

# School and District Report Card 2018 Redesign

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*The 2015 federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that states publish an annual report card for each school and district in the state. Report cards help families, teachers, and community members understand how the school or district as a whole is doing on a wide variety of measures.*

*Since 2007, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has published school and district report cards on our [School and District Profiles website](#). While ESSA requires that we add new information to our school and district report cards, we want to make sure that the information most important to you is front, center, and easy to access. For this reason, as we prepare to redesign these reports, we would like to know what information you think would be most valuable on a school or district report card.*

**1) Select the statement that best describes your connection to Massachusetts' public schools. You may choose more than one option if you fit multiple descriptions.**

- I am a parent
- I am a teacher
- I am a student
- I am a school or district leader
- I am a school committee member
- I am an education advocacy group representative
- I am an education researcher
- Other - Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**2) Which statement below best describes your comfort level with education data?**

- "I prefer having detailed school, district, and state education data so that I can dig into it."
- "I am really only interested in the basics of how a school, district, or the state is doing."

**3) How familiar are you with the school and district report cards published by the Department?**

- I have never seen a school or district report card.
- I look at school or district report cards once or twice a school year.
- I look at school or district report cards more than twice a school year.

**4) Please rank the following topics from most important least important based on how critical that information is to help you judge the quality of a school or district.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Student demographics (e.g., enrollment by race/ethnicity, gender, disability status)
- \_\_\_\_\_ How students perform on state tests (e.g., MCAS)
- \_\_\_\_\_ School or district accountability status/information (e.g., Level 1, Level 2, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Educators meeting state licensure requirements
- \_\_\_\_\_ Information on curriculum and instruction offered (e.g., arts, advanced coursework)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Class size (e.g., student-teacher ratio)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Student attendance (e.g., attendance rates, chronic absenteeism, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ School or district finances (e.g., teacher salaries, dollars spent per student, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ School climate and environment (e.g., student discipline, safety, engagement, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Student outcomes (e.g., graduation rates, college enrollment)

**5) Indicate the level of detail you would most like to see on a school or district report card. You may choose more than one option.**

- Information about the school or district as a whole
- Information broken down by student groups (e.g., racial/ethnic groups, students with disabilities, English learners)
- Information displayed over time (e.g. the last 5 years of student enrollment)

**6) Select the top reasons you would use a school or district report card. You may choose more than one option.**

- To understand how a school or district is doing in a given year
- To see changes in school or district data over time
- To compare schools or districts to one another
- To compare a school to the district average or the state average
- To understand how resources are assigned (e.g., staff, funding)
- Other - Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**7) How would you prefer to view the report card? You may choose more than one option.**

- On paper
- On a computer screen
- On a phone or tablet screen

*Below is a sample of the current report card. Please familiarize yourself with the current format before answering questions 8, 9, and 10.*



## How does our school's enrollment compare to the district and the state?

Total enrollment	Our school	Our district	Our state
	1,026	4,730	954,773
By high needs population	Our school	High schools in our district	High schools in MA
	# %	# %	# %
Economically disadvantaged students	172 17.0	358 18.0	108,598 35.2
Students with disabilities	120 12.0	299 15.0	49,150 15.9
English language learners	14 1.0	16 1.0	14,863 4.8

## How do our school's teachers and classrooms compare to the district and the state?

General information	Our school	High schools in our district	High schools in MA
Teachers (#)	68.0	133.0	69,341.0
Core academic classes taught by highly qualified teachers (%)	98.0	99.0	98.0
Average class size (#)	14.2	16.0	15.0
Student : teacher ratio	15.0 to 1	14.0 to 1	20.0 to 1

## How is our school doing on other important measures?

Attendance	Our school	High schools in our district	High schools in MA
2017 Attendance rate (%)	98.0	94.8	95.0
2017 Average days absent per student (#)	8.9	8.9	8.7
2017 Chronic absenteeism rate (%)	11.8	25.2	12.9
Discipline	Our school	High schools in our district	High schools in MA
2016 In-school suspension rate (%)	0.0	0.4	0.4
2016 Out-of-school suspension rate (%)	0.1	0.3	1.2
High school completion	Our school	Our district	Our state
2015 5-year graduation rate (%)	87.0	87.0	91.0
2016 4-year graduation rate (%)	85.0	85.0	88.0
2016 annual dropout rate (%)	0.5	0.5	1.2
2015 graduates attending institutions of higher education* (%)	82.2	82.2	75.6
2017 12th graders taking 1+ Advanced Placement courses (%)	8.0	8.0	11.0
2017 Advanced Placement tests with scores of 3 or higher (%)	5.0	5.0	2.0
2017 SAT average score - Reading	610	610	640
2017 SAT average score - Writing	600	600	580
2017 SAT average score - Math	600	600	600
2016 MassCore** - Completing a rigorous course of study (%)	0.6	0.6	2.4

\*Postsecondary enrollment data includes any student enrolling in an institution of higher education within 16 months of earning a high school diploma.

\*\*MassCore: 4 years of English & math, 3 years of history & lab-based science, 2 years of a foreign language, 1 year of arts & 5 additional "core" courses.

## What else should you know about our school?

To view our school's full report card, visit <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu>. For more information about report card data, visit <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/help/data.aspx>.

8) What do you like about the current report card?

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9) What do you find confusing about the current report card?

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10) Is there any information about the school that you would like to know that is missing? And if so, what would you like us to add?

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**Thank You!**

Thank you for your feedback. We plan to use your thoughts to help redesign these report cards and publish them in the fall of 2018.