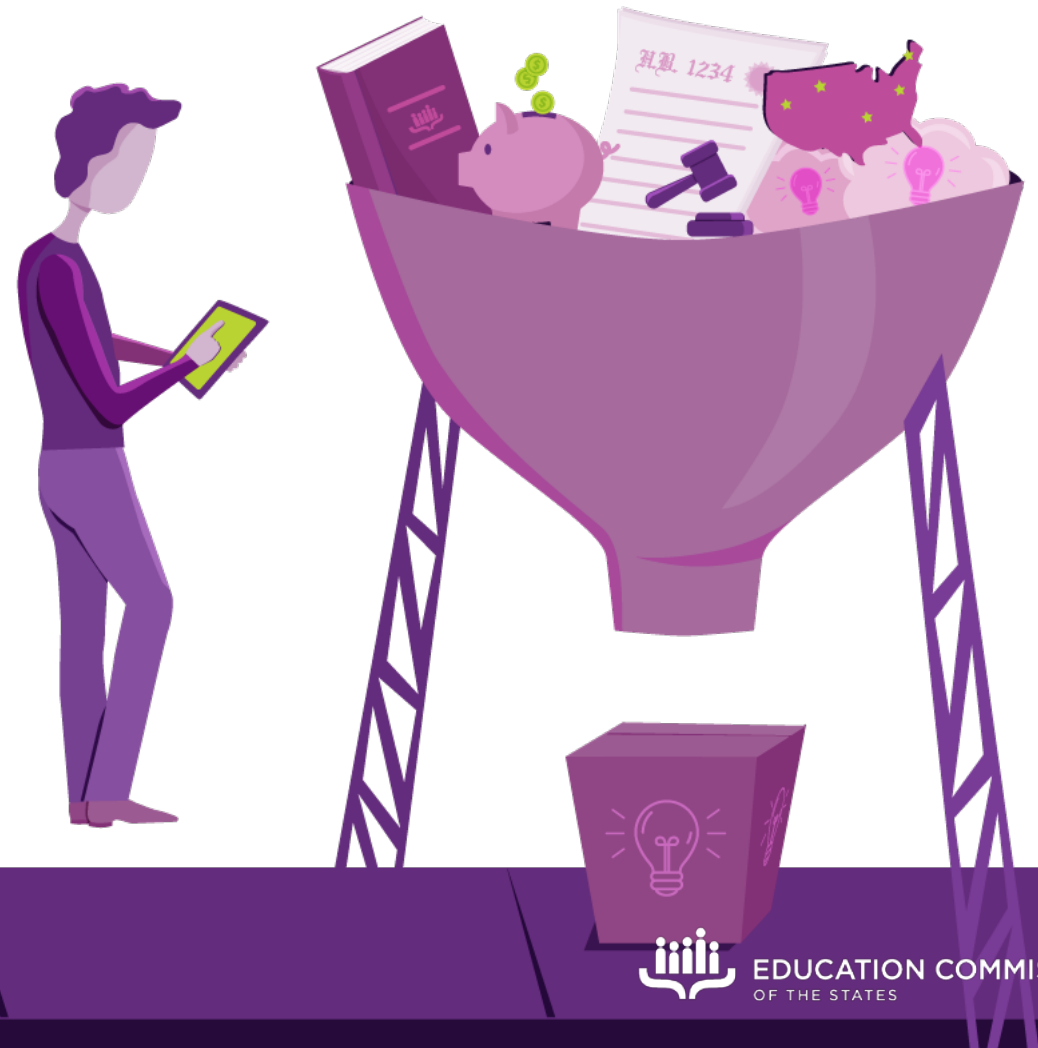


Accountability Across the States

Julie Woods, Education Commission of the States

Who we are.

The essential, indispensable member of any team addressing education policy.



