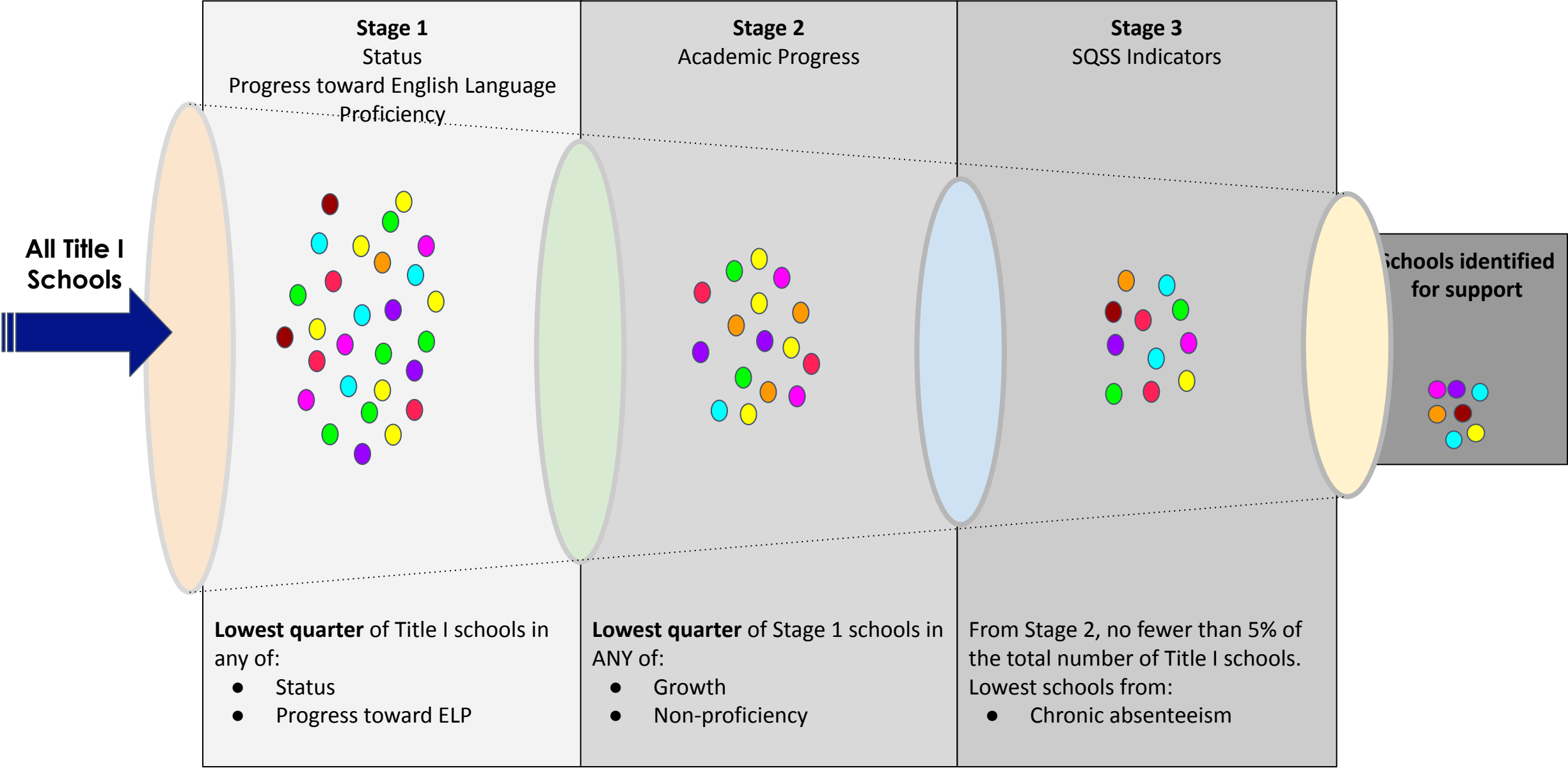
ESSA Indicator:	Academic Achievement	Academic Progress	English Language Proficiency/Progress	Graduation Rate	School Quality & Student Success
	Status	Growth, improvement, Non-Proficiency	Progress toward English Language Proficiency/Progress	4- and 7-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	Chronic Absenteeism, Science, Evidence-Based Analysis (ESA)

