



COLORADO

Department of Education

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver Renewal

Division of Accountability, Performance, and Support

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Topics for Today

- Background information regarding Colorado's ESEA waiver
- Requirements of the ESEA waiver
- Impact of the current ESEA waiver on Colorado
- Next steps for renewal

Background Information

Colorado's ESEA Waiver



ESEA Waivers

- In 2011, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan invited states to request waivers from certain Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requirements by showing a commitment to these core principles:
 - Principle 1 - College-and career-ready standards and aligned assessments
 - Principle 2 - A state-developed system of differentiated recognition, accountability, and support
 - Principle 3 - An educator evaluation system tied to improving student achievement
 - Principle 4 - Reduction of administrative burden

ESEA Waiver Timelines

- In February 2012, Colorado received approval for a two year waiver
- In April 2014, Colorado received a one year extension of its waiver
- Colorado's current ESEA waiver is set to expire at the end of the 2014-15 school year
- The deadline for submitting a request to renew the waiver is March 31, 2015

ESEA Waiver Requirements



ESEA Waiver Requirements: Principle 1 – Standards

- **Adopt and implement college-and career-ready standards, including:**
 - Alternate standards for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities
 - English language proficiency standards for English learners
- **Provide supports for teachers in the implementation of the new standards**

Note – Under Title I, Sec. 1111, states are required to adopt rigorous standards and aligned assessments regardless of the ESEA waiver.

ESEA Waiver Requirements:

Principle 1- Assessments

- **Annually administer assessments aligned to the college-and career-ready standards, including:**
 - Assessments aligned to the alternate standards
 - Assessments aligned to the English language proficiency standards
- **New, college-and career-ready aligned assessments must be administered within the specified timelines**

Note - Assessments must meet the grade level and content minimums required by Title I, Sec. 1111 of ESEA.

ESEA Waiver Requirements: Principle 2 – State System of Accountability, and Support

- Establish a statewide strategy for holding school districts accountable for improving school and student performance (our state accountability system)
- Differentiate performance of schools
 - Highest performing identified as *reward* schools
 - Lowest performing 5% identified as *priority* schools
 - Title I schools with low graduation rates, low disaggregated graduations rates, or low achieving disaggregated student groups as *focus* schools
- Provide resources, interventions, and supports that lead to the continuous improvement of school and district performance

ESEA Waiver Requirements: Principle 2 – State System of Accountability, and Support

■ Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs)

- Set targets for performance
- Compare against actual performance
- Reported publicly

ESEA Waiver Requirements: Principle 3 – Teacher and Principal Evaluation Systems

■ Teacher and Principal Evaluation System

- Develop and adopt guidelines with stakeholders
- Create timelines for implementation, by 2014-15
- Incorporate state assessment results and student growth

Note- Teacher and principal evaluation systems are not required by ESEA; they are only required in order to receive the ESEA waiver.

Colorado Context Pre-Waiver

- In 2011, Colorado was in year two of implementing its system of performance indicators, frameworks, school plan types and accreditations ratings that included growth in the annual assessment of school and district performance
- On the federal side, adequate yearly progress (AYP) determinations were based solely on student achievement (partial proficiency), without consideration of student growth
- AYP performance targets were approaching 100%
- Two sets of criteria - state and federal - were being used to assess school and district performance and report to the public

Accountability Pre-Waiver

- The Education Accountability Act, SB09-163 aligned state school and district accountability, but the federal system was still separate

School and District Performance Frameworks

- State- districts and schools
- Achievement and Growth
- Leveled performance

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

- Federal- districts and schools
- Achievement = % Partially Proficient, Proficient and Advanced
- Yes/No determination

