

# EDUCATIONAL ATTENTION



THE UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Report to Legislative Committee

## SCHOOL TURNAROUND

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# SCHOOL TURNAROUND

## STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

**U.C.A. Section 53A-1-1210** requires the State Board of Education to submit an annual report to the Education Interim Committee on or before November 30 of each year. This report has been submitted annually since 2015.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For two years, schools in Cohort 1 of turnaround status have been engaging in a series of systemic changes. These changes were predicated upon a thorough analysis of a school's performance that was conducted by a school turnaround expert. We have found that the majority of the first cohort of turnaround schools are showing promising improvements. Twenty-four of the twenty-six Cohort 1 Turnaround Schools have increased the percentage of points earned under the state's school accountability system from school year 2014-15 to school year 2016-17. In the fall of 2017, five additional schools have been identified as low performing schools (Cohort 2).

## BACKGROUND

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In 2017, the Legislature enacted S.B. 234 School Turnaround Amendments, which modified the School Turnaround and Leadership Development Act (the Act). The Act required the Board to annually designate the lowest performing 3% of schools statewide according to the percentage of points possible under the state's accountability system. The Act also requires schools that have been designated to make specific changes over a three-year period to improve student performance. The first cohort of turnaround schools, designated in the fall of 2015, has completed their planning year, and is in their second year of implementation. The second cohort of turnaround schools, designated in the fall of 2017, will begin the improvement process winter of 2017.

## FINDINGS

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Using the state's accountability system criteria in place for the 2014-15 school year, 24 of the 26 Cohort 1 schools increased the percentage of points earned from school year 2014-15 to school year 2016-17. Based on the state's accountability system from the 2014-15 school year, 16 Cohort 1 schools improved at least one letter grade, and if this progress trend continues, these schools will exit turnaround status in the fall of 2018. (Appendix One)

## **CONCLUSION**

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Cohort 1 schools that conducted a needs assessment, root cause analysis, prepared a school improvement plan, and implemented that plan with fidelity, have demonstrated progress in the state's accountability system. Cohort 1 schools can only exit School Turnaround status if they improve at least one letter grade for two consecutive years. Exit determinations will be made in the fall of 2018.

## APPENDIX

### Percentage Points Growth and School Grades – Cohort 1

Cohort 1 Turnaround Schools			
Elementary and Jr. High Schools			
District	School	% Growth Change	2015 grade - 2017 grade
Alpine	Cedar Valley Elementary School	61%	2015 – D, 2017 - B
Canyons	Midvale Elementary School	-4%	2015 - D, 2017 - D
Carbon	Mont Harmon Middle School	59%	2015 - D, 2017 - B
Charter	CS Lewis Academy	18%	2015 - D, 2017 - D
Charter	Dual Immersion Academy	68%	2015 - F, 2017 - C
Charter	Entheos Academy (Magna Campus)	14%	2015 - D, 2017 - D
Charter	Mana Academy	57%	2015 - F, 2017 - D
Davis	Vae View Elementary	25%	2015 - D, 2017 - C
Granite	Granger Elementary	23%	2015 - D, 2017 - D
Granite	Lincoln Elementary	21%	2015 - D, 2017 - D
Granite	Oquirrh Hills Elementary	-10%	2015 - D, 2017 - F
Granite	Redwood Elementary	13%	2015 - D, 2017 - D
Granite	Roosevelt Elementary	41%	2015 - F, 2017 - D
Granite	South Kearns Elementary	43%	2015 - D, 2017 - C
Granite	Thomas Jefferson Jr. High	34%	2015 - D, 2017 - C
Granite	Thomas W. Bacchus Elementary	24%	2015 - D, 2017 - C
Granite	West Lake Jr. High	5%	2015 - D, 2017 - D
Granite	Woodrow Wilson Elementary	28%	2015 - D, 2017 - D
Kane	Big Water School	32%	2015 - F, 2017 - D
Ogden	Bonneville Elementary	91%	2015 - F, 2017 - B
San Juan	Bluff Elementary	60%	2015 - F, 2017 - C
San Juan	Tse'Bii' Nidziszgai Elementary	23%	2015 - F, 2017 - F
High Schools			
Charter	Pioneer High School	43%	2015 - F, 2017 - C
Charter	Utah Connections Academy	13%	2015 - F, 2017 - F
San Juan	Monument Valley High	47%	2015 - F, 2017 - C
San Juan	Whitehorse High	39%	2015 - F, 2017 - D

\*Percentage increase in the percentage of points earned under the state's accountability system from school year 2014-15 to school year 2016-17.