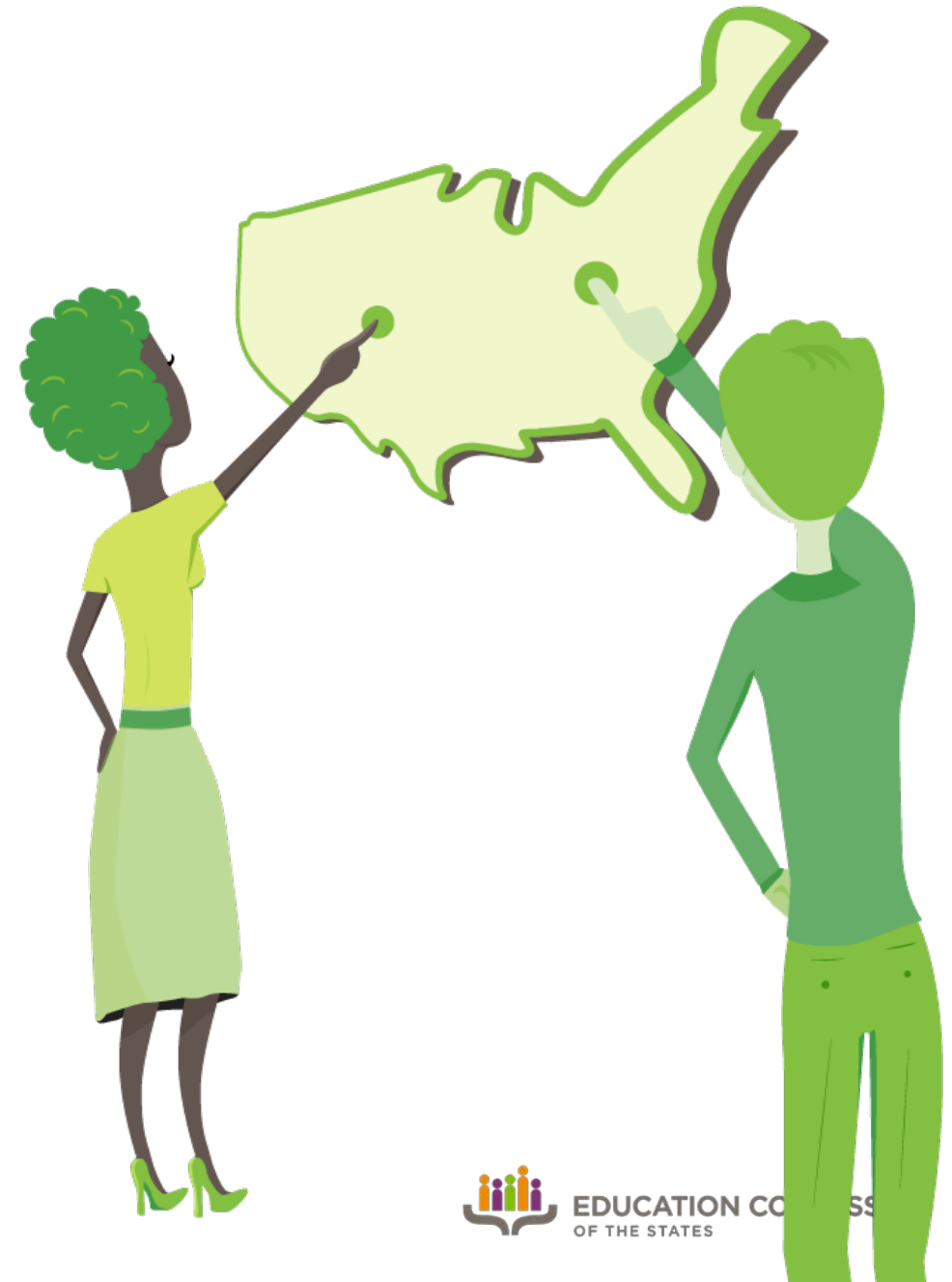
What we do.

We believe in the power of learning from experience and we know informed policymakers create better education policy.



How we do it.

We research, report,
convene and counsel.

