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**Subject:** RE: EastSide Correction of Data

Aaron – After the final CSAC meeting on EastSide’s major modification application, specifically on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Department received an email from you regarding concerns about the participation data that had been used by CSAC. We appreciate your patience as we took the following 5 business days to fully review yours concern, and provide a thorough and detailed response. As promised last Thursday, please find the response below. While I wanted to capture all of the details for you in writing, I am also planning to give you a call to chat through.

To ensure that we are all on the same page, the chart below was prepared by a member of CSAC, and was used by the Committee during its review process.

YEAR	Subject	Percent Proficient	Percent Participation
2019	ELA	Gr 5= 25% Gr 8=29%	Gr 5= 88% Gr 8=100%
	Math	Gr 5= 12.5% Gr 8=18%	Gr 5= 88% Gr 8=100%
	Science	Gr 5= 12.8% Gr 8=19%	Gr 5=88% Gr 8=81%
	Social Studies	Gr 4= <9.8% Gr 7=18%	Gr 4=91% Gr 7=87%
2021	ELA	Gr 5= * Gr 8= *	Gr 5=12% Gr 8= 12.5%
	Math	Gr 5= * Gr 8= *	Gr 5=<11% Gr 8= 15%
	Science	Gr 5= * Gr 8= *	Gr 5=12% Gr 8= 20%
	Social Studies	Gr 4= * Gr 7= *	Gr 4= 9% Gr 7= 23%

The chart was developed using redacted data. Unfortunately the author did not include the necessary “>” signs or include any footnotes to clarify that the data was redacted. After you raised the concern, we realized the confusion this caused for the school. Because this is an area that generated significant interest for the Committee, the Department intends to include a review of this type of data in all future CSAC processes. The Department will also ensure that this type of information is clearly labeled as redacted moving forward, and that all appropriate signs are included.

In the meantime, the DOE data team has provided the unredacted data, which can be found below. You will find the unredacted data in green and redacted data in red.

YEAR	Subject	Percent Proficient		Percent Pa
2019	ELA	Gr 5=25%,	Gr8=29.63%	Gr 5=93.02% (>88.37%)
	Math	Gr 5=10% (<12.5%)	Gr8=18.52%	Gr 5=93.02% (>88.37%)
	Science	Gr 5=2.56% (<12.82%)	Gr8=7.69% (<19.23%)	Gr 5=90.7% (>88.37%)
	Social Studies	Gr 4=0% (<9.8%)	Gr8= 18.42	Gr 4=94.44% (>90.74)
2021	ELA	Gr 5= *	Gr8= *	Gr 5=11.9%
	Math	Gr 5= *	Gr8= *	Gr 5=11.9%
	Science	Gr 5= *	Gr8= *	Gr 5=7.14% (<11.9%)
	Social Studies	Gr 5= *	Gr8= *	Gr 4=7.41% (<9.26%)

As you can see from the green data, there are several areas in which grade level participation rates are below the 95% requirement.

ESSA requires states to annually measure the achievement of not less than 95 percent of all students, and 95 percent of all students in each subgroup of students, who are enrolled in public schools. This is a reference to school-level participation, which EastSide has met in prior years. ESSA also requires that states adjust proficiency rates for participation rates that fall below 95% at the “all students” and subgroup levels. While ESSA pertains to school-level participation rates, it is necessary to drill down to grade-level participation rates to identify areas of concern that could lead to greater concerns down the road, especially given that participation rates <95% will impact proficiency levels for accountability. So while you not have received formal notifications from DOE regarding not meeting school-level participation in the past, failing to meet at any grade level does raise concerns for the Department.

The two related conditions that were introduced and voted upon as recommendations from CSAC are:

- By July 1, 2022, EastSide will submit a detailed plan to meet the state requirement of 95% participation on all mandated state assessments for the 2022-2023 school year.
- EastSide will meet the requirement of 95% participation on all mandated state assessments in the 2022-2023 school year.

A few related notes:

- EastSide met school-level participation in 2019, but did not meet all grade level, content-area participation in that same year.
- The requirement to test at least 95% of all students and each subgroup of students was a federal assessment expectation in 2021. Given the circumstances surrounding the pandemic, the Department provided guidance and flexibility to support efforts; LEAs were asked to do their due diligence to test all eligible students. East Side’s overall ELA and Math participation rate of 21%, and Science and Social Studies participation rates of 13% and 15% respectively did not illustrate due diligence. Please note that the statewide

average participation rate for 2021 was 62% in ELA and Math. In addition, East Side does not have standardized, end of grade level data to inform decisions to support proficiency.

Although there was confusion around the data shared at CSAC, resulting from the missing “>” signs and the data not being labeled as redacted, given that not all grade levels met in a prior year and significantly lower participation than the State average for 2021, CSAC’s recommended conditions are reasonable as recommendations for the Secretary’s consideration. We encourage the school to not look at the recommended conditions as punitive in nature, but rather as an opportunity to better position the school in meeting participation rates for school and grade level in the coming assessment cycle. As we come out of the pandemic, the Department believes this exercise is an opportunity to help EastSide ensure 95% participation at school, grade and sub-group levels by the 2022-2023 school year. Having said all of that, please understand that I will review the conditions thoroughly with Secretary Holodick as he forms his decision.

On behalf of the Department and CSAC, please accept our sincere apology for failing to recognize that the chart was missing the important “>” signs and label the data as redacted. I hope you find this information helpful. We look forward to continuing to work with and support EastSide charter schools in the months and years ahead.

Kim

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