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# **Education Committee**

**Tuesday, October 10, 2017**

**12:30 PM**

**Webster Hall (212 Knott)**

**Meeting Packet**

# Committee Meeting Notice

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### Education Committee

**Start Date and Time:** Tuesday, October 10, 2017 12:30 pm  
**End Date and Time:** Tuesday, October 10, 2017 02:30 pm  
**Location:** Webster Hall (212 Knott)  
**Duration:** 2.00 hrs

Department of Education update on implementation of rules and policy related to school improvement.

Update on the Jefferson County School system

**NOTICE FINALIZED on 10/03/2017 4:14PM by Jones.Missy**





# School Improvement Overview

House Education Committee

October 10, 2017

Presenter: Hershel Lyons

Chancellor of Public Schools



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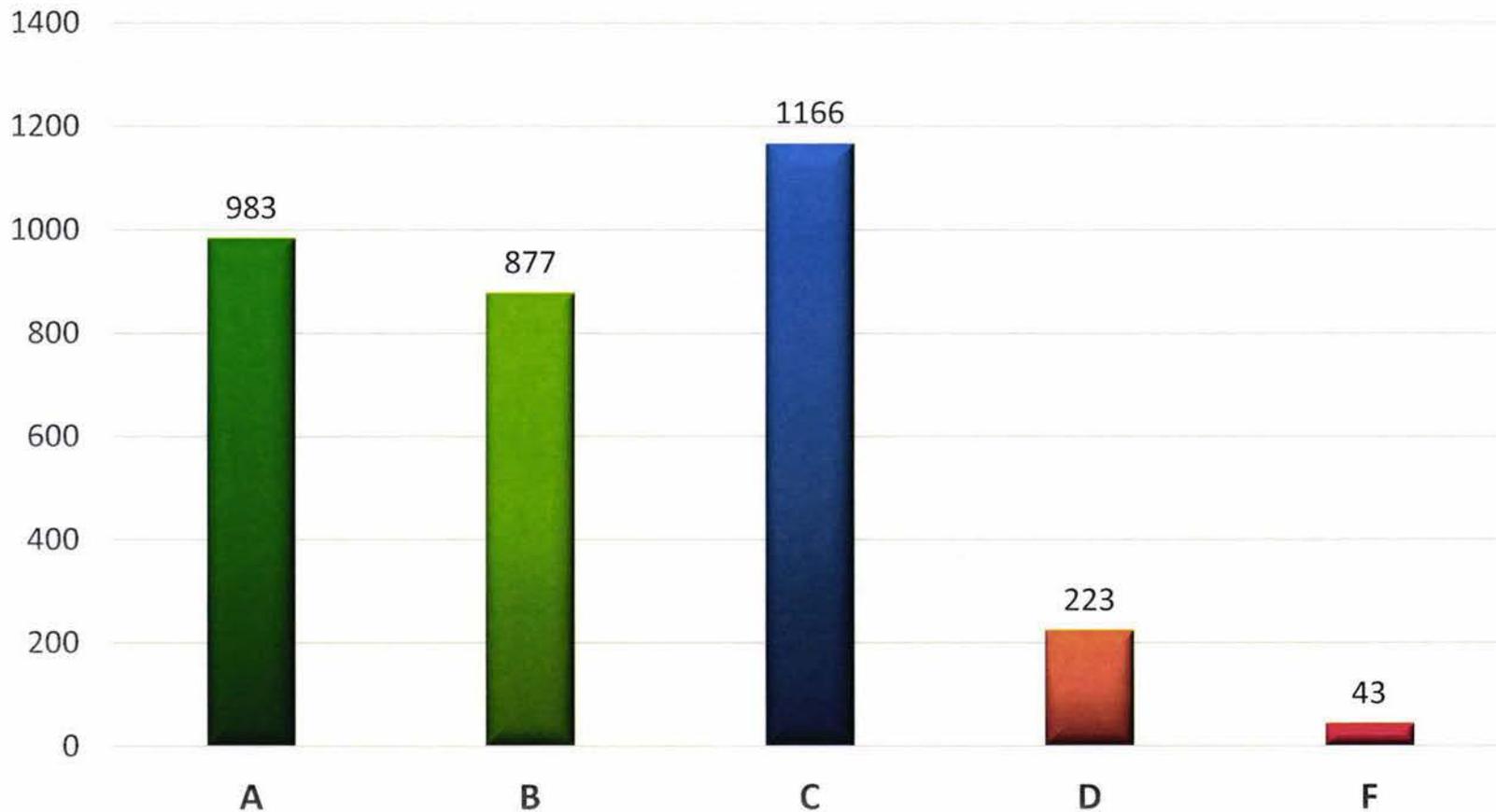
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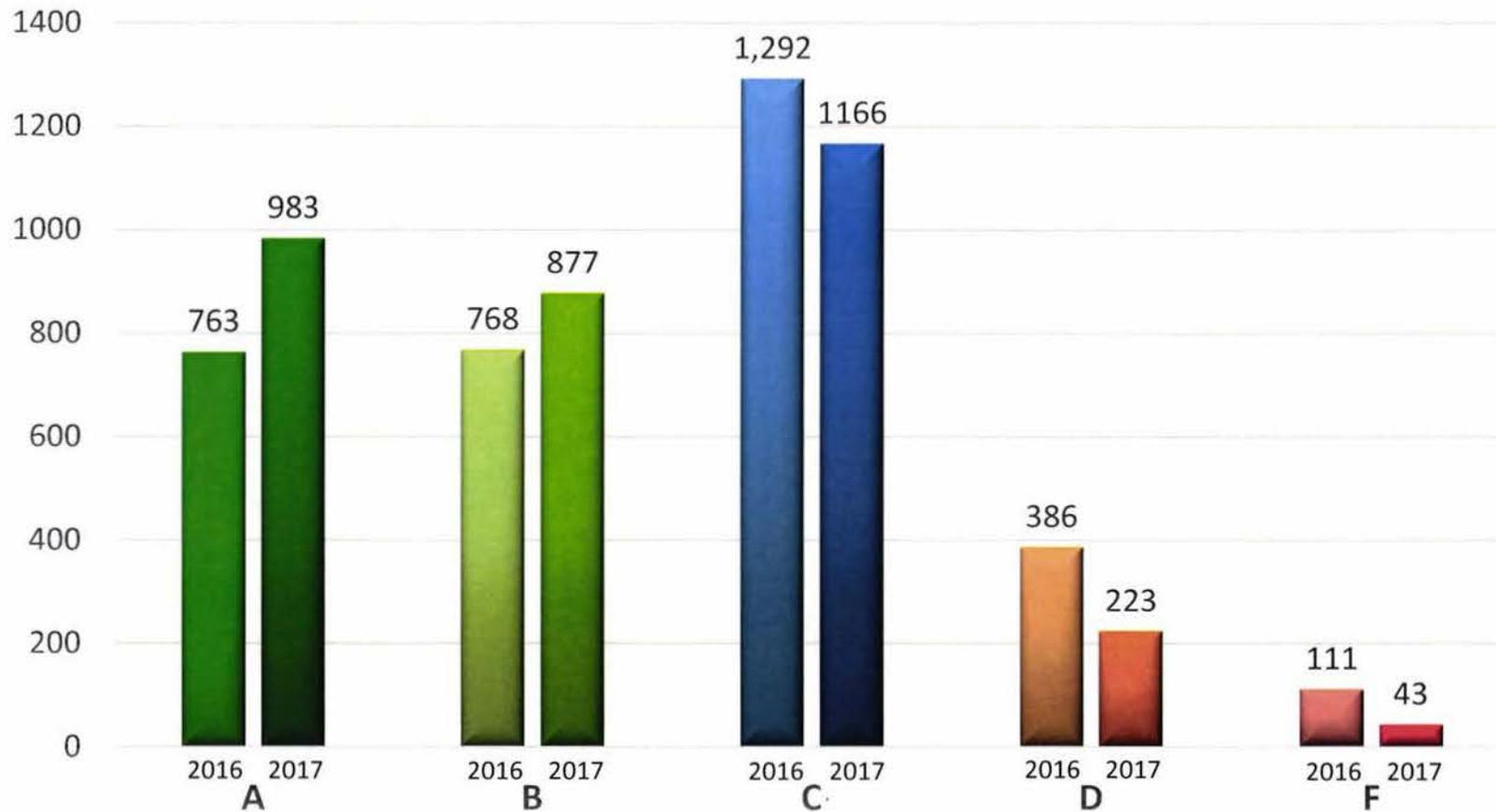
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# Accountability Update