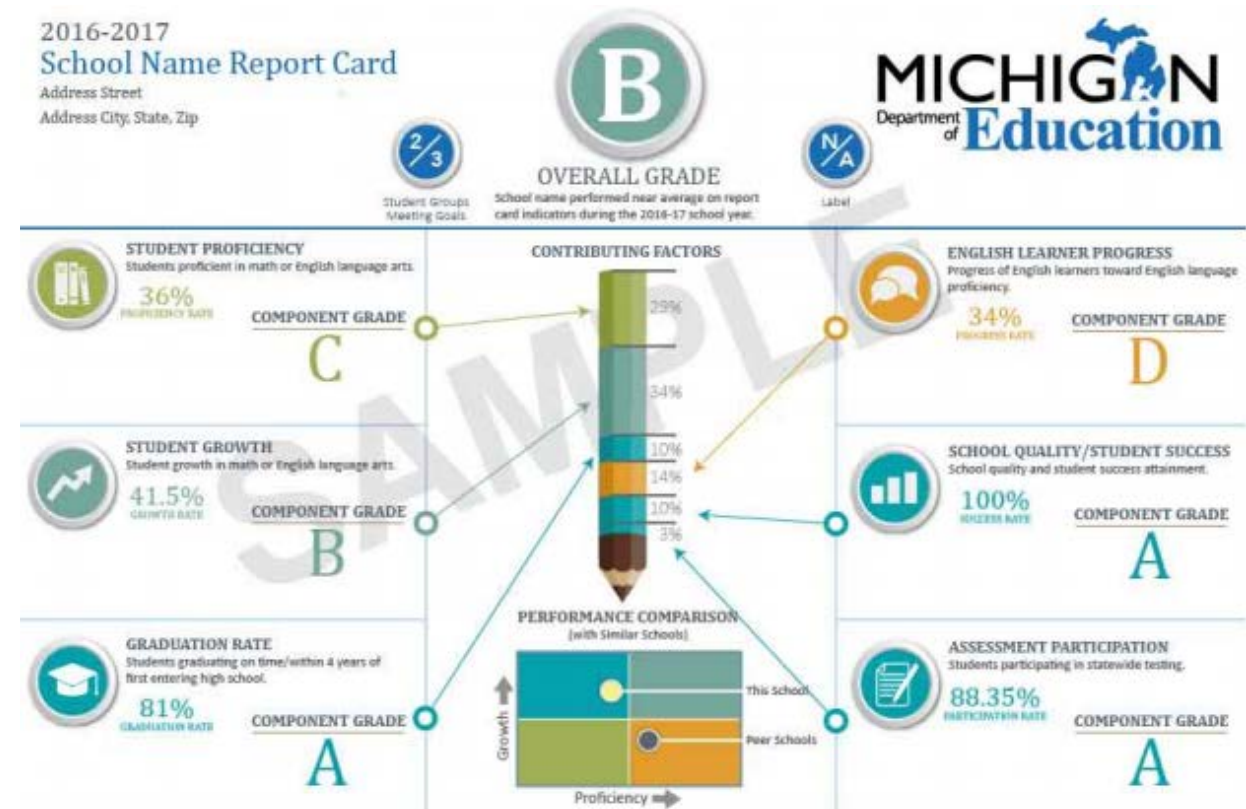


Outline

- What do we mean by accountability?
- What do school accountability systems look like across the country?
- What are key accountability levers?
- Questions to consider

Big Picture

- How well are our schools serving our students?
- Federal law
 - NCLB (2001) → ESSA (2015)



Food for Thought

- Purposes
 - Who is held accountable?
 - For achieving what goal?
- Activities
 - Measuring
 - Reporting
 - Improving
- End users
 - Parents
 - Schools and districts
 - State leaders

