



Josh Andrews, Principal
Jackie Hanson, Superintendent
www.paceschool.net
866-864-5491

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Dear PACE Families,

The System for School Success is Alaska's accountability system designed to celebrate success in our schools and identify areas we can focus on to help provide additional support. This accountability system fulfills the requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to regularly evaluate school efficacy and close gaps in student achievement.

Accountability systems are not meant to be punitive. State standards and assessments are set as expectations for what students should know and be able to do. Accountability systems help to set the expectations for school performance and effectiveness and are one of the ways we can identify what is working well and what we need to improve. A brief overview of Alaska's accountability system can be found at: education.alaska.gov/akaccountability/schoolsuccess/accountabilitysystems.pdf.

Alaska's accountability system allows us to:

- Articulate goals for student achievement, growth, and success
- Collect, analyze, and report on school performance
- Recognize high-performing schools and provide additional support to schools when needed

School report cards can be found on the [Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's website](#) under System for School Success.

PACE Statewide Homeschool received a school designation of Comprehensive Support and Improvement for graduation rate (CSI-Grad Rate). This means that the graduation rate for the school was less than 66.67%. Our school has the opportunity to look closely at data, current performance, and current practices to determine what we can do to support the graduation rate of our students. A component of this designation provides us with additional state support for 3 years. After looking at our data, we can implement a plan developed with stakeholder input and approval to provide enhanced support for our students. The CSI-Grad Rate designation is not meant to be negative; it is a chance for us to support our school and students.

[Comprehensive Support and Improvement – Graduation Rates](#)(education.alaska.gov/akaccountability/schoolsuccess/CSI_Graduation_Rate.pdf)

Please contact Josh Andrews, PACE Principal, if you have any questions or if you wish to review or become involved with developing the improvement plan.

CRAIG

100 School Road
P.O. Box 800
Craig, AK 99921
866-864-5491 option 4

ANCHORAGE

3701 E Tudor Rd
Suite 206
Anchorage, AK 99517
866-864-5491 option 1

WASILLA

231 E. Swanson Ave.
Suite 31
Wasilla, AK 99654
866-864-5491 option 3

It is important to understand how the Academic Achievement numbers are reported. To avoid identifying individual students the state utilizes a statistical reporting method called “Top/Bottom Suppression.” Because the percentage of PACE students testing fell below the indicator value threshold, our achievement was reported as a 0%. This is a statistical representation and does not reflect the actual achievement rate of our tested PACE students. A complete description of this suppression method follows.

Top/Bottom Suppression

To protect student privacy in Alaska’s smaller schools, rules are applied to the data called *suppression rules*. These rules are put in place to make sure that any individual student will not be identified by looking at the data. One form of suppression that is used is *top/bottom suppression*. Top/bottom suppression is applied to indicator values depending on the size of the student group. Looking at the table below, the Minimum N and Maximum N represent the different sizes of student groups that are considered.

For different sizes of student groups, the data are suppressed when the indicator value is above, or below different indicator values seen in the Indicator Value Threshold column.

- If the group size falls into the range defined by Minimum N and Maximum N in the table below and the indicator value is less than or equal to the Indicator Value Threshold bottom suppression is applied and the value reported for the indicator will be zero.
- If the group size falls into the range defined by Minimum N and Maximum N in the table below and the indicator value is greater than or equal to the Indicator Value Threshold top suppression is applied and the value reported for the indicator will be 100.

Minimum N	Maximum N	Indicator Value Threshold	Reported Value	Suppression Type
10	19	Less than or equal to 20	0	Bottom
10	19	Greater than or equal to 80	100	Top
20	39	Less than or equal to 10	0	Bottom
20	39	Greater than or equal to 90	100	Top
40	No Limit	Less than or equal to 5	0	Bottom
40	No Limit	Greater than or equal to 95	100	Top