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Subject: Update on Release of Growth Data

Dear Accountability Contacts: Happy August! This is a quick update on the planned release of growth data this year. While the state accountability system is paused, the department recognizes that schools and districts need measures of student progress over the past year; the Colorado growth model can provide important context outside of the accountability system. Therefore, the Accountability Analytics office has been investigating the utility of multiple approaches to calculating growth for WIDA ACCESS, CMAS and PSAT/SAT and have landed on two complementary approaches:

- *Typical cohort-referenced growth calculations:* MGP resets each year to 50. This is the approach that the state has historically used. Because it is norm-referenced against the current cohort of students, major changes in statewide trends may be masked.

AND

- *An alternate baseline-referenced growth approach:* Compares current student progress against previous-year expectations so MGPs can vary above and below 50, indicating whether students made more or less progress than historical peers. This approach provides a comparison to past performance to detect statewide shifts.

Because of the complexity in these new approaches, the release of growth data will be somewhat delayed. CDE will be consulting with the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) later in August prior to releasing any growth data. It should also be noted that some results may not be released if they are determined to be unsuitable for district use (e.g., low participation). We are also coordinating with other CDE units and the State Board of Education to determine when public and private growth datasets can be made available. We will continue to communicate with you as more concrete information becomes available. If you have any questions in the meantime, please let me or Dan Jorgensen (Jorgensen_d@cde.state.co.us) know.

Thanks, Lisa Medler

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