Accountability Systems Across the States

- Metrics & Weights
- Ratings
- Report cards
- Financial transparency

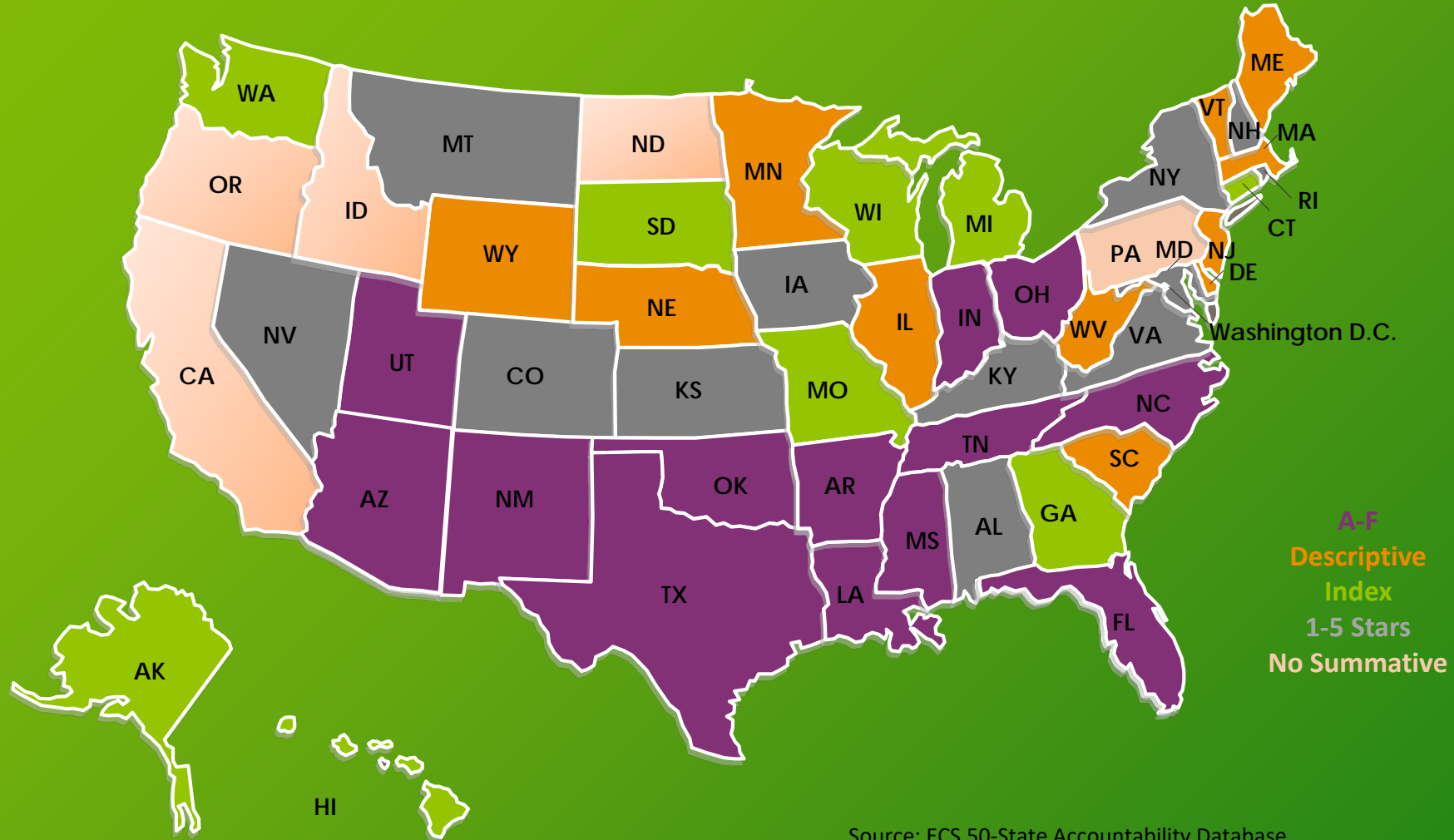


Common Accountability Metrics

- Student achievement
- Student growth
- High school graduation rate
- English language proficiency
- School quality/student success
























Common Rating Systems



Source: ECS 50-State Accountability Database

Report Cards & Financial Transparency

- School performance
- Student performance
- Teacher data
- Disciplinary data
- Per-pupil spending

Education Quality Standards Domains	Performance		Equity Index	
	Current ⓘ	Change ⓘ	Current ⓘ	Change ⓘ
 <p>Academic Proficiency How well do our schools provide students with opportunities to develop their skills and knowledge to be career and college ready? Indicators include, Math, English Language Arts, Science, and Physical Education Assessments, English Language Proficiency, Graduation Rates, Career and College Ready Assessments and Outcomes.</p>	 Approaching	 Not Improving	 Not Meeting	 Not Improving
 <p>Personalization How well do our schools provide students with authentic engagement and opportunities to shape their own learning? Indicators include Flexible Pathway Participation and Offerings and Personalized Learning Plans.</p>	 Not Meeting	 Declining	 Exceeding	 Improving
 <p>Safe, Healthy Schools How well do our schools provide environments where students feel healthy, safe, and supported in achieving their goals? Indicators include Disciplinary Exclusion and Student and Staff School Climate Survey.</p>	 Meeting	 Excelling	 Approaching	 Improving
 <p>High Quality Staffing How well do our schools employ educators who are well trained and qualified to meet the needs of all student? Indicators include Rates of Licensed Teachers, Staff Stability, and Satisfaction with Professional Development and Evaluation Systems.</p>	 Approaching	 Declining	N/A	N/A
 <p>Investment Priorities How well do our schools provide quality experiences at a price that the community believes is appropriate? Indicators include Staffing Ratios, Per Student Expenditures, and School Return on Investment.</p>	 Approaching	 Not Improving	N/A	N/A

