

Date of Hearing: June 28, 2023

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Al Muratsuchi, Chair

SB 609 (Caballero) – As Amended June 8, 2023

SENATE VOTE: 36-0

SUBJECT: Local control and accountability plans: California School Dashboard

SUMMARY: Requires school districts, county offices of education (COEs), and charter schools to post the current school year's approved local control and accountability plans (LCAPs) on the performance overview portion of the California School Dashboard (Dashboard). Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Requires school districts, COEs, and charter schools to post the current school year's LCAPs, that have been approved by the applicable governing boards of school districts, county boards of education, or the governing bodies of charter schools and have been approved pursuant to Section 47606.5, 52070, or 52070.5, on the performance overview portion of the Dashboard.
- 2) Requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to ensure that each school district, county offices of education (COEs), and charter school has complied with the requirement to post their LCAPs on the Dashboard.
- 3) Establishes this act as an urgency statute necessary to ensure parents, community members, and pupil advocates have streamlined access to local educational agencies' LCAPs for the 2023-24 school year.

EXISTING LAW:

- 1) Requires the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to post links to all LCAPs approved by the governing boards of school districts, COEs, and the governing bodies of charter schools, on the website of the CDE. (Education Code (EC) 52065 (c))
- 2) Requires a county superintendent of schools to prominently post on the homepage of the COE website the COE's LCAP approved by the county board of education, and all LCAPs submitted by school districts and charter schools. (EC 52065 (b))
- 3) Requires the superintendent of a school district to prominently post on the homepage of the website any LCAP approved by the governing board of the LEA and any LCAP submitted by charter schools that were authorized by the school district. (EC 52065)
- 4) Requires LEAs to adopt and annually revise LCAPs, establishing annual goals and identifying specific actions, in the following eight state priority areas:
 - a) The degree to which the teachers of the school district are appropriately assigned and fully credentialed in the subject areas, and, for the pupils they are teaching, every pupil in the school district has sufficient access to the standards-aligned instructional materials, and school facilities are maintained in good repair;

- b) Implementation of the academic content and performance standards adopted by the SBE, including how the programs and services will enable English learners (ELs) to access the common core academic content standards and the English language development standards (ELD), for purposes of gaining academic content knowledge and English language proficiency;
 - c) Parental involvement, including efforts the school district makes to seek parent input in making decisions for the school district and each individual school site, and including how the school district will promote parental participation in programs for unduplicated pupils and individuals with exceptional needs;
 - d) Pupil achievement, as measured by specified metrics at the state level;
 - e) Pupil engagement, as measured by specified metrics at the state level;
 - f) School climate, as measured by specified metrics at the state level and as developed locally;
 - g) The extent to which pupils have access to, and are enrolled in, a broad course of study, including the programs and services developed and provided to unduplicated pupils and individuals with exceptional needs, and the programs and services that are provided to benefit these pupils as a result of the funding received under the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF); and
 - h) Pupil outcomes, as measured by specified metrics at the state level. (EC 52060, 47604.33, 47606.5, 52064)
- 5) Requires governing boards of school districts and county boards of education when adopting an LCAP and an annual update to:
- a) Establish a parent advisory committee to provide advice to the governing board of the school district and the superintendent of the school district regarding the LCAP;
 - b) Establish an English learner parent advisory committee if the school district includes at least 15% ELs in the school district and the school district enrolls at least 50 pupils who are ELs;
 - c) Hold at least one public hearing to solicit recommendations and comments of members of the public;
 - d) Adopt the LCAP or annual update at a public meeting;
 - e) Submit the approved LCAP with the county superintendent of schools within five days of local adoption;
 - f) Further requires the district superintendent to:
 - i) Present the LCAP to the parent advisory committee and the ELPAC for review and comment;

- ii) Notify members of the public of the opportunity to submit written comments related to the LCAP;
 - iii) Review school plans to ensure consistency with the strategies included in the School Plan for Student Achievement;
 - iv) Consult with the special education local plan administrator(s); and
 - v) Post approved LCAPs prominently on the homepage of the website of the school district; and
 - g) Requires charter schools to annually adopt an LCAP to update the goals and annual actions to achieve the goals identified in the charter petition.
 - h) Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt LCAP templates to be used by school districts, county superintendents of schools, and charter schools. (EC 52060, 47604.33, 47606.5, 52064)
- 6) Requires, on or before July 1, 2015, and each year thereafter, a school district to update the LCAP. Requires the annual update to be developed using a template adopted by the state board. (EC 52061)

FISCAL EFFECT: According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8, negligible state costs.

