

Changes to CBEE/JFTK-CA Honor Roll Criteria for 2007

During the 2006/2007 school year, CBEE Foundation and JFTK-CA staff met with Honor Roll school principals in a variety of settings. Throughout those discussions, the principals suggested improvements to the Honor Roll criteria. CBEE/JFTK-CA staff reviewed the recommended changes and selected several for inclusion in this year's criteria. The main goal was to ensure that the Honor Roll is a true reflection of the many high performing schools across the state that are on track to get all students to a minimum of grade level proficiency by 2013/14.

Match Subgroup Selection to AYP Rules

In previous years, the Honor Roll criteria identified subgroups to be included if they were either 50 students or reached 15% or more of the student population. This resulted in subgroups being included which were not included in other aspects of school accountability such as NCLB's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). To bring the Honor Roll criteria into alignment, the identification of subgroups to be included is now the same 100 students or 50 students and 15% of the student population used for other accountability purposes.

Substitution of National School Lunch Program Eligibility for Socioeconomic Disadvantaged Designation

In previous years, CBEE/JFTK-CA Star Schools had to have at least 33.3% of their students eligible for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) to be considered. Due to the difficulty in getting accurate NSLP data, particularly in high schools, this year the Socioeconomic Disadvantaged measure was used in its place. This is also a more robust measure as it takes into account the education level of the students' parents.

Declining Subgroups

Honor Roll principals expressed concern that a single subgroup declining in a single subject could prevent an otherwise exemplary school from being considered for the Honor Roll. They pointed to subgroup charts for previous Honor Roll schools that showed small declines one year, which were followed by larger increases the following year. This was considered normal phenomena due to adjusting instructional strategies based upon data informed benchmarking year after year. For 2007, Honor Roll schools can have a single subgroup decline up to 10% in one subject and still be included. If the decline is larger than 10%, or more than a single subgroup or subject are involved, then the school is no longer eligible for inclusion.

Slight Achievement Gap Increases

In previous years, Star Schools could have small achievement gap increases in the last two years if gaps were closing over four years and the increase in gap size were less than 12 percentage points. This year, the gap can increase to 15 percentage points and the school will still be considered.

Minimum Proficiency of Subgroups

In previous years, Honor Roll schools could have small fluctuations in achievement in subgroups so long as it reached at least 80% proficiency. This year, these same small fluctuations are allowed if the subgroup reaches at least 75% proficiency.

Maximum Achievement Gap Size

A new criterion was added this year, which requires that Honor Rolls schools have no achievement gaps larger than 20 percentage points in 2007.

Juried Decisions

This year, a few borderline Scholar schools or those with data anomalies were juried for inclusion or exclusion.

These changes have resulted in a net increase of 110 Honor Roll schools in 2007 from the 2006 criteria.

2007 CBEE Scholars Criteria

The CBEE Scholars are high performing or high improving schools where all subgroups are exceeding the performance of their look-a-like peers in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics in 2007. The list includes schools that are dramatically increasing their proficiency percentage or have a very high proficiency rate in each major subgroup in both subjects.

In order to be included in the CBEE Scholars, a school must meet a set of criteria for each major subgroup. Subgroups are considered major subgroups if:

- The group has greater than 10 students in the subgroup in 2006 and 2007.
- In 2007, the group has at least 100 students or at least 50 students and is 15% or more of the tested student population.

The consistently highest performing subgroup must meet one of the following criteria in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics:

- The group proficiency is 75% or greater in 2007.
- The group is at 50% proficiency or higher in 2007 with increases in proficiency shown from 2004 to 2007 and from 2006 to 2007.

A linear regression was calculated for the percentage of a specific subgroup vs. the proficiency percentage of that subgroup. CBEE Scholars have proficiency rates that are at least at the mean in each subgroup in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics.

For each major subgroup, the schools must meet one of the following criteria in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics:

- The proficiency rate increased by 30 percentage points from 2004 to 2007.
- The subgroup proficiency rate is 75% or higher.

To be included, a school must meet Adequate Yearly Progress in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics in 2006 and 2007.

Borderline schools or those with data anomalies were juried for inclusion.

The list of schools can be viewed at <http://jftk-ca.org/scholars>.

2007 CBEE Stars Criteria

The CBEE Stars are schools that have a significant population of students in poverty and are closing achievement gaps and increasing proficiency rates. The list includes schools that are closing gaps in each subgroup in both language arts and mathematics.

In order to be included in the CBEE Stars, a school must meet a set of criteria for each major subgroup. Subgroups are considered major subgroups if:

- The group has greater than 10 students in the subgroup in 2006 and 2007.
- In 2007, the group has at least 100 students or at least 50 students and is 15% or more of the tested student population.

The consistently highest performing subgroup must meet both of the following criteria in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics:

- The group proficiency is 40% or greater in 2007.
- The group shows increases in proficiency from 2004 to 2007 and from 2006 to 2007 or is greater than 75% in 2007.

A linear regression was calculated for the percentage of a specific subgroup vs. the proficiency percentage of that subgroup. CBEE Stars have proficiency rates that are at least at 80% of the mean in each minority subgroup in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics.

For each major subgroup the school must show one of the following in both English/Language Arts and Math:

- The achievement gap closed was reduced from 2004 to 2007 with an increase in proficiency percentage from 2006 to 2007.
- The achievement gaps are less than 15 percentage points in 2007.
- The proficiency percentages were above 75% in both 2006 and 2007.

To be included, all subgroups must have achievement gaps in both English/Language Arts and Math of less than 20 percentage points in 2007.

To be included, a school must meet Adequate Yearly Progress in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics in 2006 and 2007.

Finally, to be included, the school-wide percentage of socioeconomic disadvantaged students must be 33.3% or greater.

The list of schools can be viewed at <http://jftk-ca.org/stars>.