## 2017 School Grade Results



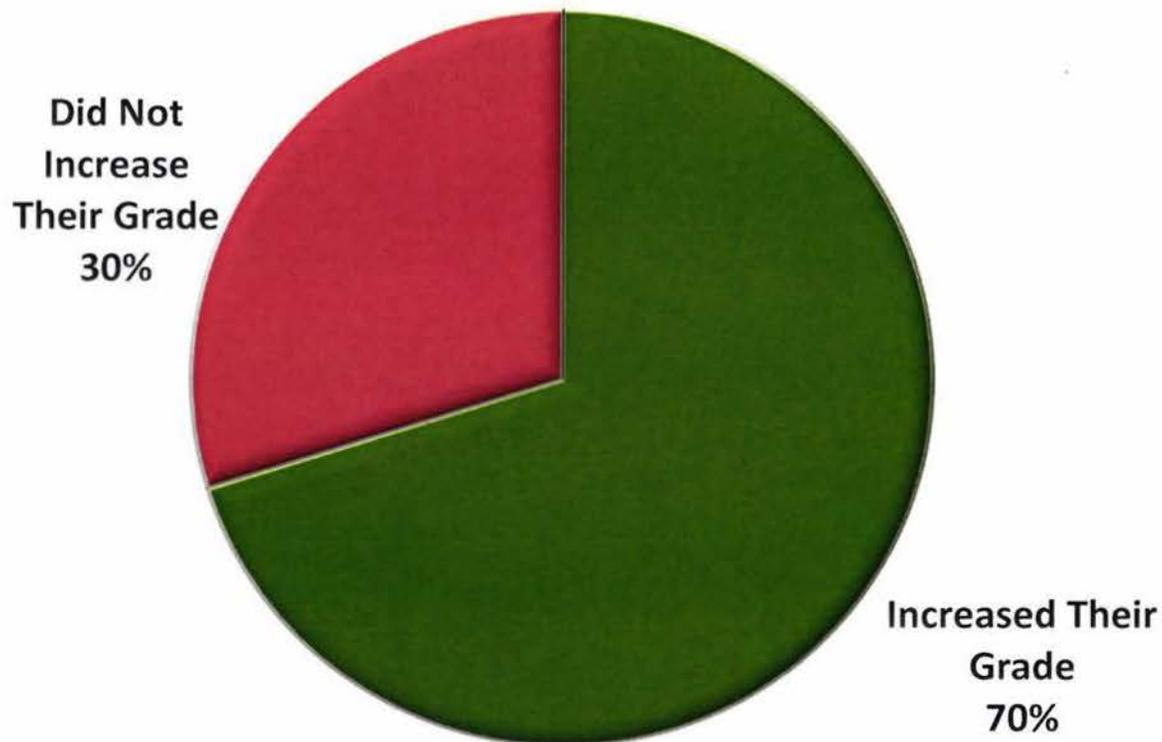
## 2016 and 2017 School Grades



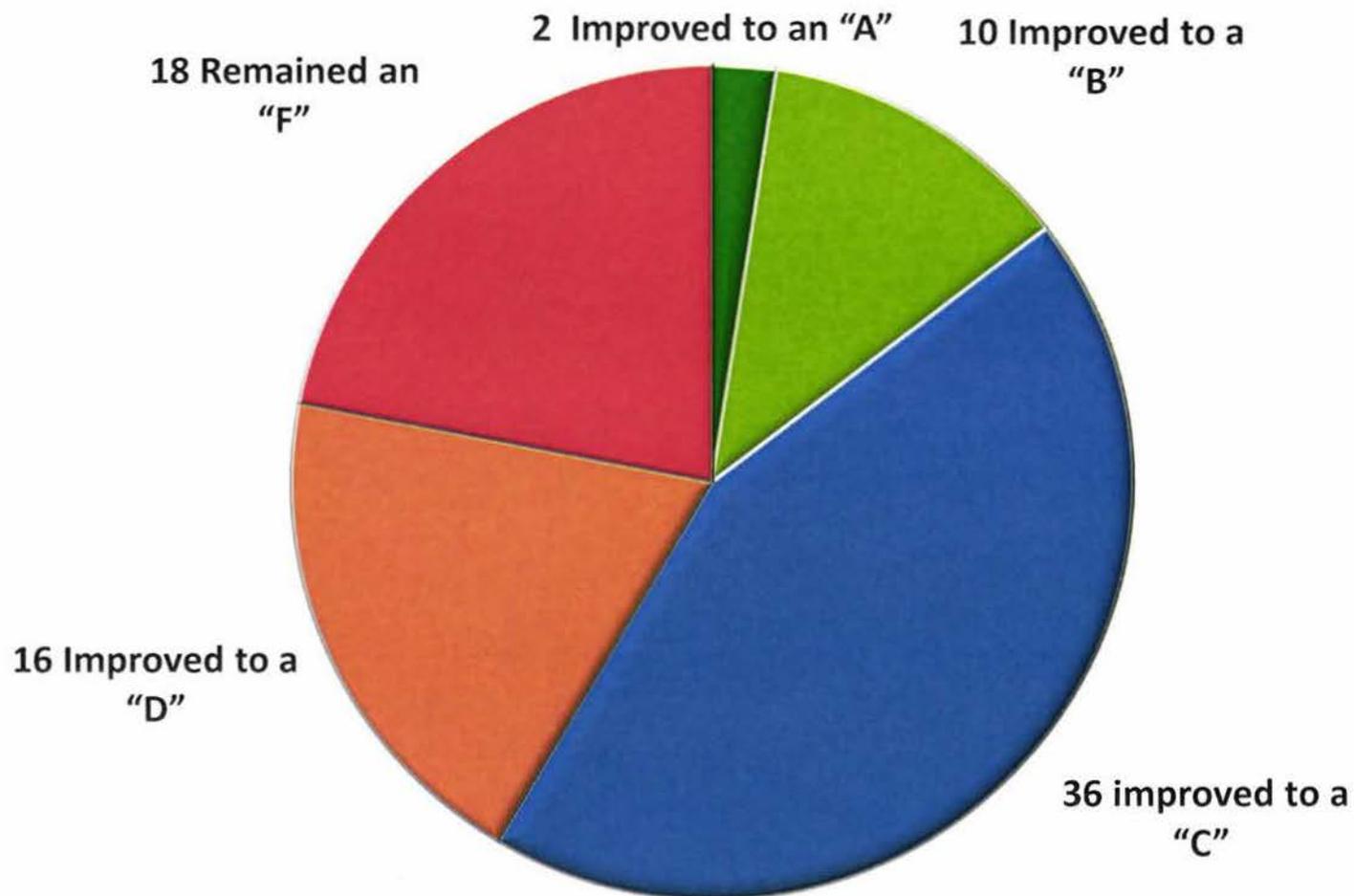
## School Grade Highlights

- The percentage of schools earning an “A” or “B” increased to 57 percent (1,861 schools), up from 46 percent (1,531 schools) in 2015-16.
- Elementary schools saw the largest percentage point increase in “A” schools.