COMMENTS:

Key provisions of the bill. This bill would require school districts, COEs and charter schools to post their current year approved LCAPs to the Dashboard, and would require the CDE to ensure that each school district, COE, and charter school has met the requirement. Existing law requires the SPI to post links to all LCAPs approved by the governing boards of school districts, county boards of education and the governing bodies of charter schools on the CDE’s website.

Need for the bill. According to the author, “The enactment of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) was intended to address educational inequities and provide schools, parents, and communities with the local control necessary to meet their unique needs. However, to have *true* local control, we must guarantee that parents and communities are well informed of the decisions made by local education agencies. SB 609 would ensure parents and communities understand where multibillion dollar investments dedicated to serving students are made by streamlining access to information. Specifically, this bill would require the CDE to post links to all LCAPs on the Dashboard.”

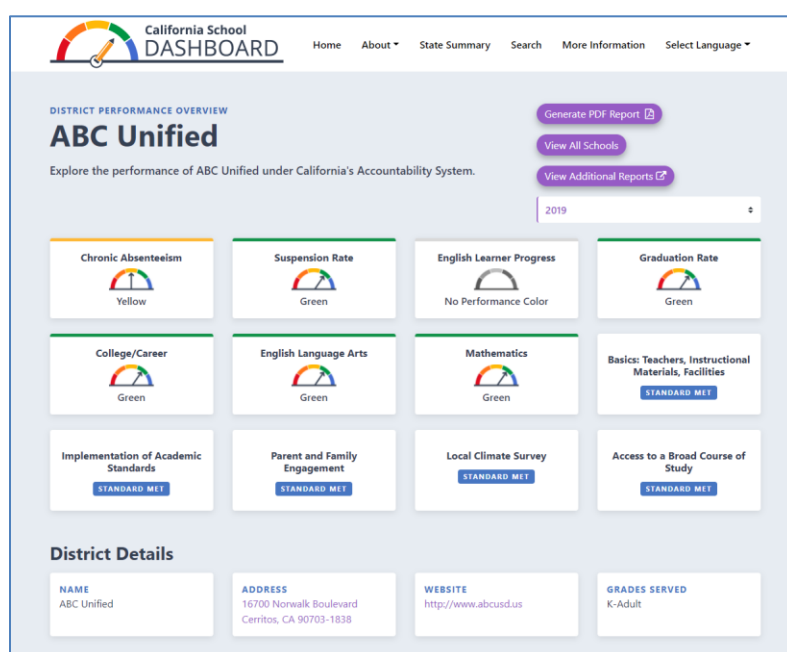
LCAPs. The LCFF was established in the 2013-14 fiscal year to address the achievement gap by providing more equitable funding among LEAs, that is, to provide a higher level of funding to LEAs that enroll larger numbers of English learners, foster youth, and students eligible for free- or reduced-price meals (unduplicated pupils) so they could provide those students with additional services and support. The reforms to the funding system were accompanied by changes to the state accountability system, including LCAPs. The LCAP is a three-year plan that describes the goals, actions, services, and expenditures to support positive student outcomes that address state and local priorities. The LCAP provides an opportunity for LEAs (school districts, COEs, and

charter schools) to share their stories of how, what, and why programs and services are selected to meet their local needs.

The CDE posts links to school district and COE LCAPs on their website; the CDE does not host or post the LCAP files directly. On CDE's website for 2022-23 LCAPs, 43 counties report no LCAPs, 7 counties included only a partial list of LCAPs, and 8 counties included links to all LCAPs for school districts and the COE. Some education advocates share a longstanding frustration related to their ease of access to individual LCAPs: they may be hard to locate or are unavailable on a school district, COE or charter school website. Each school district, COE, and charter school must complete the LCAP template adopted by the SBE. However, there is no state mechanism to aggregate individual LCAPs, thus making analysis of LCAPs across issue areas or demographic groups challenging to complete.