The ESSA school designations use the same indicators as those for AQESTT classification (Excellent, Great, Goods, and Needs Support to Improvement), with the exception of Science and Science Improvement. For information relating to the calculation of the individual indicators, please see AQESTT Classification Business Rules document at [www.aquestt.com/resources](http://www.aquestt.com/resources)

- For Achievement (Status), NDE will combine percent proficient for math and ELA for each school, rank from highest to lowest, and select the requisite number of schools based on the designation type.
- Similarly, the Progress Toward English Language Proficiency indicator will have data showing the percent of students progressing towards proficiency (both full and partial credit). These scores will be ranked, with the requisite number of schools moved to the next stage based on the designation type.
- For high schools only, 4- and 7-year graduation will be combined as outlined in the AQESTT Classification business rules. Schools will be ranked from highest to lowest, with the requisite

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Business Rules for Federal Accountability






The background features a repeating pattern of light green and yellow circles, each containing a small arrow pointing clockwise. The overall color scheme is a gradient from light green on the left to yellow on the right.

# **Accountability Data and Resources**




# Nebraska Education Profile







## Nebraska Education Profile

Your one-stop location for Nebraska education data.





State Data



### DISTRICT AND SCHOOL DATA

Search

District

Select a district

School

Select a district first

GO

# Portal

The screenshot shows the Nebraska Department of Education Portal. At the top, the logo and name 'NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Portal' are displayed, along with the Helpdesk number (888) 285-0556. A welcome message for Shirley Vargas is visible. A navigation bar contains links for Home, Data Collections, Student & Staff (NSSRS), My Profile, Forms, NDE Staff, Viewer Links, and Help. On the left, a 'Related Links' section lists external resources. The main content area features 'Collection Announcements' with a link to 'ADVISER Monthly' and 'Upcoming' events. A 'District Administrators' section provides information about user management. Two orange callout boxes are present: one pointing to the 'Data Collections' link in the navigation bar, labeled 'Data Collections NEP Secure', and another pointing to the 'Student & Staff (NSSRS)' link, labeled 'Student & Staff (NSSRS) Adviser Validation'.

**Data Collections  
NEP Secure**

**Student & Staff  
(NSSRS)  
Adviser  
Validation**

# NEP Secure



Good Evening lcarr3

[Log Out](#)

Agencies You Have Access To:

--Nebraska Department of Education--

At A Glance:

2020-2021

**About**

[Performance](#)

[Demographics](#)

[Program Participation](#)

[Metrics](#)

[Achievement](#)

[Financial](#)

## Nebraska Department of Education

### NEBRASKA EDUCATION PROFILE

Welcome to the 2020-2021 Nebraska Education Profile. The Nebraska Education Profile (NEP) provides information and data about Nebraska public schools and student performance. The NEP highlights the performance of students by district and school building in English language Arts, mathematics, writing, and science as well as performance by groups of students, including race and ethnicity, poverty, special education, and English Language Learners.

The NEP is the initial transformation of data from the State of the Schools Report and is intended to help inform the public and school officials about school district performance. The NEP is also intended to inform parents, community leaders, and policymakers about our education system and to provide data needed for sound decision making by education leaders. The NEP will continue to grow and change as data is added to the system.

As always, your school district officials can best explain local data and how it applies to the district. Please take time to explore the NEP and learn how schools and students in your community are performing. I encourage parents to talk to the teachers of their students, and to local school officials, about the results and the needs of their students.

Thank you for your continued support of education in Nebraska.

Matthew L. Blomstedt, PhD.


Commissioner of Education.



**NEBRASKA**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

It is the policy of the Nebraska Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age or national





Good Afternoon lcarr3  
Log Out

Agencies You Have Access To:

School Name

At A Glance:

2018-2019

About

Performance

Demographics

Program Participation


Metrics

AQuESTT Reports

AQuESTT Reports

School Name

REPORT	DESCRIPTION
AQuESTT Classification Report	AQuESTT Raw/Final Classification Report for 2018 and later



