



Glenn Duncan STEM Academy

Ryan G. Smith, Principal
Jody Walker, Assistant Principal
Gloria Mercado, Administrative Secretary



CSI Schools Parent Letter

October 11, 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 GLENN DUNCAN S.T.E.M. ACADEMY - Nevada Accountability Portal \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov/education/assessment/NSPF-Report-for-GLENN-DUNCAN-S.T.E.M.-ACADEMY)

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

- Lack of exposure to grade level curriculum including inconsistent rigor within classrooms – some grade levels introducing similar standards that are 1-2 grade levels below the expectation of the current/expected standard.
- Higher percentage of teacher-led discussion and teacher-driven lessons vs. student ownership of learning.
- Learners spend more time practicing foundational skills than true reading skills.
- Some grade levels are not asking/requiring students to read grade-level materials independently.
- Limited vertical alignment discussions during planning.

Your child's school will receive increased levels of support which will include:

- Professional learning that is aligned with the School Performance Plan goals.
- ELD, Data Coach, and/or Learning Facilitator attend grade-level PLC meetings each week and support school-wide instructional priorities to include selection of academic language strategies and scaffolds. They will also consistently model strategies and interventions in all classrooms to improve student achievement.
- School will hold 3 data meetings per school year that look at data binders and results from District Common Assessments to inform progress and practice, as well as to adjust 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, Duncan ES is using Title I funding to provide additional professional learning opportunities and PLC time outside of contract hours. Additionally, your child's school is analyzing student and schoolwide data to ensure that all students can participate in and master grade-level standards. The district will support your child's school by hiring coaching staff that will be used to disaggregate student data to improve instruction and student outcomes. 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



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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 775-333-5190 or duncan@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,

Ryan G. Smith,
Principal