

District and School Report Card Message to Parents

November 2017

Dear Riverview Parents and Guardians,

This year's School Report Card, issued by the state of Wisconsin for the fifth non-consecutive year, will be accompanied by the District Report Card, also issued by the state of Wisconsin for the fourth non-consecutive year. Both report cards were released on November 21.

Like the School Report Card, the District Report Card provides valuable information on how the Wausau School District is performing and where it can improve. The District Report Card is calculated as if it were "one big school" responsible for all students in the District and it includes both attendance and graduation scores. It provides us with a broader, District-wide perspective that supplements and enriches the information found in our School's Report Card. Together, these report cards tell us how well we prepare students to graduate ready for college and career.

This is how the District and School Report Cards are calculated. Each public school district and school earns an overall accountability score, from 0 to 100. This score is displayed in the top left corner of each report card. It is important to note that the 0 to 100 accountability score is not a "percent correct" measurement. The score is based on prior performance in these four priority areas:

- **Student Achievement** proficiency in reading and mathematics on state assessments
- **Student Growth** measured by year-to-year improvements in achievement
- **Closing Gaps** in performance between specific student groups (comparing English language learners, low-income students, students with disabilities, and members of a racial or an ethnic group with their peers)
- **On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness** is a measurement using reliable predictors of high school graduation and potential post high school success

Districts and schools are also evaluated on absenteeism rates and dropout rates when applicable. These are measures of student engagement. Based on our scores, our District and schools will be placed into one of five categories, from *Fails to Meet Expectations* to *Significantly Exceeds Expectations*. Our District's 2016-2017 overall score is 73.2 and our rating is *Exceeds Expectations*. Our school's 2016-2017 overall score is 64 and our rating is *Meets Expectations*.

The District and School Report Cards will be issued every year. Individual student results on state assessments will continue to be reported separately. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has produced two versions of each School Report Card: one labeled "School Report Card" and a lengthier version, "School Report Card Detail," with extensive information about data used in the report cards. Both versions can be accessed online at <https://apps2.dpi.wi.gov/reportcards/>.

These report cards are one part of a state-wide accountability system for schools. The State Superintendent, Governor, legislative leaders, and DPI staff worked closely with parents, educators, and members of the business community to develop the system. The U.S. Department of Education has reviewed the recent changes to the accountability system. Both the accountability system and the report cards will continue to improve and evolve in future years as more data becomes available.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Place, Principal