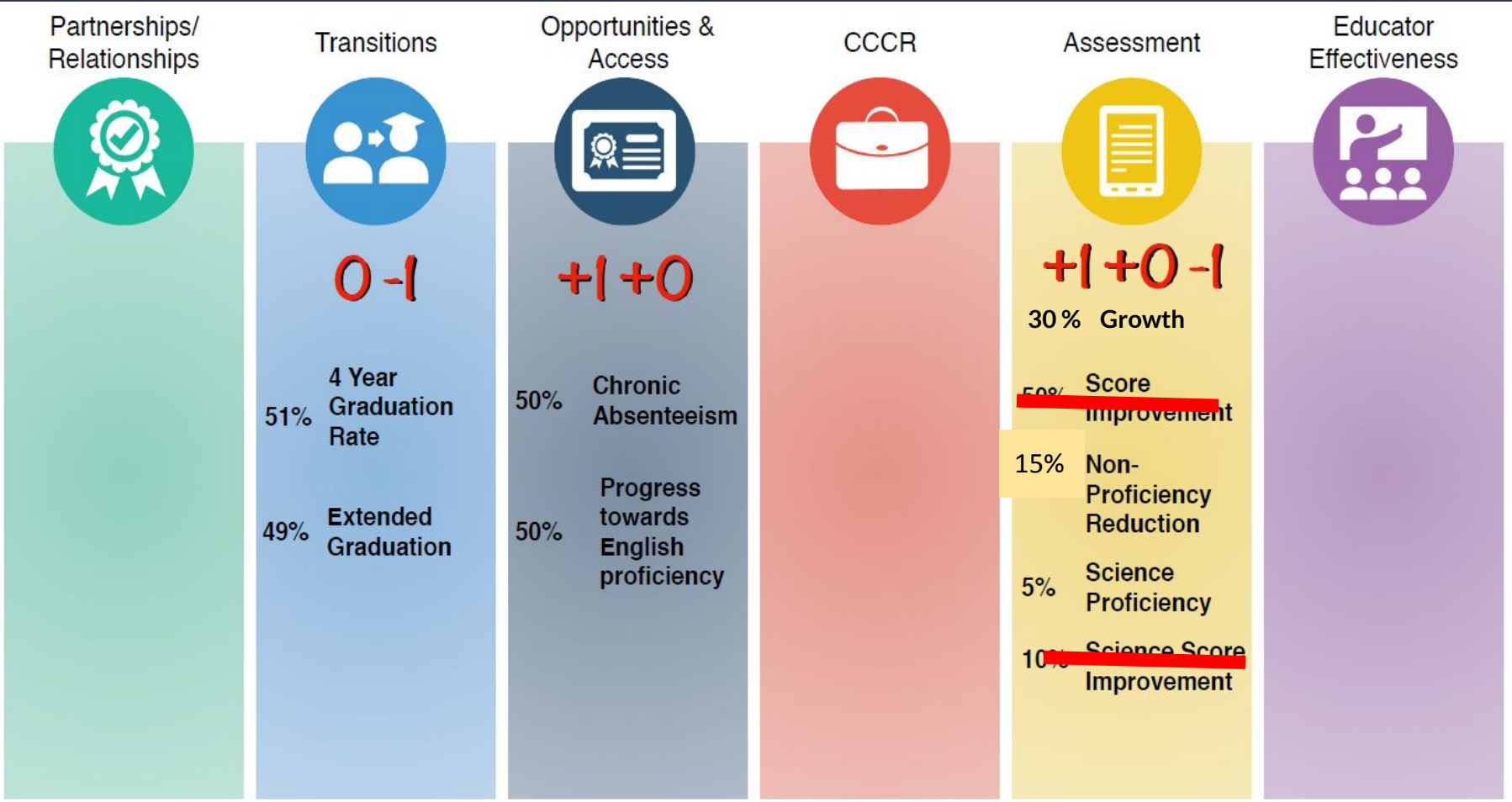
NEBRASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

It is the policy of the Nebraska Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age or national origin in its educational programs, admission policies, employment, or other agency programs.

