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"EdTrust-West Releases Report to Help Explain New AYP Numbers"

(Oakland)- **T**oday the California Department of Education released a revised list of schools that did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. To help the public understand what the numbers mean, and to explain how the AYP measure fits with California's current accountability system, the Education Trust-West concurrently released a report entitled "AYP + API: Why the Federal Measure is a Crucial Complement to California's Accountability System." You can view the report [here](#).

There has been some debate about the value of AYP given that California already has an established accountability measure, the Academic Performance Index (API). The EdTrust-West report seeks to dispel some of the myths about AYP, and explain why California needs both systems if it wants to help its schools improve.

The original AYP lists, released in August, were calculated looking at schools' results on the California Standards Tests and the California Alternate Proficiency Assessment. The revised list released today includes whether schools made AYP for two additional indicators of performance where data was not initially available, a school's API ranking and, for high schools, graduation rates. Because of the strong improvement of California schools on the API, only 31 additional schools failed to make AYP with the inclusion of these additional indicators. Accounting for all indicators, 45% of California schools made Adequate Yearly Progress this year.

"We know the lists will cause some heartache," said Russlynn Ali, director of the Education Trust-West. "But we must resist the urge to throw away the thermometer just because it shows us we have a fever. AYP and API are an important pair. Our report helps to explain why."

The release of the revisions does not come as a surprise. AYP was always intended to include these additional indicators, but the data were not available in August when the AYP list was first put together.

Report: [AYP + API: Why the Federal Measure is a Crucial Complement to California's Accountability System.](#)