



# PRESS RELEASE

15250 Avenue of Science ■ San Diego, California 92128-3406

Phone (858) 521-2707 ■ FAX (858) 485-1075

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**For Immediate Release**  
December 12, 2019

**Contact:** Doug Johnson, Executive Director of Learning Support  
(858) 521-2732

Christine Paik, Chief Communications Officer  
(858) 521-2707 or [cpaik@powayusd.com](mailto:cpaik@powayusd.com)

## California Department of Education Releases 2019 California Dashboard

**(SACRAMENTO, CA)** - Today the California Department of Education released statewide results of the 2019 California School Dashboard. The Dashboard shows how well students within a district or school are performing on a variety of indicators, including test scores, graduation rates, suspension rates, chronic absenteeism, and college/career readiness. This accountability system provides a wealth of information to assist parents, educators, and the general public in evaluating schools and districts. To view the California School Dashboard [click here](#). Review the Fast Start Guide or Video Tutorial before searching for your school district or specific school.

### Improvements of Note for Poway Unified for 2019:

- In English Language Arts, increases in our Hispanic and Pacific Islander student groups and Students with Disabilities
- In mathematics, increases in African American, Hispanic, Filipino, Pacific Islander, Socioeconomically Disadvantaged student groups, and Students with Disabilities
- In college and career readiness, an increase in our Filipino student group
- In the graduation rate, an increase in our African American student group
- In the suspension rate, a noted decline in our African American, Pacific Islander student groups, and Foster Youth
- In chronic absenteeism, a noted decline for our Foster Youth

### Background

Information in the California School Dashboard is presented in terms of both status and change as compared to the previous year. The indicators, presented as gauges, are color-coded: blue is the highest rating, followed by green, then yellow, orange, and red is the lowest.



It further breaks down how student groups, such as ethnic and racial groups, low-income students, English learners, foster youth, and students with special needs, are performing on the various measures. In turn, these metrics contribute information that assist PUSD staff in building on successful practices and identifying areas of needed improvement.

**How did PUSD perform overall? (The following are results for All Students for Fall 2019)**



Our **English Language Arts** and **mathematics indicators** were deemed to be at the “blue” or highest performance level. In both of these indicators, there was a noted increase in the number of students performing in the “at standard” achievement bands with improvement for the majority of our student groups in both English Language Arts and mathematics.



Poway Unified was reported to have a “low” **suspension rate** of 1.4% of our student body. Fewer suspensions were given as compared to the previous year. This placed PUSD at the “green” performance level.



Based on a four-year cohort **graduation rate**, 94.3% of our students from this group graduated in 2019. This percentage placed our district at the “green” performance level with a slight decrease from the previous year.



In the **college/career indicator**, Poway Unified was determined to be at the “yellow” performance level with 68% of last year’s twelfth grade students determined to be “Prepared” to engage in college level work. There was a 3 percentage point decrease in the number of students deemed “Prepared” for college from the 2018 data.



6% of our students were absent for 10% or more of the year, considered a “medium” **chronic absenteeism** rate. In comparison to the previous year, this is an improvement from the “orange” to the “yellow” performance level.

### **English Language Learners:**

The Dashboard reported that 60.7% of our district’s English learner students are making progress towards English language proficiency. Because the state has transitioned into a new assessment (the ELPAC), a performance level is not reported this year.

### **Local Indicators:**

PUSD met all of the requirements of the local indicators which measures basic needs (teachers, instructional materials, facilities), implementation of academic standards, parent and family engagement, school climate, and student access to a broad course of study.

### **Areas for Improvement**

We continue to be proud of our students’ accomplishments. In analyzing the Dashboard information, we see clear areas of improvement needed in order to meet the needs of our individual students and specific student groups. Some of our student groups’ performance placed them in the orange and red levels. PUSD is refining and aligning our curricular, instructional, and assessment practices in our ongoing efforts to support all students. In addition, PUSD will be focusing on improving our chronic absenteeism rates and increasing the number of students deemed to be “Prepared” for college level work.

Poway Unified is committed to strengthening our system-wide collaboration with parents, teachers, and school staff for the success of our students. The California School Dashboard assists us in charting this mission for all students.

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