



Santa Fe Independent School District's Message About Accountability

As educators, we want all students to receive a world class education. More importantly, we want our school district to infuse them with skills, qualities, and attributes that will equip them for success regardless of the obstacles or challenges they may face in life. We want them to be good citizens and contribute to our society and to further our democracy. We want them to have opportunities to explore their hopes and dreams, and if they don't know what those are, to have a positive relationship with a caring adult to inspire them to reach their potential.

We believe in strong accountability for our schools and students in all areas. The new Texas State A-F rating system is a complex system that primarily represents results of student performance on standardized tests. While this new A-F rating system is designed to provide a simple representation indicating student and school academic performance, these ratings still do not represent the broad spectrum of learning that occurs on a daily basis in schools. For example, our students participate and excel in fine arts performances, athletics competitions, student activities, and various classes that are required to receive a diploma, but are not represented outside of the STAAR tested areas and grade levels.

In 2018, SFISD is labeled "Not Rated" under the Hurricane Harvey Provision. As a result of Hurricane Harvey, approximately 1,000 of our students and 200 teachers and staff became homeless or displaced. Therefore, the percentage of Economically Disadvantaged population in our district has increased, on average, by 20% to an overall 43%.

Accountability Overview: In the Student Achievement measure, or Domain 1, our students experienced gains district wide in all STAAR tested areas at each campus. In the Progress Measure, or Domain 2, gains in testing results were noted at all levels; however, achievement in Domain 1 exceeded progress performance in Domain 2. Domain 3, Closing the Gaps in specific small group populations, did not show adequate gains. District and campus plans are being created to close the gaps in these student groups and tested areas.

Attendance and Accountability: Attendance percentages in SFISD remain below state level percentages. In 2017-2018, district attendance was 94.1% while the state was 96%. In addition, in 2017-2018 due to Hurricane Harvey, students missed 25 state approved instructional days which equates to more than a month of teaching and learning. In order for our students to perform well in school and on state tests, attendance is critical.

SFISD is determined to rise above these challenges with reinforced and strengthened systems to move forward, and stand strong along with our students to ensure that they reach their fullest potential now and in the future. Please remember we are here to serve our students, parents, and community to the best of our ability, and additionally we want so much more for our students and teachers than passing a standardized test. While we do want our students to perform well on the state assessments, the work of our students and teachers represents so much more than single score or letter grade. Parents and students deserve to be informed about student progress on a continual basis, and while the current accountability system does provide testing information, we will also strive to keep you informed on many aspects of educational progress and accomplishments of our students. If you have further questions about our school, please contact a campus principal or the Santa Fe ISD Curriculum Department at 409-925-9010.