  - 30 percent (546 schools) of elementary schools earned an “A” in 2016-17, up from 21 percent (386 schools) in 2015-16.
- 1,609 schools maintained an “A” grade (669 schools) or increased their grade (940 schools) in 2016-17.
- “F” schools decreased by more than half (61 percent), dropping from 111 schools in 2015-16 to 43 schools in 2016-17.

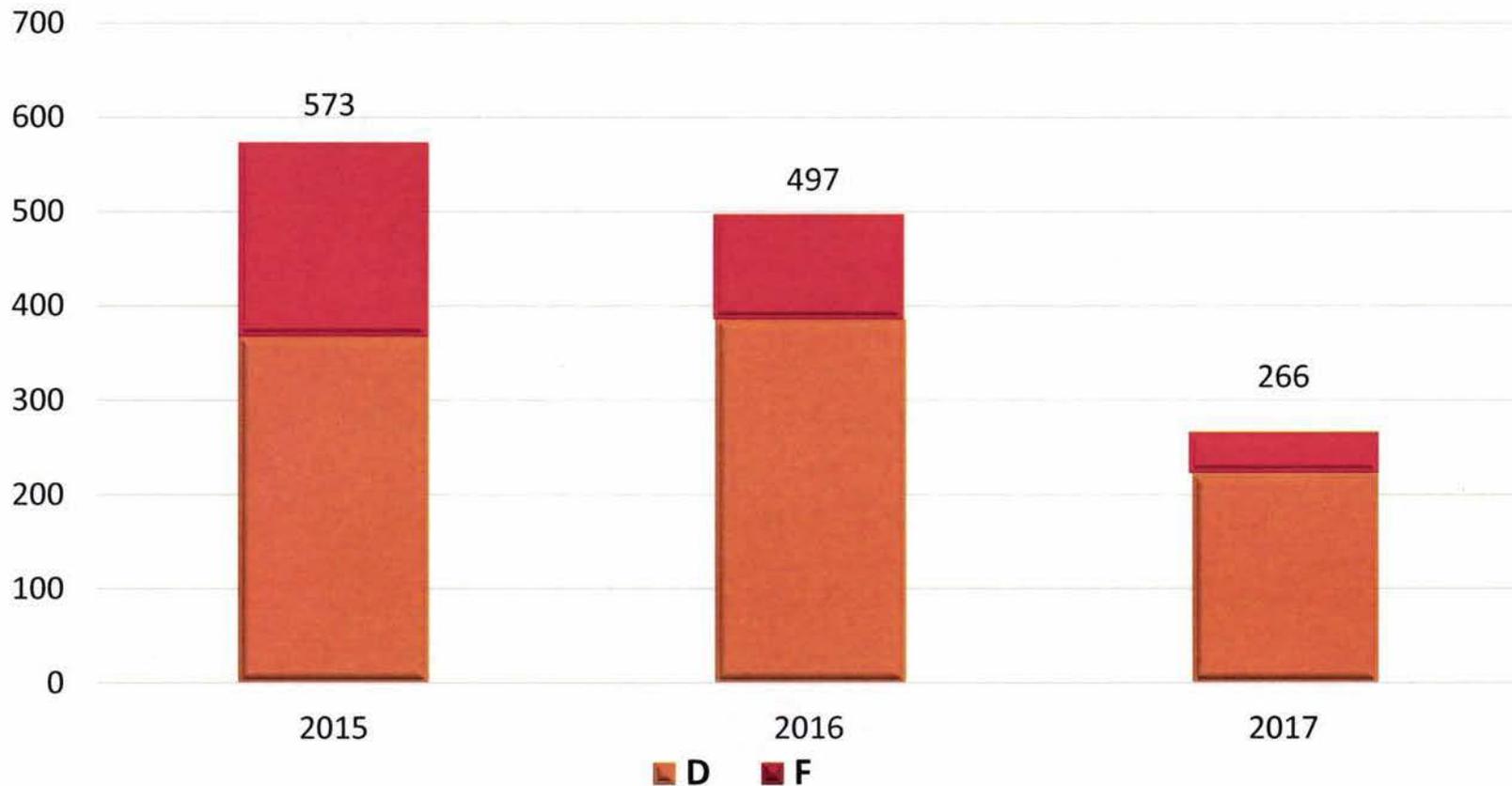
## 70% of Schools Graded “D” or “F” in 2016 Improved Their Grade in 2017