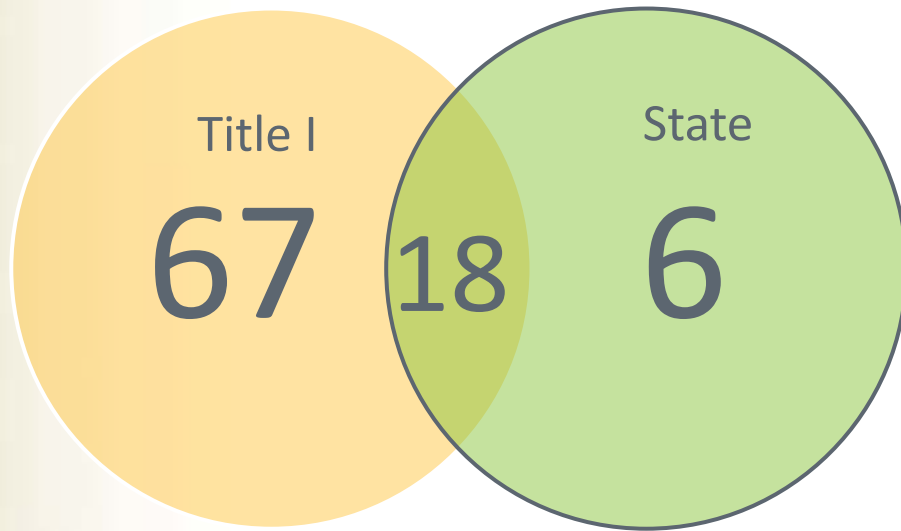
Accountability Pre-Waiver

2010-11 school year status (09-10) data	Identified by ESEA Title IA	Total identified without waiver (state and ESEA)	Total that would be identified with waiver (state only)*
Schools	202	372	241
Districts	85	91	24

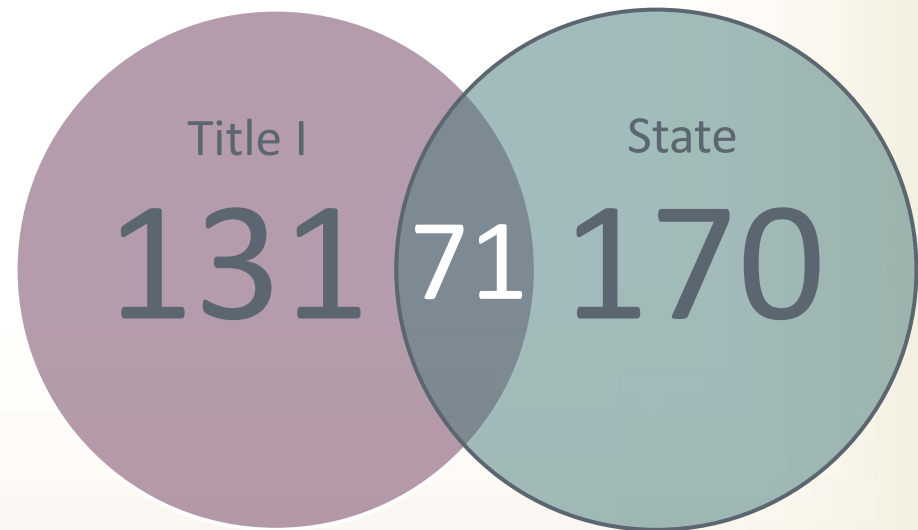
* Priority Improvement and Turnaround

Title I and State Accountability Identification Alignment (2010)

District Identification



School Identification



Colorado Context Pre-Waiver

- Increasingly, there were discrepancies between the state and federal accountability systems in the schools and districts that were identified as in need of improvement
- Mixed messages to students, parents, educators, and the community regarding the quality of their schools
- Two sets of labels, consequences, and timelines for improvement
- An inability to target resources and supports on the schools and districts that need them most
- Unnecessary, duplicative, and wasteful administrative burdens on schools, school districts, and the state

Goals for ESEA Waiver

- **Align the state and federal accountability systems**
 - Target college and career readiness, not partial proficiency
 - Focus on student growth to standard
 - Cut red tape; streamline and simplify the accountability system
- **Enable CDE and school districts to focus resources, interventions, and supports to the schools and districts that need them most (those with low achievement and low growth)**
- **Reduce administrative, regulatory, and reporting costs and burdens tied to ESEA requirements**

