

LUCY LANEY

Understanding our Designation under the North Star Accountability System

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)** is the most recent re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, previously known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). President Barack Obama signed ESSA into law in 2015. ESSA requires states to develop a data-driven system for holding schools and districts accountable for providing a fair, equitable, and high-quality education to all students. The Minnesota state plan established the **North Star Excellence and Equity System** to ensure that *all schools are working well for all students*.

Schools are being identified for support and improvement as a result of the North Star system for the first time in August 2018.

Our School's Designation

Under the North Star system, our school has been identified for **comprehensive support and improvement**.

We have been identified for this level of support and improvement because an average of all student data on the state's accountability measures **found our school to be performing among the bottom 5%** of Title I funded schools.

We have also been identified for support and improvement because the following student groups specifically at our school were **found to be performing similarly to the lowest 5% of Title I funded schools** on the state's accountability measures:

- Students who receive special education services

Support & Improvement Process

Schools identified for support and improvement under North Star need to notify families of the school's designation and then engage families and school community stakeholders in:

- Completing a comprehensive needs assessment looking at the reasons why the school was identified
- Developing an improvement plan addressing the root causes behind low student achievement or gaps, which must include at least one strategy backed by rigorous research showing its effectiveness
- Implementing and monitoring the improvement plan once it goes into effect

We will need to submit our improvement plan for approval by March 1, 2019, to the state.

Family & Community Engagement

We need our staff, families, and community members involved in our needs assessment and improvement plan development process. We invite you to get involved as we engage in these efforts to ensure that all students are achieving high levels of success at our school.

If you'd like to get involved, please reach out to us by calling 612-668-2200.