State Performance Plan Indicator 2: Drop Out



Description of Stakeholder Engagement Activities & Results:

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) is currently developing the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) for the new six-year cycle for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2020-2025. NYSED obtained stakeholder input using two central approaches:

Broad public engagement and input through online surveys between October and November 2021; and Virtual meetings with stakeholder groups in November 2021.

The Office of Special Education (OSE) created a <u>Stakeholder Involvement</u> webpage with SPP/APR resources to promote feedback and engagement. This included a message from New York State Board of Regent member, Regent Cea, about the <u>SPP Stakeholder Meetings</u>, an <u>SPP Stakeholder Invitation Letter</u>, <u>At-a-Glance State Performance Plan Summary of Indicators 1-17</u>, <u>Getting to Know New York's SPP/APR Handout</u>, and SPP/APR FFY 2020-2025: General Overview Presentation.

For Indicator 2, the OSE created the following resources designed to engage stakeholders and build capacity in data analysis, evaluating progress in meeting New York State targets, the consideration of existing improvement activities, and the development of potential new improvement activities:

Resource Links

<u>Indicator 2: – Drop-Out Handout</u>

A summary of the data used to measure this Indicator and existing improvement activities.

Introduction and Measurement Description

An overview of frequently used terms and explanation of the Indicator 2 measurement.

Statewide Data Trends and Comparisons

Past trend data to evaluate New York State s progress in this Indicator and dropout rate data for selected subgroups of students with disabilities.

Improvement Strategies

An explanation of existing improvement activities and presentation of potential new activities to promote outcomes for this Indicator.

Target Setting

Presentation of NYSED s proposed Indicator 6 targets and methodology used to establish targets.

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Feedback on Improvement Strategies

Following the evaluation of Indicator 2 trend data (past targets and performance), stakeholder presentations included a description of improvement strategies with requested feedback on what activities should be considered, maintained, or strengthened to address improvements in dropout rate. The presented information and solicited feedback from a variety of stakeholders, including parents and educators, is intended to increase capacity to support activities around improving student outcomes and meeting the objectives of Indicator 2.

Improvement Strategies Presented:

Existing Improvement Activities to Improve Indicator 2 Outcomes: The OSE presentation included a description of NYSED's Special Education Quality Assurance (SEQA) and Coordinated Intervention District (CID) reviews on secondary transition, the safety net and superintendent determination options, multiple pathways to graduation and the OSE Educational Partnership targeted professional development resources to improve dropout rates in New York State.

Potential New Improvement Strategies to Improve Indicator 2 Outcomes: The OSE presented three potential new improvement activities for stakeholder consideration, i.e., conducting a SEQA Review focusing on implementation of the coordinated set of transition activities/services on students' Individualized Education Programs (IEPs); conducting educational workshops for families on topics such as diploma and credential options, transition, etc.; and conducting additional outreach to parent groups (e.g., monthly informational zoom meetings or newsletters on these and other topics).

Stakeholder Feedback on Improvement Strategies:

Participants of the online survey were asked to rate the effectiveness of the existing improvement activities to improve Indicator 2 outcomes. When asked to rate effectiveness on a scale of 1-5, the majority of participants rated "5" or highly effective all the existing OSE improvement activities presented. Feedback from meeting participants included the following:

Continue supporting the schools in how to address students' behavioral needs and

Responses on Indicator 2 Targets:

The Indicator 2 informational webinar provided stakeholders with general information about the target setting process, NYSED's methodology for establishing the following proposed targets for Indicator 2 for stakeholder feedback:

Baseline SY 2018-19	SY	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
19.37%	Target <=	19.37%	19.37%	19.37%	19.00%	18.50%	18.00%

The option that received the most responses was "just right" with fewer responses for "too low" or "too high". The New York State 2020-2025 SPP/APR will reflect the proposed Indicator 2 targets as the final targets.