ESEA Waiver Submission

	ESEA	State System
Goal	All students proficient in reading and math by 2013-14	All students college- and career-ready by exit
Achievement Metric	Partially proficient or above	Proficient and above
Accountability Report	Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)	School and District Performance Frameworks (SPF/DPF)
School and district Improvement	NCLB, Sec. 1116	SB09-163/SB Rules - 5 year clock
Choices for students	School choice and tutoring	References options included in ESEA
Funds for Schools and Districts identified for Improvement	~\$11 million annually	\$0 for schools/districts Funds for leadership and teachers have been added

Approved Waiver

- **Single accountability system - SPF/DPF and not AYP**
- **Growth used to determine performance for federal accountability**
- **State accountability as the base for Title I accountability requirements, including:**
 - School identification
 - Improvement plans
 - Supports
 - Interventions
- **Colorado's timelines and implementation plans for college-and career-ready standards, aligned assessments, and teacher and principal evaluation system**

School Choice and SES

- **Under advisement of the State Board of Education, Colorado chose to maintain ESEA school choice and supplemental educational services (SES) requirements**
 - Apply only to Title I schools assigned a Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan type
 - Expand SES to include English language development providers
 - Strengthened role of parents in program design
 - Target students based on proficiency and not family income

Impact Information

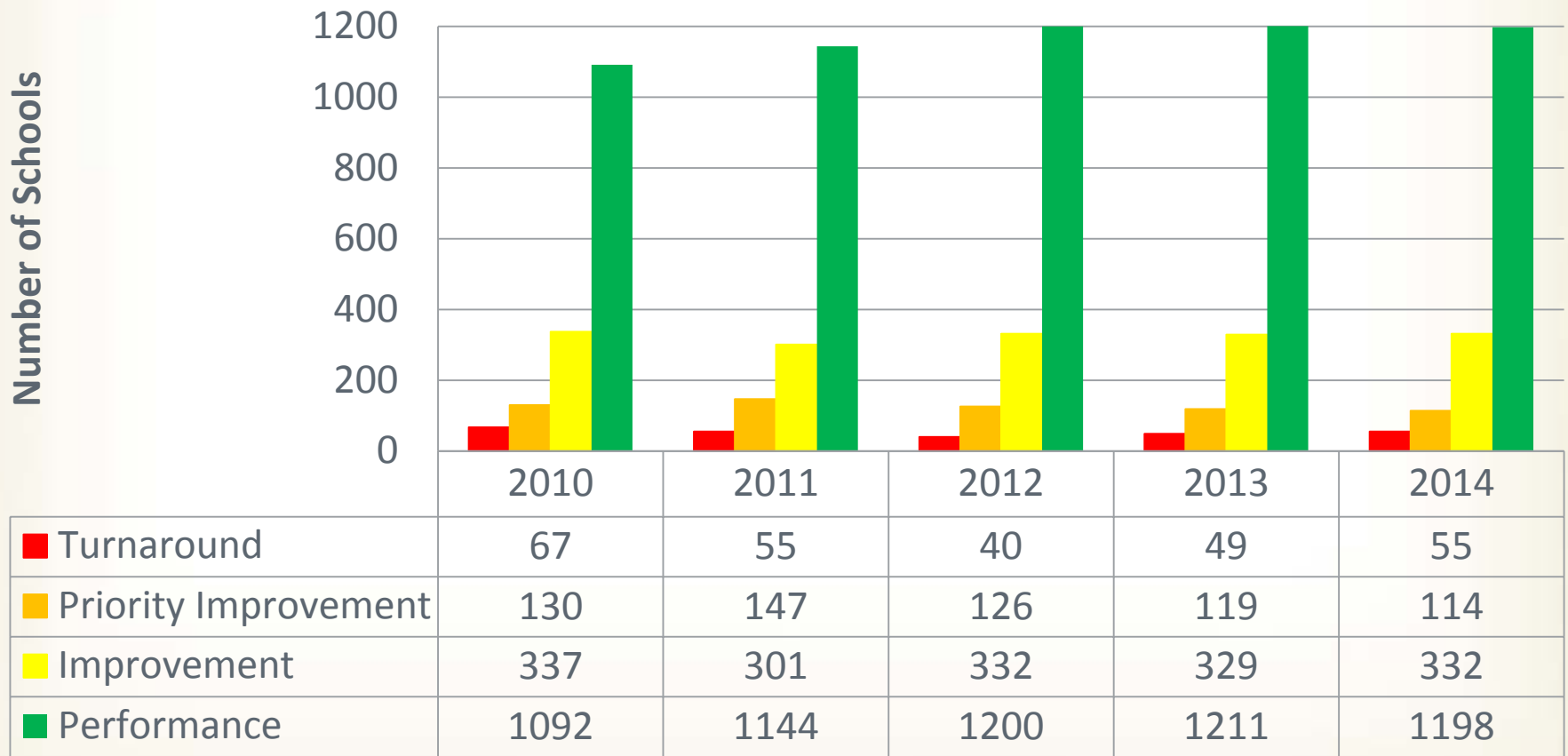
Colorado's ESEA Waiver



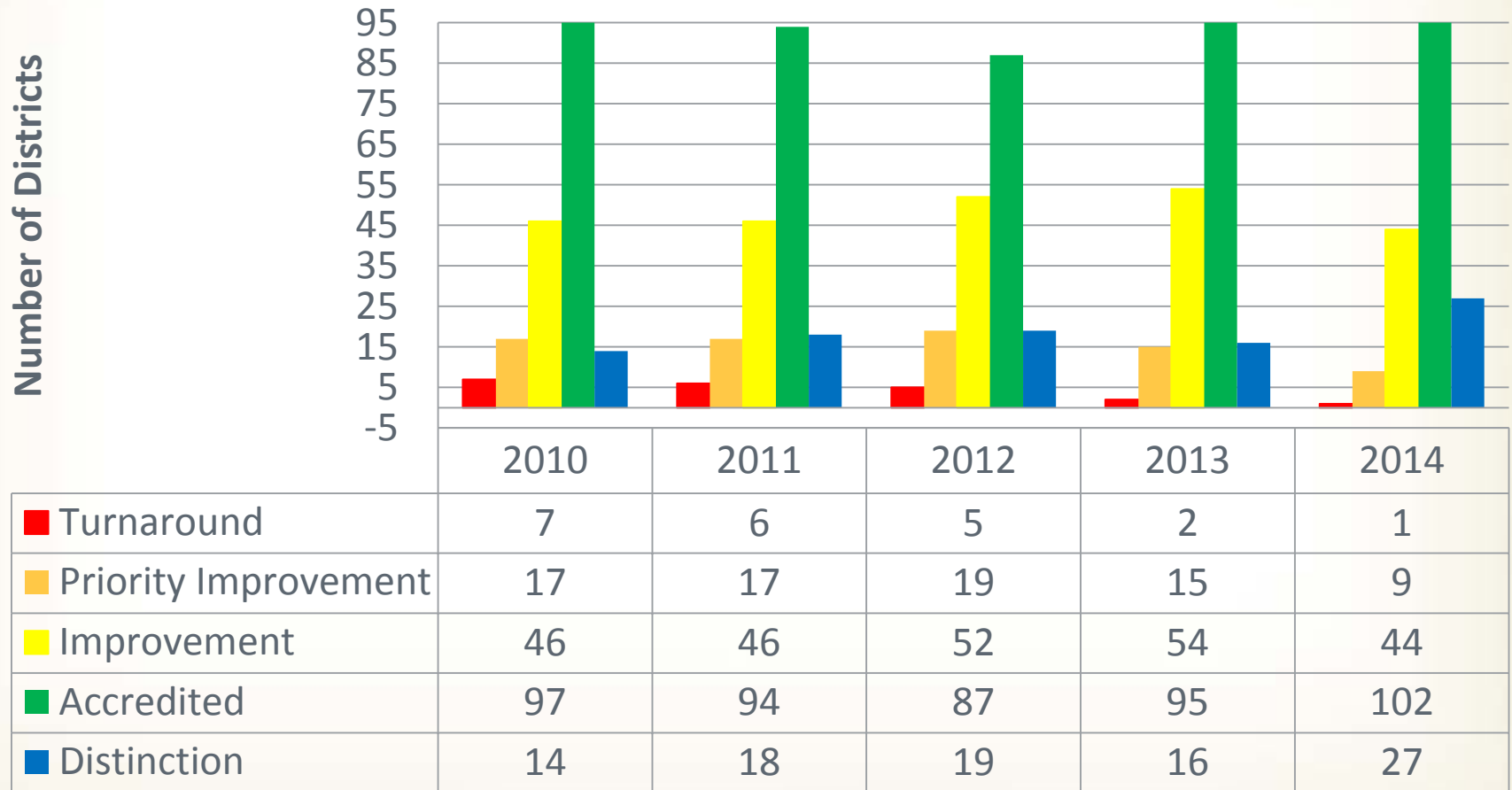
Impacts of the ESEA Waiver

- **As a result of the ESEA waiver:**
 - Colorado has a **single accountability system** that values **performance measured by growth** in identifying the highest and lowest performing schools and districts
 - There is an **aligned message** regarding high and low performing schools
 - CDE and school districts can **target Title I improvement funds** where they are needed the most
 - There has been a **reduction in administrative and reporting burdens** tied to accountability
 - **Ambitious, yet attainable performance targets** included in accountability
 - In 2014 , **approximately 87% of Title I schools (571 schools) would have failed to make AYP, 13% of Title I schools (86 schools) would have made AYP**

2010-2014 School Results



2010-2014 District Results



Next Steps

Renewal of Colorado's ESEA Waiver



ESEA Waiver Renewal

- Colorado's current ESEA waiver is set to expire at the end of the 2014-15 school year
- We believe the ESEA waiver has benefited Colorado schools and districts
- We will bring the proposed ESEA waiver renewal application to you in March for approval
- The deadline for submitting our request to renew our waiver to the USDE is March 31, 2015

ESEA Waiver Renewal – Application Requirements

- Stakeholder input

Principle 1

- Update description and timeline for implementation of college- and career-ready standards and aligned assessments

Principle 2

- Update statewide strategy to support, monitor, and hold school districts accountable for improving school and student performance
- Colorado must describe how it will ensure increased rigor of interventions and supports in schools that have failed to exit priority or focus status
- Address plans for the impact of the transition on school and district accountability and educator evaluation

Principle 3

- Amend the timeline for full implementation of Colorado's teacher and principal evaluation system to reflect one additional year
- Assurances and additional requirements

ESEA Waiver Resources

- ESEA Waiver Renewal letter from Assistant Secretary Delisle

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/letter-from-assistant-secretary-delisle>

- ESEA Waiver Renewal Form

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/esea-flex-renewal-form>

- ESEA Waiver Renewal FAQs

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/fedprograms/esea-flexibility-faqs>

- Colorado's currently approved ESEA waiver:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/sites/default/files/documents/accountability/downloads/esea%20waiver%20request%20rewards%20schools%204-1-13.pdf>

State Accountability Resources

- School and district performance frameworks

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/performanceframeworks>

- Unified Improvement Planning

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/uip>

- Colorado's Growth Model

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/schoolview/coloradogrowthmodel>

- SchoolView Data Center

https://edx.cde.state.co.us/SchoolView/DataCenter/reports.jsp?_afrWindowMode=0&_afrLoop=494257902939868&_adf.ctrl-state=14gmozekou_4