Accountability Levers

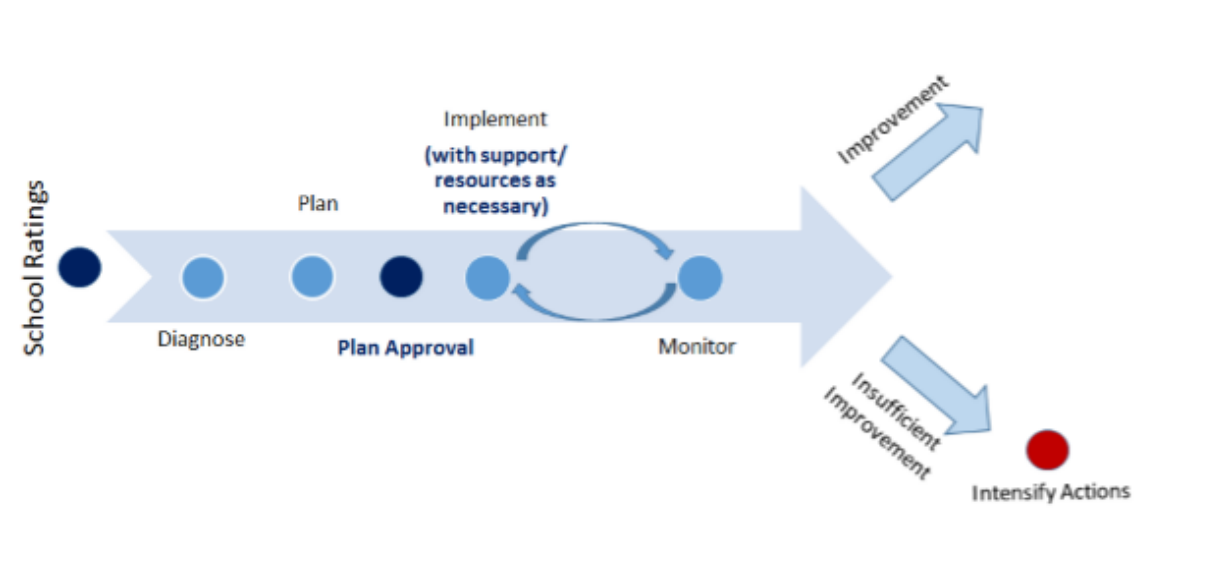
Promoting improvement

Rewarding progress and performance

Engaging stakeholders

Promote Improvement

- Needs assessment
- Improvement plan
- Increased intervention and oversight
- Alternative governance



Reward Progress and Performance

- Funding
 - Arkansas School Recognition Program
 - Arizona College Credit by Exam Incentive Program
 - Texas proposed outcomes reward
- Flexibility
 - Tennessee high performing districts
 - North Dakota waivers

Engage Local Stakeholders

- Accountability plans
 - California
 - Maryland ([MD Ed Code § 5-401](#))
- Local councils
 - Colorado
 - Massachusetts
- Reporting

Maryland

- Independent oversight board
 - May withhold up to 25% of new funds
- Expert review teams

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California

- Local Control Funding Formula
 - 10 Priority Areas
 - State or local accountability metric for each priority area
- Local Control and Accountability Plans

Moving Forward

- What are our state's goals for schools?
- Who is held accountable for achieving those goals?
- What root problems are we solving with accountability levers?
- What requirements are already in place?
- What is the burden or cost of additional measuring and reporting?
- What consequences are we truly willing to implement?
- How well are we using the data we already have?

Questions?

Julie Woods – jwoods@ecs.org

Sara Shelton – sshelton@ecs.org