



TO: Arizona State Board of Education, Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, A-F School Accountability Committee

FROM: Arizona Alternative Education Consortium

RE: One System in Arizona for Academic Accountability

DATE: January 8, 2016

We advocate for one Academic Accountability system in the state of Arizona.

Some schools have had the added burden of serving two masters using two different academic accountability models. The use of two accountability systems is a source of confusion for the public and school personnel and generates an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy and unintended consequences that waste taxpayer dollars.

We are encouraged to read in *Rebuilding Arizona's School and District Accountability System*:

- **An emphasis on the use of **Multiple Measures****
This is consistent with the position statement on the use of Multiple Measures that we issued in August 2015, [Multiple Measures 8-17-15](#)
Data reports, e.g. high school graduation rates beyond the 4th or even 5th year cohort, student engagement in schooling, provide information that has reliability, validity, and utility beyond standardized test scores. Such information is particularly relevant and appropriate when communicating the effectiveness of schooling for alternative education students.
- **Differentiating and supporting schools with unique populations**
Just as alternative schools serve a unique student population, alternative schools should have a choice of a unique achievement profile. Our June 2015 position [Unique Achievement Profiles 6-26-15](#) states this challenge, opportunity, and benefit.

We look forward to continuing our active participation in any public forum as Arizona's Academic Accountability system continues to be refined.

Vision: College & career (post-secondary education & workplace) ready school completion through accountable alternative education