What is the School Performance Framework? (SPF)

The School Performance Framework (SPF) is a comprehensive system to help schools focus on strengths and areas for targeted improvement. The SPF will be released annually for each OUSD school beginning in Fall 2016, as well as on a projected second phase for District-authorized charter schools and alternative District-run schools. The SPF is the result of a Journey OUSD has been on for many years to create a system of accountability that is focused on the whole child and continuous improvement.

This gradual shift of accountability has moved us from assessing schools using a single indicator to looking at both growth and overall performance using a variety of academic, climate and culture and social emotional learning indicators.

The overall goals of the SPF are to:

- Provide a holistic set of indicators for continuous school improvement in overall student learning and achievement, and
- Provide a focused picture of how schools in OUSD are performing based on key indicators
- Use a system of tiering to differentiate support and recognition to District-run schools, as well as guide the renewal process for charter schools authorized by OUSD.

SPF Indicators are used to measure the school’s basic functions. These measurements are taken to help assess the general academic and social emotional health of a school, give clues to possible challenges or growth areas, and show progress toward improvement. The normal ranges for a school’s SPF indicators vary with grades served and school type.
Vital Signs & Priority Data Sets

There are 7-11 SPF indicators, depending on school gradespan. Some examples include indicators for Graduation Rate, SBAC ELA & Math Assessments, Suspension, and Chronic Absence. We think of these indicators as “vital signs” of a school’s health. Each subgroup’s performance on an indicator is assigned a tier score. These tier scores are additionally “rolled up” to provide a means by which to monitor trends across indicator domains.

Declining performance indicators often precede significant underperformance and/or designation as an intensive support school. Used appropriately, school leadership and central office support teams can use the SPF to address growing challenges and prevent adverse outcomes for students.

Depending on the school context there are other measurements called “priority data” or “priority indicators” not included in the SPF that are also monitored to ensure the overall “health” of a school. These data are used in continuous cycles of improvement so that we can continue to get better at serving our students and families.