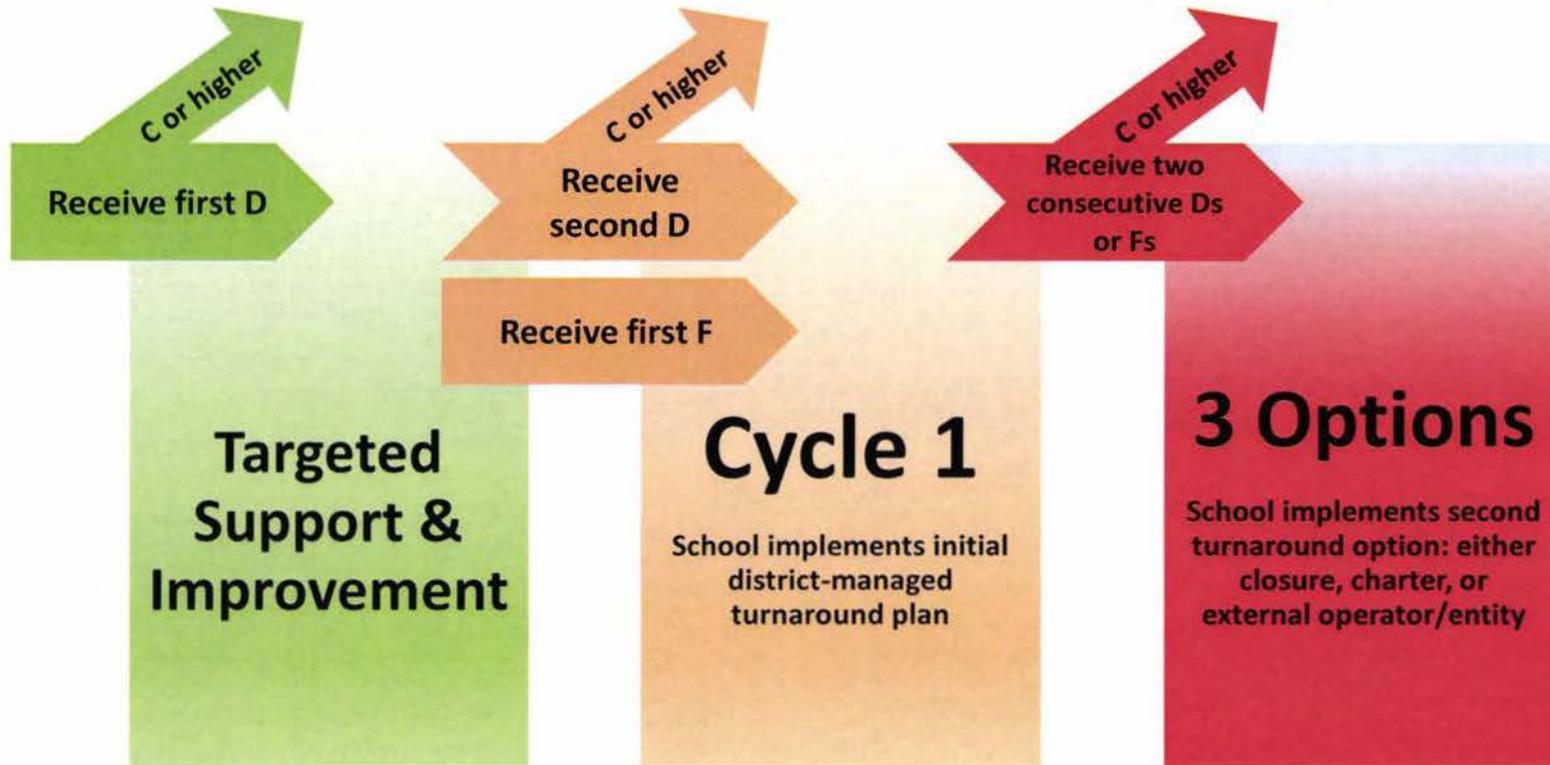
## 78% of F Schools Improved Their Grade



