

Memo: School-Level Performance Update on Statewide Accountability Letter Grades

As part of our commitment to transparency and continuous improvement, we are pleased to share an overview of our schools' performance on the 2024 statewide accountability grades. This data highlights both areas of sustained excellence and those needing targeted support.

A-F School Letter Grades

Under Arizona Revised Statutes § 15-241, the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) is required, with final approval by the State Board of Education (Board), to create an annual achievement profile for every public school in the state using an A-F grading scale. This grading system incorporates various metrics, including state assessment results, English learner assessment results, attendance, special education metrics, graduation rates, progress toward graduation, and activities completed by graduating seniors that prepare them for college and career. The resulting letter grades released by the State reflect the performance of the prior school year.

ASU Prep Academy Performance Summary:

- **Consistent High Performers:** Schools like ASUP Casa Grande (7-12) and ASUP Poly High School (8-12) continue to maintain strong “A” ratings, reflecting a track record of sustained academic excellence.
- **Schools Showing Improvement:** ASUP Phoenix Elementary (K-4) improved from a “D” to a “C,” reflecting the positive impact of recent interventions. ASUP Poly Middle School (5-7) is also improved from “B” to “A.”
- **Areas of Focus:** ASUP Poly Elementary (K-4) has experienced a drop from an “A” to a “C.” To address this decline, we have implemented the same school improvement initiatives at Poly Elementary as we have at Phoenix Elementary. These include a change in school leadership, the introduction of new curriculum maps, increased special education staffing, and new personalized learning tools.
- **School Configurations Impact Letter Grades:** The K-4 design of elementary schools at two of our campuses limits the evaluative data available for calculating academic growth from year-to-year. In SY '25-26, the elementary school design for those campuses expands to K-6 which will provide more longitudinal data to evaluate impact.

School	2023 Letter Grade	2024 Letter Grade	Change 2023 to 2024
ASUP Casa Grande (7-12)	A	A	→
ASUP Digital (K-12)	B	B	→
ASUP Phoenix Elem (K-4)	D	C	↑
ASUP Phoenix MS (5-8)	C	C	→
ASUP Phoenix HS (9-12)	B	B	→
ASUP Pilgrim Rest	NR	C	
ASUP Poly Elem (K-4)	A	C	↓
ASUP Poly MS (5-7)	B	A	↑
ASUP Poly HS (8-12)	A	A	→
ASUP South Phoenix Primary (K-2)	NR	NR	
ASUP South Phoenix Intermediate (3-6)	C	C	→
ASUP South Phoenix HS (7-12)	B	B	→

Action Steps for 2024-2025

We remain committed to supporting each school's growth through data-driven interventions, resource allocation, and continuous monitoring. Specifically, our improvement plans include:

- **Strengthening Support** for schools needing improvement, such as ASUP Poly Elementary, to address the recent decline in performance.
- **Sustaining Momentum** at high-performing schools to ensure they continue to meet and exceed state standards.
- **Focusing on Student Outcomes** through staff development, community engagement, and curriculum enhancements across all schools.

These steps align with our goal of fostering a high-quality educational experience across the network.

Charter Consolidation and Future Letter Grades

In Spring of 2024, the ASU Prep Board approved a consolidation plan to streamline our current 11 charters into 2: one charter will house our eight immersion campuses, and the other will encompass our online school, ASU Prep Digital. In addition to consolidating the charters, the ASU Prep Board has approved new grade-level configurations for each school. Except for Pilgrim Rest, which will remain a K-8 school, all intermediate and middle schools will be restructured, with their grades redistributed between the elementary and high schools.

Although we initially planned for this change to take effect this fiscal year, it was postponed to the next fiscal year due to grant funding considerations and the procedural requirements for updating the state system. Consequently, last year's letter grades, as well as the current year's letter grades, are still based on the previous structure. This legacy structure limits the evaluative

data available for our primary schools because 50% of the letter grade is based on growth, and there is only one cohort of students (4th grade) that demonstrates growth in a K-4 model. This has historically led to lower assigned letter grades for some primary schools.

We should see the effect of having K-6 schools, rather than K-4 schools, in the SY 25-26 letter grades released in the fall of 2026.