

In December of 2015, the Obama administration passed a new national education law called **ESSA**. This new federal law requires every state, including DC, to create and get approval of a long-term education plan that addresses the specific goals laid out in ESSA. In DC, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is **responsible for drafting and enforcing DC's ESSA education plan**. For every student to succeed in DC, OSSE's new education plan focuses on...

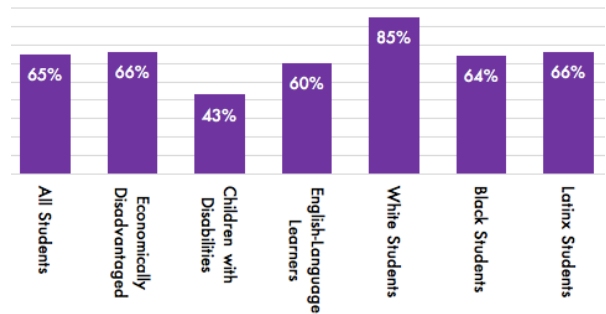


## 1 Reaching Higher Educational Standards

To ensure DC students are prepared for life after high school, DC's new education plan sets more ambitious targets for student achievement:

- i. **Improve PARCC proficiency rates from 25% in 2015 to 85% by 2039**
- ii. **Increase access to advanced placement and college-level courses**
- iii. **Increase on-time student graduation rates**

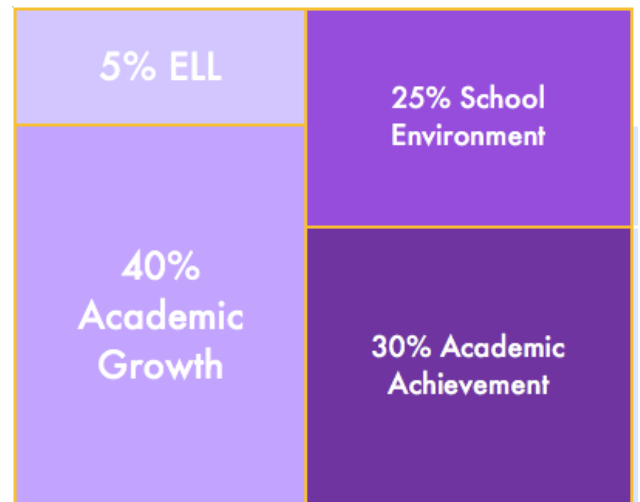
Can we reach 90% on-time graduation of ALL students by the 2038-2039 School Year?



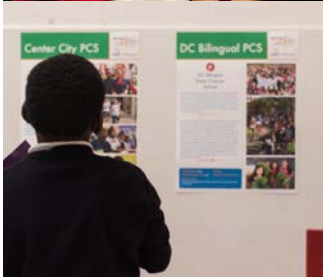
## 2 Creating a New Accountability System

Currently, there is no common accountability framework that applies to both DCPS and public charter schools. This means when parents want to compare schools across the District **they are left without accurate, up-to-date, or comparable measurements of school performance** that would allow them to make a truly informed decision. The new education plan will – for the first time in our city's history – create a **universal school report card based on the STAR Framework**, which will apply to both DCPS and public charter schools.

### STAR Framework: Elementary and Middle School w/ ELL Students



In the new STAR Framework, a school's score is based on the **academic achievement, ELL English acquisition, school environment, and graduation rates**. Importantly, a school's grade is measured based on how well **each student demographic performs**, not just the student body as a whole.



# 3

## Closing the Achievement Gap

To guarantee every student succeeds in DC, the new state education will also focus on closing the achievement gap, specifically targeting resources and interventions to our city’s most underperforming schools and vulnerable student populations. To close the achievement gap in DC, the new state education plan will:

### Provide Comprehensive Support

Based on the new STAR Framework, OSSE will identify the lowest 5% of schools (DCPS or charter) every three years to receive “Comprehensive Support.” Schools that are designated for Comprehensive Support will be **eligible for additional funding opportunities, professional development, and technical assistance** from OSSE.

**As a result**, underperforming schools will be given the additional resources they need to make significant gains. After 3-4 years of Comprehensive Support, if schools are still unable to make the necessary progress, OSSE will seek new proposals for intervention based on student and community feedback.

### Address Teacher Inequity

Based on the most recent data available, OSSE found that schools with a student population of more than 95% minorities have 10% more ineffective teachers. In majority low-income schools, this number is 7% more. This means that in our city today, there is a disproportionate rate of access to highly-qualified educators based on race and income.

**Under the new education plan**, OSSE will be responsible for collecting more data related to teacher disparities to develop strategies for ensuring that EVERY student has the same opportunity to learn from a highly-effective educator.

## Understanding the STAR Rating System

Starting in 2018, schools will earn points each year for each metric provided in the framework (see above) and will be given a 1 (lowest) though 5 (highest) STAR rating based on their total points earned out of a possible 100%.

One Star

Two Stars

Three Stars

Four Stars

Five Stars



**Earned less than 20% of possible points**

**Earned between 20% and 39% of possible points**

**Earned between 40% and 59% of possible points**

**Earned between 60% and 79% of possible points**

**Earned between 80% and 100% of possible points**

### Learn More:

- ❖ Read the entire DC State Education Plan: <http://bit.ly/2xpFrCF>
- ❖ See how school performance will be measured using the STAR Framework: <http://bit.ly/2yNgTox>
- ❖ Check out OSSE’s ESSA webpage for updates: <https://osse.dc.gov/essa>