## Florida's Focus on Low-Performing Schools is Showing Improvement



# NEW Differentiated Accountability (DA) Process

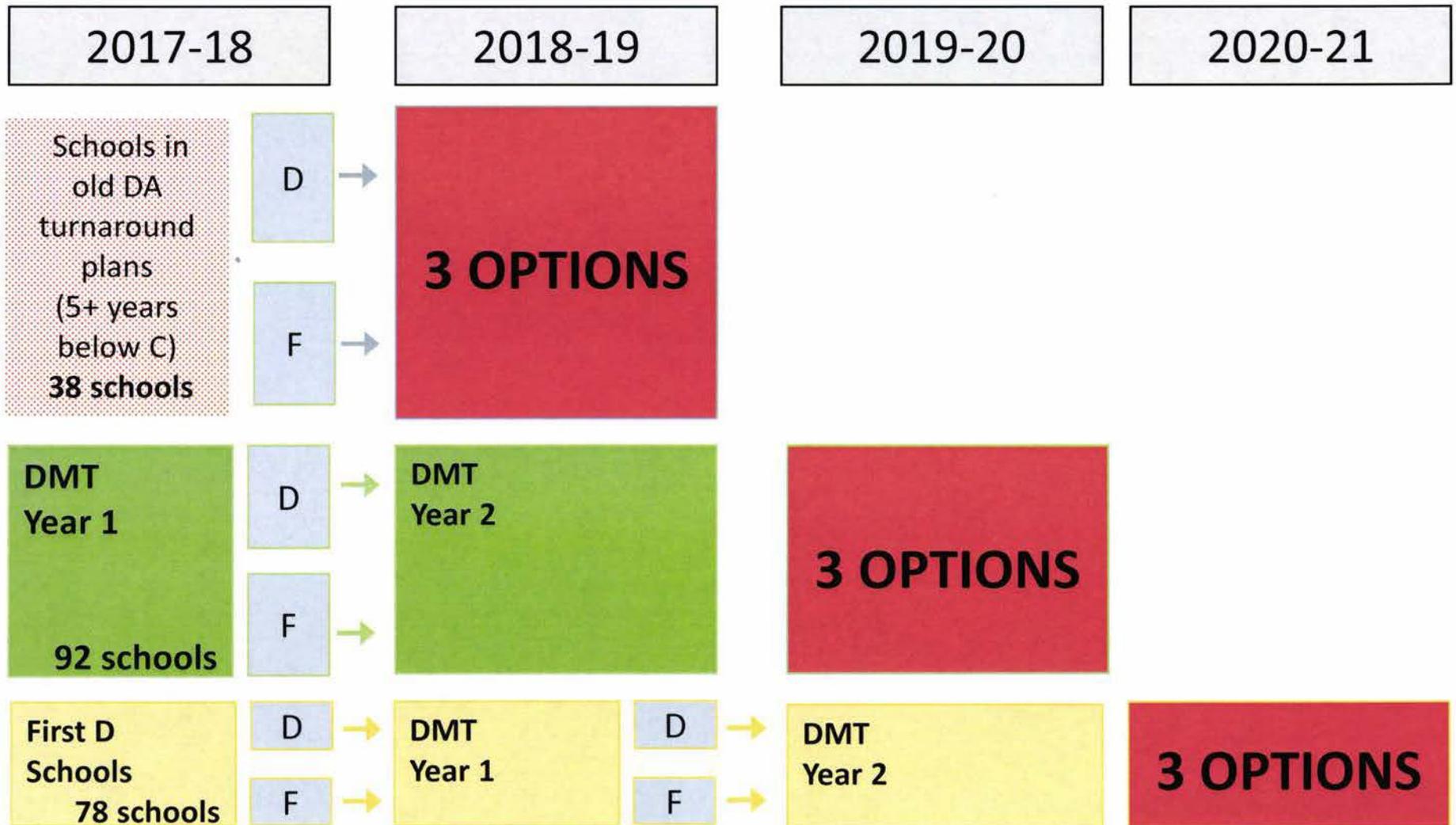


## New Differentiated Accountability Flow

- This pattern represents the flow for districts and schools just entering DA in the 2017-18 school year.
- Schools that earned their first “D” in the 2016-17 school year will use the 2017-18 school year to plan for turnaround.
- Schools that earned their first “F” in the 2016-17 school year must implement a turnaround plan in the 2017-18 school year.



# New Differentiated Accountability Flow



## Turnaround Option Plan Process

- The DA team works with the district in the development of their turnaround option plan (TOP).
- The district submits their TOP to the Regional Executive Director (RED) for review.
- The RED gives feedback to the district and allows for updates/ revision.
- Final TOPs are sent to Commissioner Stewart, Chancellor Lyons and State Board members for review prior to the State Board meeting.

## Turnaround Option Plans Before the State Board

- There will be 92 NEW turnaround plans before the State Board in October.
- There will be 2 turnaround plans (Cycle 1, Year 3) returning that were not approved at the July meeting:
  - Alachua – Hawthorne Middle/High School
  - Hamilton – Hamilton County High School
  - Both schools have spent 6 years below a “C”

## State Board Options for Turnaround Plans

The State Board may:

- **Approve** the new plan as proposed.
- **Conditionally approve** the new plan with contingencies/conditions, such as modification or reporting (i.e., approve the new plan with directed changes).
- **Defer** its decision and require more information be provided (for example, clarification of the differences between the old and new plan) before deciding whether to approve the plan.
- **Deny** the new plan.

## Criteria for Approval of Turnaround Plans

- The State Board must find that the plans “create the conditions to improve the school’s grade during the two-year implementation period,” and
- Plans must meet the applicable requirements.

In every case, the ultimate question before the State Board is whether the proposed plan has a reasonable chance of success.

