



Certification of Capital City School and John Morse Therapeutic Center Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) Eligibility

Board Meeting

August 20, 2020

Agenda Item No. 10.1

Presented by:

Vincent Harris, Chief Continuous Improvement and Accountability Officer

Steven Fong, LCAP/SPSA Coordinator

Darrell Amerine, Capital City School Principal

Tony Perez, John Morse Therapeutic Center Principal

Purpose

The purpose of this board item is to certify that Capital City School and John Morse Therapeutic Center meet the eligibility criteria to reapply for Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS).

The California Department of Education (CDE) makes the final determination for continued DASS participation.

Note: Previous certifications of eligibility were approved as consent items. In the current year's application cycle it is specified that the school's governing board must hold a board discussion regarding DASS.

Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS):

- An alternative accountability model for measurement of state indicators.

Establishes differentiated methodology for calculating dashboard performance, recognizing the different context of alternative schools.

- Modified methods for calculation of graduation rate on the Dashboard (Uses grade 12 cohort instead of combined 4/5 year cohort)
- Modified score ranges for ‘Very Low’ and ‘Low’ status levels for English Language Arts and Mathematics Dashboard Indicator

Note:

Per Senate Bill 98, state and local indicators will not be reported on the 2020 Dashboard. The next full Dashboard will be produced in 2021.

Obtaining DASS designation:

- Some schools are automatically placed into DASS based upon their specified status (American Legion and Success Academy)
- Other schools are eligible for DASS if they demonstrate that at least 70% of the school's total enrollment is comprised of 'high-risk' student groups as defined by DASS eligibility guidelines.
- Capital City School and John Morse Therapeutic Center were not automatically placed into DASS and must apply for DASS status approval

For DASS eligibility purposes, the California Department of Education (CDE) defines ‘high-risk students’ as belonging to one or more of the following categories:

- Expelled
- Suspended more than 10 days in a school year
- Wards of the Court or dependents of the court
- Pregnant and/or parenting
- Recovered dropouts
- Habitually truant
- Retained more than one in K-8
- Credit Deficient
- Gap in Enrollment
- High level transiency
- Foster Youth
- Homeless Youth

Capital City School has verified that 75 percent of the school's total enrollment (upon first entry to the school) is comprised of high-risk students. Verification was completed in April 2020.

- Capital City School is a voluntary, alternative, K-12 independent study school.
- CCS's diverse school profile includes, but is not limited to, students who are credit deficient, chronically ill, pregnant and/or parenting, or continually truant.
- CCS's population also includes students who must work to support their families, student who travel, aspiring artists, and athletes.

John Morse Therapeutic Center has verified that 72 percent of the school's total enrollment (upon first entry to the school) is comprised of high-risk students. Verification was completed in March 2020.

- John Morse Therapeutic Center (JMTC) is a small K-8 school serving students designated as having emotional disturbances.
- JMTC provides a more intensive program than those available at comprehensive schools.

To complete the DASS applications for Capital City School and John Morse Therapeutic Center the following steps remain:

8.20.20 Board verification of eligibility

By 8.28.20 Obtain minutes of 8.20.20 meeting

By 8.28.20 Upload all certification documents to CDE
Notify CDE staff of upload

**Certification of Capital City School Dashboard
Alternative School Status (DASS) Eligibility**

**Certification of John Morse Therapeutic Center
Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS)
Eligibility**