



On Tuesday, March 7, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) released the latest scores for school districts across the state. We would like to explain a little more about what these results are and what they mean for our district.

### What is the APR?

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has an accountability model for school districts called the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP), used for determining accreditation. To score districts on their performance and improvement, DESE provides data through the Annual Performance Report (APR). Additionally, the Dixon R-I School District monitors and evaluates district data on a daily basis.

### How is this score different from previous years?

This is the first year DESE is using the sixth version of its accountability model (MSIP 6). There are a few notable differences between this model and the previous one, listed below:

- This is the *pilot* year for scoring schools using the standards for MSIP 6.
- Scoring of Status and Growth in student performance is much different than MSIP 5, the previous accountability model.
- Status and Growth are also scored separately, while in the previous model, they could be scored in conjunction.
- As a District, we will continue to learn how the new scoring works as we simultaneously focus on best educational practices for all Dixon R-I students.

As a district, we received 61.9% of the available data points. It's important to note that the data in the APR is from the *Spring of 2022*. While this data has just recently been packaged and released to the public, our school district has had access to certain pieces of it since the start of this school year. Therefore, we have already implemented action steps and goals to address the needs of our students and continue to do so on a regular basis.

### What is the CSIP?

During the Fall of 2022, Dixon R-I developed a team of internal and external stakeholders to develop a [Continuous School Improvement Plan \(CSIP\)](#). The CSIP, approved by the Board of Education in January of 2023, is a strategic plan which provides a framework through which the district will support the schools to ensure the academic success and well-being of each student. CSIP goals were created to address areas of focus and improvement, many of which are also reflected in the recently released APR results.

Below, we would like to share some of the things we're doing *right now* that we believe will address areas needed improvement we have drawn from our APR score and have already addressed within our CSIP.

#### Action in Progress

- **CSIP goal 1.1 & 1.2-** *Both goals address improved student performance in reading and math.* This year the district has implemented a powerful new assessment tool in IReady, which allows a much better way to measure student learning in those two content areas. Our teachers are using this information to provide more focused support to our students, which is positively impacting student learning.
- **CSIP goal 1.3-** *This goal focuses on Success Ready Students.* We continue to encourage increased student enrollment in dual credit/dual enrollment courses, provide support to improve student performance on the ACT, ASVAB, WorkKeys and Accuplacer, all of which help prepare students for their life after high school.
- **CSIP goal 1.4-** *This goal focuses on student performance on all state assessments.* All Dixon R-I Schools will have intervention time built into the school day by the fall of 2023 to address the particular learning needs of each student. Likewise, we continue the work to align our assessments to Missouri Learning Standards through our work in the District Continuous Improvement initiative, which is essential for improved performance on those assessments.
- **CSIP goal 1.5-** *This goal focuses on student attendance.* Specifically each school's leadership team and support staff is drafting plans now to encourage at least 90% attendance for each student. This category is vital, as we are scored for this metric in particular, and we know regular student attendance is critical to their success and learning.
- **CSIP goal 1.6-** *This goal focuses on Professional Development and learning for all staff.* All certified staff members will continue to learn best practices so we are better prepared to meet our students' needs. A few examples of this continual professional development includes, but is not limited to;
  - Superintendent participating in the 22-23 Missouri Superintendents' Academy
  - Principals on-going participation in the Missouri Leadership Development System
  - Teacher support from consultants in District Continuous Improvement
  - Teacher attendance at the Powerful Learning Conference, LETRS training (science of reading), Building Thinking Classrooms training, Content-specific conferences, and *many* more, all with the goal of improving instruction for our students.

The message here is a simple one. The Dixon R-I team is **D**edicated to **O**ptimizing the **G**rowth of each **S**tudent. That is our mission. We will continue to improve in areas of need for students' benefit, and we will celebrate the innumerable things we do each day for students that are not captured in this APR. Go Bulldogs!