## **Next Steps if Turnaround Plan is Denied by State Board**

- The State Board may deny a plan indicating the reasons and areas of deficiency.
- The district must then submit a new plan.
  - The new plan may be for a new option or a revision of the plan for an existing option, depending upon the deficiency.

## Educational Emergency

- An educational emergency exists in a school district if one or more schools in the district have a school grade of “D” or “F.”
- When in an educational emergency, it is the duty of a school district to negotiate special provisions of its contract to free schools from contract restrictions that limit the school’s ability to improve student performance.
- If the school district identifies any such provision of its contract, the negotiations must result in a memorandum of understanding that addresses the selection, placement and expectations of instructional personnel and provides principals with autonomy to select instructional personnel.
- If the school has earned two consecutive grades of “D” or an “F,” and it enters into a MOU, the MOU is due to FDOE by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Persistently Low-Performing Schools (PLP)**

- PLP – three consecutive grades below a “C”, beginning with the 2014-15 school year or a school that selected closure as its turnaround option within two years after the submission of a notice of intent.
- PLP list was distributed announcing the 90 schools, within 24 districts, who met this classification.

## **Schools of Hope Traditional Public Schools**

- Up to 25 projects may be awarded up to \$2,000 per full-time equivalent student based on 2016-17 Survey 3 Preliminary data.
- 57 schools from 19 districts applied.
- The Commissioner ranked the plans based upon the strength of the plan and its focus on interventions designed to improve student success.
- Input from the Regional Executive Directors for School Improvement, as well as other Bureaus, were considered.
- All plans recommended for approval are based upon whole school transformation and were developed in consultation with the school's principal.

## Consideration Protocol

- Both the turnaround plan and eligible applications for the Schools of Hope Traditional Public Schools Program will be considered for approval at the October 18, 2017, State Board meeting.