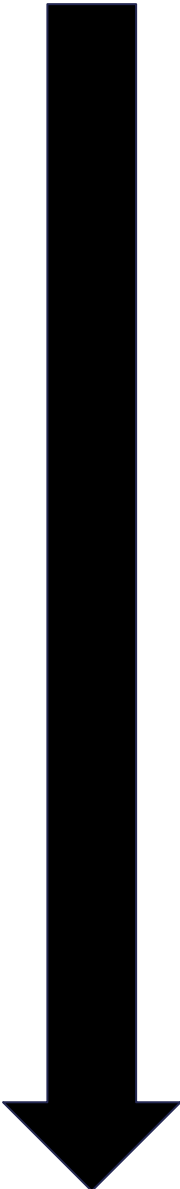
Nebraska.gov | Policies

# Classifications

Status (Percent Proficient): 4, 3, 2, 1



~~Evidence-Based Analysis~~ **+1 +0**



# NEP Secure - Sample AQuESTT Report

1 of 2 ? Find | Next

## AQuESTT Classification Details Report 2019

Middle School Rating

---

### Raw Classification – Summary

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Status: 1  
Participation: No Adjustment

Tenet Adjustments

Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success: N/A  
Transitions: N/A (-1 or 0)  
Educational Opportunities and Access: N/A (0 or +1)  
College, Career, and Civic Ready: N/A  
Assessment: 0 (-1, 0, or +1)  
Educator Effectiveness: N/A

Raw Classification: **1  
Needs Improvement**

Evidence Based Analysis Total Score: 78 / 120  
Evidence Based Analysis Adjustment: Not Eligible

Final Classification: **1  
Needs Improvement**

1 of 2 ? Find | Next

## AQuESTT Classification Details Report 2019

High School Rating

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### Raw Classification – Summary

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Status: 3  
Participation: No Adjustment

Tenet Adjustments

Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success: N/A  
Transitions: 0 (-1 or 0)  
Educational Opportunities and Access: +1 (0 or +1)  
College, Career, and Civic Ready: N/A  
Assessment: 0 (-1, 0, or +1)  
Educator Effectiveness: N/A

Raw Classification: **4  
Excellent**

Evidence Based Analysis Total Score: 117 / 120  
Evidence Based Analysis Adjustment: Not Eligible

Final Classification: **4  
Excellent**

Ratings Last Updated: 10-07-2019



# NEP Secure - Sample AQuESTT Report

2 of 3 ? Find | Next

Middle School Rating

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### Raw Classification – Status Indicator

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	ELA	Math	Total
# of Eligible Assessments	249	249	498
# of Proficient Assessments	83	59	142
	% Proficient		<b>28.51%</b>

Your 2018-2019 Status Score: **28.51%**

Applicable Cut Score for this Middle School: Status Score  $\leq$  32

Your Status Rating: **1**

---

Middle School Rating

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### Raw Classification – Participation Indicator

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	ELA	Math	Science	Total
# of Eligible Students	259	259	85	603
# of Participating Students	258	258	84	600
	% Participating			<b>99.50%</b>

Your 2018-2019 Participation Score: **99.50%**

Applicable Cut Score for This Middle School: Participation Score  $\geq$  95%

What do these data make you wonder?

# NEP Secure - Sample AQuESTT Report

## Elementary School Rating

### Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)

Furthest Progress in CSI Designation: Designated as CSI

Stage 0:	All schools with Schoolwide or Targeted Title I programs
Stage 1:	Title I elementary/middle schools with scores in the lowest quartile of either the Status or English Learner Progress indicators
Stage 2:	Stage 1 schools with scores in the lowest quartile of either the Improvement, Growth, or Non-Proficiency indicators
Stage 3:	Stage 2 schools with the lowest "School Quality and Student Success" score (a combination of the Science Proficiency indicator score, Science Improvement indicator score, Chronic Absenteeism indicator score, and the Evidence Based Analysis total score)

## Middle School Rating

### Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)


Furthest Progress in CSI Designation: None (no Schoolwide or Targeted Title I program)

## Middle School Rating

### Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI)

Subgroup	TSI/ATSI Status
English Learners	Too few students
Economically Disadvantaged	Designated as TSI
American Indian or Alaska Native	Designated as ATSI
Asian	Too few students
Black or African American	Too few students
Hispanic	Designated as TSI
Two Or More Races	Designated as ATSI
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Too few students
White	Designated as TSI
Students with Disabilities	Designated as ATSI

# Attendance (Adviser Validation)



icarr3  
Logout

ADVISER VALIDATION HOME

ERRORS

Review Errors

Reprocess Errors

Error Summary

VERIFICATION REPORTS

Students

Staff

District Admin Sign Off

LOOKUPS

Enrollment Lookup by ID

Student Lookup by ID

Student Lookup by Demographics

Special Education Programs Lookup

Current District:

Select

School Year: 2022-2023

2022-2023

Select

STUDENT VERIFICATION REPORTS

General and Miscellaneous

Assessment

Career Education

Early Childhood

Enrollment

Graduation Cohort


Membership and Attendance

Special Education

Early Childhood		
Enrollment		
Graduation Cohort		
Membership and Attendance		
REPORT	DESCRIPTION	REVIEW
Membership by Grade, Race and Gender	Membership counts by Grade, Race and Gender at District or School level	Fall
Membership Roster	List of students in Membership by Grade and by School	Fall
Option Out Students	List of students listed as Optioning Out of your district as reported by the Option In district.	Fall & Year-End
Contract Out Students	Count of students reported as contracted out.	Fall & Year-End
Calendar Details	Displays details about each Calendar defined within the district, including which dates are Instructional Days	Fall & Year-End
Student Attendance Summary	List of students and their summarized attendance records. Report is available by school and then by grade.	Throughout School Year
Average Daily Attendance / Average Daily Membership	Calculation of Average Daily Attendance (ADA) and Average Daily Membership (ADM) by District or by School.	Year-End
Comparison Of Membership Totals	Membership by School compared with previous year	Fall



# Attendance (Adviser Validation)



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Logout

Current District:

Select

School Year: 2021-2022

2021-2022

Select

Reporting Window

Full Year

Location

From Date (optional)

To Date (optional)

Grade Level

<< ALL GRADES >>

View Report

1 of 4

Find | Next

GRADE: 06

NDE STUDENT ID	LOCAL ID	LAST NAME, FIRST NAME	ENTRY DATE	EXIT DATE	DAYS ABSENT	DAYS PRESENT	DAYS ENROLLED	CALENDAR DAYS IN SESSION	FTE	ADA SHARE	ADM SHARE	CHRON. ABSENT
			2021-07-01	2021-11-03	4.62	49.78	54.40	165.50	100	0.3008	0.3287	
STUDENTS: 1		GRADE 06 TOTAL			4.62	49.78	54.40			0.3008	0.3287	0%

GRADE: 08

NDE STUDENT ID	LOCAL ID	LAST NAME, FIRST NAME	ENTRY DATE	EXIT DATE	DAYS ABSENT	DAYS PRESENT	DAYS ENROLLED	CALENDAR DAYS IN SESSION	FTE	ADA SHARE	ADM SHARE	CHRON. ABSENT
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	10.54	154.96	165.50	165.50	100	0.9363	1.0000	
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	7.85	157.85	165.50	165.50	100	0.9538	1.0000	
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	11.09	154.41	165.50	165.50	100	0.9330	1.0000	
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	5.27	160.23	165.50	165.50	100	0.9692	1.0000	
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	24.83	140.67	165.50	165.50	100	0.8500	1.0000	Yes
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	13.91	151.59	165.50	165.50	100	0.9400	1.0000	
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	10.20	155.30	165.50	165.50	100	0.9384	1.0000	
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	7.98	157.52	165.50	165.50	100	0.9518	1.0000	
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	4.10	161.40	165.50	165.50	100	0.9752	1.0000	
			2021-07-01	2022-06-30	7.61	157.89	165.50	165.50	100	0.9540	1.0000	

