

# SCHOOL REPORT CARDS AT-A-GLANCE

## OVERALL ACCOUNTABILITY SCORE AND RATINGS

Each school receives an Overall Accountability Score from 0 to 100. This score is calculated by combining the **weighted average** of the Priority Area scores minus any Student Engagement Indicator deductions.

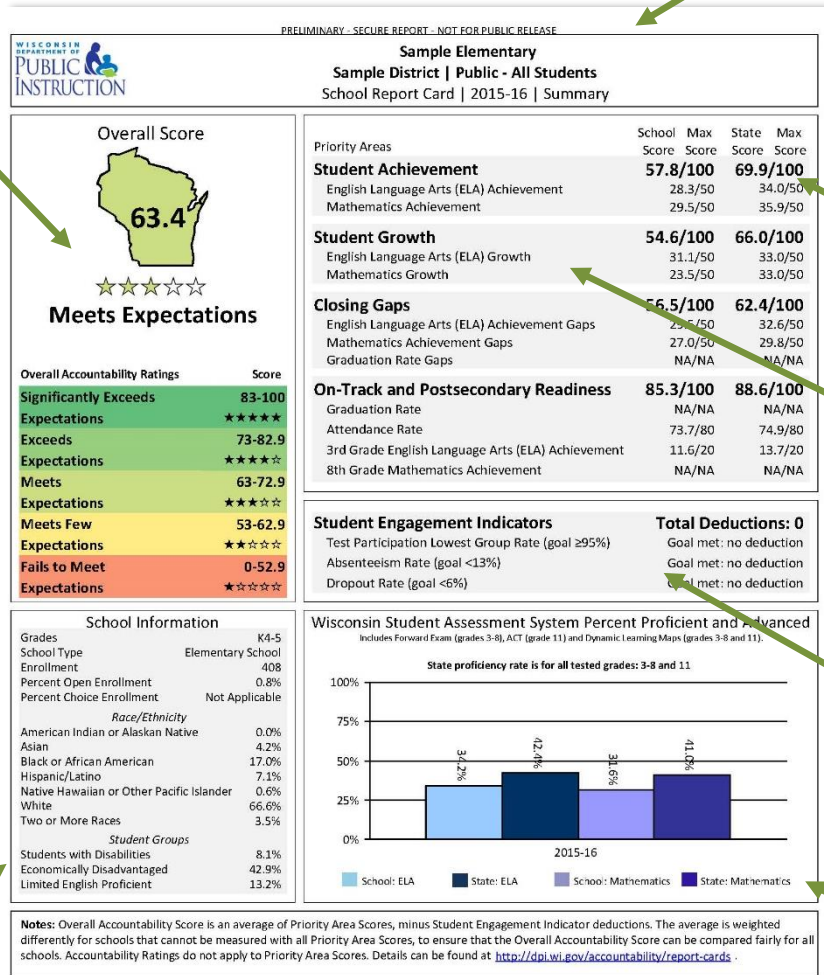
A **weighted average** of Priority Area scores is used—not simple averaging. Wisconsin schools are diverse in size, grade spans, and student populations—and not all schools have data in all four Priority Areas. To account for this and to ensure the scoring is fair to all school types, the average is weighted differently for schools that do not have all four Priority Areas.

The weighted average includes **variable weighting** between Student Achievement and Student Growth based on the proportion of economically disadvantaged (ECD) students. The higher the proportion of ECD students, the greater the weight assigned to Student Growth and the lesser to Student Achievement, and vice versa.

The Overall Accountability Score places a school in one of five rating categories ranging from Significantly Exceeds Expectations to Fails to Meet Expectations. A five star rating system is also provided. The 0-100 index is not “percent correct” so these scores are never the same as grades.

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

Basic demographic data for the school is provided for context. The performance of student groups is reported throughout the detailed report card.



