

Fresno Unified School District
Board Communication

BC Number EA-1

From the Office of the Superintendent
To the Members of the Board of Education
Prepared by: Kristi Imberi-Olivares, Executive Director
Cabinet Approval: Lindsay Sanders

Date: June 10, 2022

Phone Number: 457-3896

Regarding: 2022 California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System Updates

The purpose of this communication is to provide the Board an update on the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) Since its implementation in 2009, the amount of data that school districts must submit to CALPADS has increased significantly to meet new and ever-changing state and federal reporting and accountability requirements. In addition, the more recent use of CALPADS data for operational purposes, such as for statewide test registration, has increased the frequency of district data submissions to CALPADS. While significant technical upgrades have been made to CALPADS, such as moving into a cloud environment, the process by which data are ingested into the system has not been updated since 2009. This has resulted in increasingly degraded performance, with CALPADS users experiencing unacceptable wait times for data to be posted to the system. To address the performance issues, the California Department of Education (CDE) initiated the Post Process Redevelopment Project to significantly decrease the time it takes for files to be posted to CALPADS. The CDE decided to implement these significant system changes to CALPADS during the middle of assessment season, and this has negatively impacted California school districts in three main ways:

1. State testing delays with much of the testing window lost;
2. Districts unable to meet state and federal participation requirements; and
3. Testing accommodation delays for students with disabilities.

Current CALPADS integration issues have impacted the ability of school districts, statewide, to assess students whose information may have changed within the testing windows which has created a potential consequence for accountability and compliance with state and federal statutes. The Every Student Succeeds Act requires all states to test at least 95 percent of all students and student groups in English Language Arts/literacy (ELA), mathematics, and science. It also requires states to factor the participation rate into their accountability systems, which, for California, is the Academic Indicator. In addition, 100% of all eligible English learners must be administered either the Summative English Language Proficiency Assessments for California or the Alternate ELPAC operational field test. The CDE is aware of the concern that it will be difficult to meet the federal requirement for the majority of school districts. In response, the 2022 California School Dashboard release will include new resources, including separate reports to show the Academic Indicator without the impact of the participation rate penalty and a communications toolkit to assist school districts with sharing state and local context.

In addition, since data pertaining to students with disabilities has been delayed in migrating to/from the various systems, and even further delayed when testing accommodations may or may not be captured in the biweekly uploads of data at the statewide level, those students cannot test at the same time as

their general education peers. There are concerns from school districts that students with disabilities may test without appropriate accommodations if accommodations are not assigned or accessible prior to testing due to challenges with CALPADS integration.

As a result of the CALPADS system redesign, the opening of the End-of-Year (EOY) submission window has been rescheduled twice and will now open on June 2, 2022 (it was initially scheduled to open on May 16, 2022) to ensure system readiness. In light of the delayed opening, current system issues, and the time required for student information system vendors and school districts to adjust to the changes made in CALPADS, the initial certification deadline of July 31, 2022, has been lifted. The CDE will continue to assess the need to extend the final August 26, 2022, deadline in the coming weeks. In response, the CDE has developed a cross-department team to prioritize the defects resulting from the rollout of the system upgrade and will continue to work with school districts to resolve ongoing issues.

Should you have questions, please contact Lindsay Sanders at (559) 457-3471.

Approved by Superintendent
Robert G. Nelson Ed.D.



Date: 06/10/2022