# Adviser Reports - Student level results breakdown

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V
	TEST_VER	SCHOOL	School_Name	NDE_STU	LastSurname	FirstName	BirthDate	Grade_Lev	SUBJECT	RACE_ETH	GENDER	SPED	EL	REDESIGN	FRL	HOMELESS	MILITARY	FOSTER_C	DISTRICT	SCHOOL_F	SCALE_SC	PERFORM
1	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	A	A	x	7 E	WH	M	Y	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2512	3
2	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	A	A	x	7 M	WH	M	Y	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1189	3
3	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	B	B	x	8 E	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2606	2
4	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	B	B	x	8 M	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1242	3
5	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	B	B	x	8 S	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	97	2
6	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	C	C	x	8 E	WH	M	Y	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2522	3
7	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	C	C	x	8 M	WH	M	Y	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1217	3
8	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	C	C	x	8 S	WH	M	Y	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	33	3
9	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	D	D	x	8 E	WH	M	N	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2599	2
10	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	D	D	x	8 M	WH	M	N	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1271	2
11	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	D	D	x	8 S	WH	M	N	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	92	2
12	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	E	E	x	8 E	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2501	3
13	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	E	E	x	8 M	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1231	3
14	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	E	E	x	8 S	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	66	3
15	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	F	F	x	8 E	WH	F	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2625	2
16	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	F	F	x	8 M	WH	F	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1244	3
17	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	F	F	x	8 S	WH	F	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	115	2
18	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	G	G	x	7 E	WH	M	N	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2514	3
19	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	G	G	x	7 M	WH	M	N	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1231	3
20	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	H	H	x	7 E	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2617	2
21	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	H	H	x	7 M	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1287	2
22	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	I	I	x	7 E	WH	F	N	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2530	3
23	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	I	I	x	7 M	WH	F	N	N		0 Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1212	3
24	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	J	J	x	8 E	WH	F	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2684	1
25	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	J	J	x	8 M	WH	F	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1275	2
26	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	J	J	x	8 S	WH	F	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	121	2
27	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	K	K	x	7 E	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2570	2
28	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	K	K	x	7 M	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	1257	2
29	NSCAS	x	Middle School	x	I	I	x	7 F	WH	M	N	N		0 N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	2480	3

Pathway: [NEP Portal](#) → Student & Staff (NSSRS) → Adviser Validation → Students → Assessment → Download NSCAS Assessment Results

# NSCAS Growth Platform

## Questions?

Aly Martinez-Wilkinson  
[aly.martinez.wilkinson@nwea.org](mailto:aly.martinez.wilkinson@nwea.org)

## nwea State Solutions

### Sign In

Enter your username and password to manage students, schedule admins, monitor tests, and view report data.

For more information about NWEA State Solutions, visit [www.nwea.org/state-solutions/](http://www.nwea.org/state-solutions/)

Username

Password

[Forgot](#)

[Sign In](#)

[Return to CAP login](#)

nwea

Ensuring all my students receive what they need to be academically successful.



# ELPA 21 Portal

Questions?

Allyson DenBeste  
[allyson.denbeste@nebraska.gov](mailto:allyson.denbeste@nebraska.gov)

The screenshot shows the ELPA 21 Portal homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Users, Resources, Supported Browsers, and Register for Email Updates, along with a search bar. Below the navigation bar is a header section featuring the Nebraska Department of Education logo and the ELPA21 logo. The main content area has a large banner image of a mountain peak with the text "Welcome to the Nebraska Portal" and "This portal contains information about the Nebraska English Language Proficiency Assessments." Below the banner, there are three main sections: "Browse by User" with a photo of a family reading and a link for "Students and Families"; "Quick Access" with three system-wide announcements: "Important Dates", "Order Headsets", and "Practice Tests"; and "Announcements" with two informational updates: "2022-23 Screener and Participation Reports Now Available" and "Summer Updates to TIDE".

Home Users Resources Supported Browsers Register for Email Updates Search here...

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ELPA21

## Welcome to the Nebraska Portal

This portal contains information about the Nebraska English Language Proficiency Assessments.

### Browse by User

**Students and Families**  
Access practice tests and other resources to help students prepare for testing.

### Quick Access

**SYSTEM**  
**Important Dates**  
View upcoming events. Updated throughout the year.

**SYSTEM**  
**Order Headsets**  
Learn how to order ELPA21 headsets.

**SYSTEM**  
**Practice Tests**  
Become familiar with the testing system and types of questions on the operational tests.

### Announcements

**INFORMATIONAL**  
**2022-23 Screener and Participation Reports Now Available**  
8/2/2022  
The ELPA21 Screener and Participations Reports are now available (online, paper-pencil, and braille).

**INFORMATIONAL | SYSTEM**  
**Summer Updates to TIDE**  
7/20/2022  
TIDE will be offline for scheduled updates from Monday, July 25, 2022, through Monday, August 1, 2022.

# Reflections

- What are you still wondering about after reviewing these data sources? Business rules?
- How could we make this information clearer?
- What additional tools or resources would be helpful?



# RE • STORING NORMAL

*Thank you!*

**Contact Us!**

**Dr. Shirley Vargas**

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