California School Dashboard. The Dashboard is an online tool that reports school and LEA performance and progress on both state and local measures. State measures apply to LEAs and charter schools, and student groups, and are based on data that is collected consistently across the state. Local measures apply at the LEA and charter school level and are based on data collected at the local level. Charter schools are displayed as their own LEA on the Dashboard independent of their authorizer.

The state and local measures are drawn from the ten priority areas of the LCFF. The Dashboard is updated annually. LEAs receive one of five color-coded performance levels on the state indicators. From highest to lowest, the five performance levels are: Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, and Red. For the 2022 Dashboard only, performance is based on one of five Status levels ranging from Very High, High, Medium, Low, and Very Low and is calculated using 2021–22 school year data. The data displayed on the Dashboard is used to determine which LEAs and charter schools receive Differentiated Assistance (DA) by COEs and the Statewide System of Support. Eligibility for DA is based on the LEA and school performance on the state and indicators (or colors) on the Dashboard.



This bill would require school districts, COEs, and charter schools to submit their LCAP file to the performance overview portion of the Dashboard, as shown in the image to the left. The performance overview portion of the Dashboard is the main landing page for a specific school district, COE, or charter school. ***The Committee may wish to consider*** that the May Revision includes a provision to gradually move up the annual release date of the Dashboard to October 15th by the 2026-27 school year, in order for policymakers at the state and

local level to inform decision-making at an earlier point of the school year.

Recommended Committee Amendments. *Staff recommend the bill be amended* as follows:

- Clarify which version of an LEA’s adopted/approved LCAP is posted on the Dashboard.
- Require the CDE to notify each school district, COE, and charter school of the requirement to post their LCAP to the Dashboard.

Arguments in support. Public Advocates writes, “Existing law requires the superintendent of a school district to post their LCAPs on the school district website, and further requires the county superintendent of a school district to post LCAPs on the internet website of the county office of education (COE). Unfortunately, LCAP information and data is often difficult to locate and in some instances are buried deep within a district or COE’s website, making this vital information nearly impossible to find. SB 609 would require the California Department of Education (CDE) to post links to all approved LCAPs on the California School Dashboard.

LCAPs are a vital tool to understand how LCFF funds are utilized. SB 609 would improve transparency by making this information more accessible to students, families, and communities, thereby increasing the likelihood of community engagement in the LCAP development process. Increased transparency and community engagement will also strengthen accountability to ensure LCFF expenditures are improving student outcomes and closing achievement gaps.”

Related legislation. SB 3 (Caballero) of the 2021-22 Session would have required the CDE, on or before July 1, 2023, to develop a LCAP portal that contains a database connected to a data entry tool that allows comprehensive analysis of LCAPs adopted by an LEA. This bill was held in the Assembly Education Committee.

AB 967 (Smith) of the 2019-20 Session would have required school districts and charter schools to increase efforts to obtain stakeholder engagement while developing the LCAP, would have required school districts and charter schools to establish a LCAP foster youth advisory committee, and would have added requirements to the charter school LCAP development and review processes. This bill was vetoed by the Governor, with the following message:

This year's education budget trailer bill included several provisions that increase transparency around charter school LCAPs. These reforms will be in effect for the first time as charter schools develop their LCAPs this spring.

This bill imposes additional requirements on charter schools beyond what was reflected in the final 2019-2020 budget and other measures signed into law this year. I believe the recently enacted changes should be given a chance to work before these additional requirements should be considered.

AB 1965 (Kim) of the 2015-16 Session would have required LCAPs and updates and revisions to the LCAPs to be posted on a school district's and county office of education's website in languages other than English if specified conditions are met. The bill would have further required charter schools to post on their website their annual update of goals and actions and requires each update to also translate these documents, as specified. This bill would have required the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to post on the CDE website links to the approved LCAP of each school district and county office of education in each language posted

on the website of the district or county office of education. This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 97 (Committee on Budget), Chapter 47, Statutes of 2013, requires the superintendent of a school district to post on the website of the school district any LCAP approved by the governing board of the school district, and any updates or revisions to an LCAP approved by the governing board of the school district.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

Children Now
Go Public Schools
Public Advocates Inc.
Teach Plus

Opposition

None on file

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