

November 17, 2016

2015-16 School and District Report Card

The Ashwaubenon School District earned three stars on the State Report Card from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, issued for the 2015-16 school year. Based on the state ranking system, our School District ‘Meets Expectations’ for educating students. Individually, Ashwaubenon High School and Parkview Middle School also earned three stars and ‘Meet Expectations’ while both Pioneer and Valley View earned four stars and ‘Exceed Expectations’.

Report cards are issued based on four priority areas:

- student achievement in English language arts and mathematics,
- student growth,
- closing gaps between student populations, and
- measures of readiness for graduation and postsecondary success.

While school and district report cards provide information to the community, they do not represent a full picture of the work happening at a school.

Our goal of preparing our students to be “college and career ready” is dependent on a number of factors. The State Report Card provides us with a snapshot of our students at a specific point in time. As we have studied and reflected on our data, we know that we need to continue to adapt our instruction to reflect the changing student demographics in Ashwaubenon. Our continuous improvement plans list strategies and action steps that we are taking to increase student achievement, help all students grow academically and close the achievement gap across our subgroups. We have a dedicated and talented staff who are using multiple data points to help all of our students meet success now and in the future.

The 2015-16 State Report Cards underwent major changes that were part of Wisconsin Act 55, in the 2015-17 state budget. Those changes include variable weighting to address the impacts of poverty on student achievement, a new model for measuring student growth based on value-added methodology developed by the University of Wisconsin, and the legislative requirement to change from the Badger Exam offered through the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium to the Forward Exam. Because report cards rely on multiple years of data, the 2015-16 Report Cards are based on one year each of Badger and Forward exams for grades three through eight and the ACT Plus Writing as well as Dynamic Learning Maps assessments in grades three through eight and grade eleven. The third year of data came from the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam and Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities. Using data from three different assessments in calculations, along with other legislated changes, makes comparisons of school and district performance to prior Report Card ratings inaccurate and inadvisable.

Sincerely,

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