

The School Quality Rating Policy Update (SQRP)



Reminder of key changes in policy

Prior Performance Policy

- Metrics centered on assessments, attendance, and progress towards graduation
- **Three categories** of performance
- Evaluated Option schools using traditional high school metrics
- ISAT was the main elementary assessment
- Used CPS historical benchmarks
- Did not account for test participation



SY14-15 School Quality Rating Policy

- Metrics better aligned to district's strategic action plan, e.g., **college enrollment, persistence, priority student group growth, 5Essentials**
- **Five category** ratings to more effectively differentiate among schools
- **New Option School model** more targeted to the students served
- ISAT was eliminated by ISBE, leaving the district without a measure of student achievement and growth; **replaced with NWEA MAP**
- Performance benchmarks are tied to **national standards** where possible
- Target **test participation rate of 95%**



A broad range of external and internal stakeholders provided input into the development of SQRP

School operators

- CPS Cabinet
- CPS Network Chiefs and staff
- CPS Principals
- Accountability Task Force
- Charter leaders (multi-campus and single site)
- Option School leaders
- AUSL

Other stakeholders

- Consortium on Chicago School Research
- CTU
- CPAA
- INCS
- Network for College Success
- Advance Illinois
- Chicago Public Education Fund
- Local School Council Advisory Board
- Raise Your Hand
- VOYCE
- More than a Score



Why amend the policy further?

Nomenclature Change

- Students, Parents, Teachers and other stakeholders were already familiar with schools ranked using a Level system. We received feedback that indicated a preference for continuing to use system based on Levels.

Level 1 CEO Determination

- With the new SQRP metrics, a variety of factors are looked at to rate a school. A significant change at the school (e.g. principal change) can negatively skew several of these factors in the short term. Therefore, the proposed amendment allows for a CEO determination to be made for a Level 1 school in this situation to remain Level 1 for a one-year period.



What do the ratings mean?

- Level 1+ is the highest performance; **Principal autonomy and sharing best practices**
- Level 1 is high performance; **Principal autonomy and network support**
- Level 2+ is average performance; **Principal autonomy and network oversight**
- Level 2 is below average performance; **“provisional support”** with network oversight and District review; autonomy, but risk of non-renewal for charter and contract schools
- Level 3 is the lowest performance; school is in need of **“intensive support”** with District oversight and direct intervention such as principal removal, ordering new LSC elections, and/or implementing a turnaround model; charter Academic Warning List



What do the ratings mean?

- Level 1+ is the highest performance; **Principal autonomy and sharing best practices**
- Level 1 is high performance; **Principal autonomy and network support**
- Level 2+ is average performance; **Principal autonomy and network oversight**
- Level 2 is below average performance; **“provisional support”** with network oversight and District review; autonomy, but risk of non-renewal for charter and contract schools
- Level 3 is the lowest performance; school is in need of **“intensive support”** with District oversight and direct intervention such as principal removal, ordering new LSC elections, and/or implementing a turnaround model; charter Academic Warning List

