

CSI Schools Parent Letter

November 15, 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the State has identified your child's school as a CSI school for the 2022-2023 school year. This letter provides important information regarding your child's school and describes the State's process for measuring the academic performance of public schools in Nevada.

In December 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law. Highlights of ESSA include holding all students to high academic standards and identifying low performing schools along with appropriate supports for school improvement. Under ESSA, there are two main school designations: Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI). Additionally, Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) is another school designation.

The State uses results from its school rating system, the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF), to identify CSI, TSI, and ATSI schools.

CSI Schools

CSI schools are schools that meet one or more of the following conditions:

1. Are the lowest-performing five percent (5%) of schools in Nevada based on their Index Score on the NSPF,
2. Receive a 1-Star rating on the NSPF (meaning the school has not met the state's standards for performance),
3. Have a four-year graduation rate below sixty-seven percent (67%) for High schools only.

CSI schools are schools that get placed on the state's Rising Stars Schools List. Rising Stars Schools will remain a part of a cohort for three years, with the goal of achieving at least a 3-Star rating by the end of its third cohort year. The State identified the first cohort of Rising Stars Schools under Nevada's 2019 Revised ESSA Plan.

School Specific Information

This is the 4th year your child's school has been identified as a CSI school. Your child's school has been identified as a CSI school because it meets condition(s) above. You can find out specifics about those indicators by clicking on this link:

[NSPF Report for DESERT HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY - Nevada Accountability Portal \(nv.gov\)](#)

The following have been identified as reasons why your child's school is underperforming: [From SPP]

- More understanding on the learning targets are needed to provide more rigorous instruction aligned to the standards and SBAC.
- PLC's were interrupted due to lack of staff in the building. In addition, with only 1 data coach, it was hard to meet with every grade level consistently.
- Student absences due to exclusions and unverified absences

Your child's school will receive increased levels of support which will include: [From SPP]

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- Site-based teacher coaches will design professional development sessions for teachers.
- Administration and counselors will run weekly attendance reports and communicate with families as needed.

The following have been identified as district goals for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Academic Growth
- Developing Recruiting, and Training Highly-Effective Personnel
- Family and Community Engagement
- Continuous Improvement
- Safe and Welcoming Schools

School Specific Actions:

To provide support and meet school and district goals, Desert Heights ES is using general funds and Title I funds to provide professional development in active engagement strategies to support the School Performance Plan. Additionally, your child's school is working to improve attendance rates to increase student achievement in the classroom. The district will support your child's school by providing time and training to our staff around the goals in the school performance plan. Also, the district will support your child's school by working with the school to create a CSI plan. You will receive further information on how you can engage in this process, as required under federal law. You will also receive a copy of this plan once it is created.

For more information about the progress being made by your child's school, please review the School Performance Plan on your school's website. The school's NSPF report is available on the Nevada Department of Education's Report Card portal. Please contact your school at 775-677-5444 or desertheights@washoeschools.net for more information.

Lastly, parent and family engagement is critical to your child's success. You are welcome and encouraged to become involved in the academic progress of your child's school. Please visit your child's school for information about parent and family engagement opportunities.

Sincerely,

David Frydman, Principal