

The Ohio Department of Education will release in mid-September its 2016 Ohio School Report Cards for districts and schools, showing how each performed in the 2015-2016 school year. Ohio continues to raise expectations for how its schools perform, so students become better prepared to complete post-high school education and meet the ever-increasing skill demands of today's employers.

Schools and districts report information for the Ohio School Report Cards on specific marks of performance – called measures – within six broad categories or components. While the department has given letter grades on most of the individual measures for several years, new this year are letter grades on each of the six components. This will help give Ohio parents and schools an even more complete snapshot of the quality of education they are providing their children.

Report Card Components

K-3 Literacy

Students who are reading proficiently in third grade are five times more likely to achieve college and career readiness than their non-proficient peers. That's why it is essential that Ohio's youngest students who are not on track with their reading receive the help and support they need to be successful. The K-3 Literacy component looks at how successful the school is at getting struggling readers on track to proficiency in third grade and beyond.

Progress

We know that not all children start out at the same place with their learning, but every student should learn and grow throughout the school year. The Progress component of the report card looks closely at the growth that all students are making based on their past performances.

Achievement

Each year, children take state tests in math, English language arts, science and social studies to measure how well they are meeting the expectations of their grade levels. The tests match the content and skills that are taught in the classroom every day and measure real-world skills like critical thinking, problem solving and writing. The Achievement component of the report card represents the number of students who passed the state tests and how well they performed on them.

Gap Closing

Ensuring success for every child means that schools must close the gaps that exist in the achievement of our students that may be based on income, race, ethnicity or disability. The Gap Closing component shows how well schools are meeting the performance expectations for our most vulnerable populations of students in English language arts, math and graduation, so that all of Ohio's students can be successful.

Graduation Rate

All students should have the support and guidance they need to successfully graduate from high school. The Graduation Rate component of the report card looks at the percent of students who are successfully finishing high school with a diploma in four or five years.

Prepared for Success

The ultimate measure of a school's quality is the preparedness of its students once they leave. Whether training in a technical field or preparing for work or college, the Prepared for Success component looks at how well prepared Ohio's students are for all future opportunities.

2016 Report Card Back on Schedule

- The September release of the 2016 Ohio School Report Cards puts Ohio schools back on the traditional fall report card schedule.
- Schools will be equipped to address areas that need improvement as the next school year begins, which best benefits students.

Ohio's School Report Cards have attracted national attention for their clarity and user-friendliness, and they show how schools are doing in every area with every student.