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BOARD AGENDA ITEM

ITEM NO: 6.1

BOARD MEETING DATE: Monday, November 22, 2021

DISCUSSION / REPORT ITEM: CFSD Assessment Program and Arizona's A-F Accountability Summary Report

SUBMITTED BY: Mary Jo Conery, Associate Superintendent

PRESENTED BY: Mary Jo Conery, Associate Superintendent

Assessments measure and support students' attainment of standards by providing data to inform improvement at all levels in the district. Multiple types of assessments are needed to make instructional decisions and monitor student progress toward grade level/course learning goals.

The COVID-19 pandemic reshaped most aspects of education in the 2020-2021 school year, including the use of assessments. District-created common assessments (DCAs) were optional and teachers had to find new ways to administer assessments for both remote and in-person learners. Additionally, Arizona was required by federal and state law to administer the statewide assessment (AzM2) to all public schools in spring 2021.

Our goal has been to use the results along with other data sources to help COVID-19 school recovery efforts. As a result, the process for student test-taking and the spring 2021 state test results look different than in previous years. Factors such as learning disruptions, test modifications, chronic absenteeism, and student participation rates may have impacted school and district results.

A summary report on CFSD's assessment program will be presented to the governing board to provide information about assessment data the district and schools are using to analyze academic achievement results and non-academic indicators, such as chronic absenteeism and postsecondary readiness.

Similar to last year, we continue to analyze test results in the aggregate and disaggregated by subgroup, including the results for in-person and remote learners. We also know from the participation data who did and did not take the assessments. All of this information is considered as we make decisions about interventions and the primary focus of instruction to support students.

The report also includes the schools' A-F indicator data for the 2020-2021 school year. Schools were not issued letter grades for this last year, and final scores were not calculated by the Arizona Department of Education for state and federal accountability purposes. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires states to use their accountability system to identify schools in need of improvement in two categories: Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement Schools (TSI). No CFSD schools were identified for improvement.