## PUBLIC REPORT

Each year a School Report Card is released publicly on the DPI website (<http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>). You can select any district or private school participating in the choice program in the state\*, and view any school or district report card. Report cards for **2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14** and **2015-16** are available online in both summary and detailed versions. Report cards were not produced for the 2014-15 school year as per state law.

## STATE SCORES

The state scores are given for comparison purposes only. They do not factor into the accountability scores or ratings.

## PRIORITY AREAS

- 1. Student Achievement:** students’ level of knowledge and skills attained compared against state academic standards in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics.
- 2. Student Growth:** how rapidly students are gaining knowledge and skills from year to year, focusing on the pace of improvement in students’ performance.
- 3. Closing Gaps:** how much the school or district is closing statewide achievement gaps between student groups (comparing low-income students, English learners, students with disabilities, and members of racial or ethnic groups with their peers).
- 4. On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness:** how successfully students are achieving educational milestones that predict later success.

## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT INDICATORS

Targets for student engagement are set. Schools and districts receive a deduction for each Student Engagement Indicator not met. These deductions are subtracted from the Priority Areas’ weighted average, and are reflected in the Overall Accountability Score.

## COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS BENCHMARKS

This chart provides supplemental information about student proficiency in relation to college and career readiness benchmarks on the most recent state assessments. These data do not factor into the accountability scores or ratings. The chart shows a school’s recent ELA and mathematics proficiency alongside statewide performance, allowing for comparisons to state averages.

## USING THE SCHOOL REPORT CARD

Each Fall, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) issues a **School Report Card** and a **District Report Card** for schools and public school districts in Wisconsin. For the first time, 2015-16 School Report Cards include schools participating in the choice program.\* These Accountability Report Cards help parents and educators understand how their school is doing, as well as where it can improve to help all children learn, advance to the next grade, and graduate ready for college and career. Our goal is for every student in Wisconsin to succeed, to graduate, and to be ready to pursue further education and a career. The Report Cards are designed to inform parents and the community, and to drive discussion about our children's learning.

### *How can parents use the report card?*

- Review your child's School Report Card every year.
- Ask school staff to sponsor a parent meeting to talk about the School Report Card. Review the areas of strengths and improvement it indicates for your child's school and district. Ask school staff what steps the school is taking to help students succeed and improve.
- Support your child's learning and your child's school. Ask your school principal how parents can help the school improve. Attend school events such as family learning nights with your child. Volunteer to help at school events or to work one-on-one with children to improve their skills. Join your school's parent group to learn more about school programs and efforts that make the school a better place for all students.
- Bring the School Report Card to parent-teacher conferences and talk about the student performance data in the report cards. Ask your child's teacher about classroom data as well. Ask how you can help your child improve and be on-track to their next milestone.

### *How can educators use the report card?*

- Review the School Report Card and, when appropriate, District Report Card every year.
- Review the report cards as a team. Identify areas, based on report card results and other school or district data, where performance has improved or declined. Collaboratively work to identify steps to build on areas of improvement and quickly address areas in need of improvement.
- Communicate your action plan to all stakeholders: administrators, colleagues, students, parents, and local leaders.
- Identify ways that each stakeholder can help implement the action plan. How can parents help improve the school? What can teachers and principals do to improve the school? What is the student role in your school improvement plan?

### *Where and which report cards are provided?*

To assist schools and districts in identifying their areas of strength and weakness, but also provide a snapshot of performance, two report card PDFs are provided:

- **Summary:** a one-page (front and back) overview that summarizes performance and provides the accountability score and rating.
- **Detailed:** a more in-depth look at the data behind each of the Priority Areas and Student Engagement Indicators. It also provides supplementary detailed data on student performance that can further inform school improvement efforts.

Report cards are publicly available online: <http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>. To learn more about Wisconsin's school accountability system, please visit: <http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability>.

\*2015-16 is the first year private schools participating in the choice program have submitted accountability data to DPI. Report cards for these schools will not have scores or ratings this year because report card calculations require more than one year of data.