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# Somerset Jefferson County K-12

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A PATHWAY TO PARTNERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE



# The State of Affairs in Jefferson County

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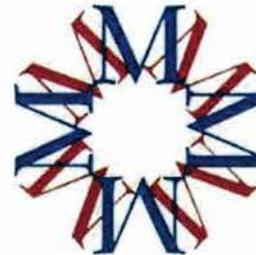
- Persistently low academic performance
- District is in a state of financial emergency
- Students leaving Jefferson to attend school in adjacent counties
  - Approximately 1450-1500 children should be attending Jefferson Schools
  - Only 715 students in attendance at the conclusion of the 16-17 school year
  - Current student enrollment is 763
- Multiple meetings with the school and community
- 100% of the students in Jefferson County are direct certified free and reduced lunch

# The Process of Change

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We are leveraging our network of experts under the Academica umbrella to support Jefferson, including:

- Somerset Academy Inc.
- Pinecrest Academy Inc.
- Doral Academy Inc.
- Mater Academy Inc.



# Staffing Initiatives

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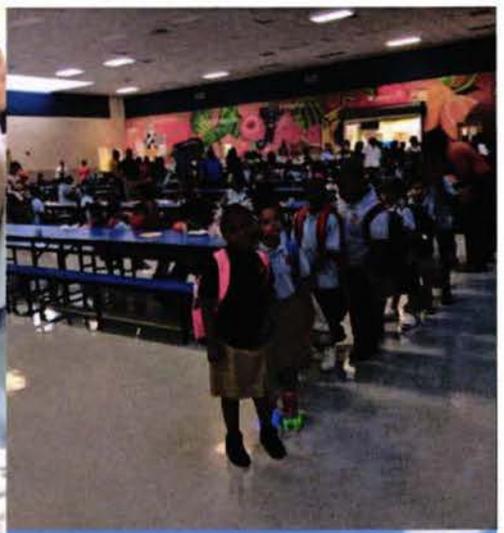
- Somerset gave all Jefferson County employees preference prior to opening interviews to out-of-county applicants
  - Jefferson teachers submitted resumes, credentials and evaluations prior to being observed in the classroom using our network of principals
  - Teachers were then interviewed the following day using a self-made evaluation tool
  - Support staff (custodians, clerical, maintenance) were interviewed later in the process
  - For teachers and staff with 25 or more years in the Florida Retirement System (FRS), Somerset committed to making the required contribution to FRS of behalf of the employee, allowing them to remain in the system
  - Somerset also created a pay scale that would rival that of any large school district in Florida
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# Improved Facilities

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- Moved all students, K-12, to one campus
  - Added new landscaping and signage for the entire campus
  - Built new outdoor courts and play areas for both elementary and middle/high
  - Added a state-of-the art Culinary Arts Lab
  - Refinished the gym floor and added new logos
  - Painted the entire inside of the facility
  - Rebranded the cafeteria and completely revamped the lunch program
  - Upgraded the technology infrastructure and purchased new computers, laptop carts and clear touch panels for every classroom
- 





# Building Teacher Capacity

- Teachers reported two weeks prior to the beginning of the school for a professional seminar
  - Curriculum training was conducted by content area experts throughout our network of schools
  - Curriculum materials were selected with the input of our most experienced and successful schools
- Curriculum support teams were created to work with each accountability area, including:
  - K-2
  - 3-5 Reading
  - 3-5 Math
  - Science grade 5, 8 and Biology
  - Math grades 6-8
  - ELA grades 6-8
  - ELA grades 9-10
  - EOC Algebra 1 and Geometry
  - Civics and US History

Curriculum support teams were divided into two teams for each area with one administrator leading each team and two content resource teachers.

- Each team visits Somerset Jefferson a minimum of every three weeks for two and one half days.
- The teams constantly communicate with the teachers they support and provide training and pacing guides for teachers to follow



# Community and Parents

- Parent informational meetings were held for both elementary and middle/high parents
- Somerset personnel went to church to meet parents where they were most comfortable
- The Somerset Board of Directors appointed a parent and community leader as advisors to the board from Jefferson County
- Parents were provided free after and before care for students in grades PK-8 and free uniforms for students in grades PK-12
- Somerset invited all parents over a two-day period to sit with counselors and review the progress and schedule of their student(s)
- A school-sponsored kick off barbeque for students, parents and community members on the Saturday prior to the opening of school provided everyone an opportunity to meet
- New principal attended community meetings with various local organizations



# Tiger Pride and Our Students

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- During the Summer Somerset hosted Tiger camp for students in grades K-8 with the most outstanding graduates from across our network of schools
- Camp was conducted to assist students in getting a head start to the school year in reading and math
  - Graduates now attend schools such as:
    - Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Duke, MIT, University of Florida, Johns Hopkins, Florida State, Williams College
- New football, cheerleading and dance uniforms were purchased
- New band equipment was purchased
- New program called Tiger Time was created to assist students with academic progress
  - Four days per week after school, students can attend clubs and/or get additional tutoring assistance

