



PRESS RELEASE

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School Accountability Report Cards Released by Wisconsin DPI Report cards return after one year absence due to school closings

West Bend – Nearly all schools in the West Bend School District and the school district as a whole received the accountability rating “Exceeds Expectations” on the 2020-2021 Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Accountability Report Cards released on November 16, 2021. There are five accountability ratings: Significantly Exceeds, Exceeds, Meets, Meets Few, or Fails to Meet Expectations.

Green Tree Elementary School - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating (out of five)
Decorah Elementary School - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating
Fair Park Elementary School - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating
McLane Elementary School - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating
Jackson Elementary School - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating
Silverbrook Intermediate School - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating
Badger Middle School - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating
West High School - Meets Expectations, three-star rating
East High School - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating
West Bend School District - Exceeds Expectations, four-star rating

The full report cards can be found online at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>.

The DPI has resumed the report cards after taking a year break due to the lack of data because schools were closed for in-person instruction in Spring 2020. The ratings are based primarily on performance in the 2020-2021 school year but the scores are calculated with more than three years of data.

The test participation rate for the West Bend School District in 2020-21 was 93 percent, which is a positive achievement when 20 percent of West Bend School District students were learning virtually and others were in the schools and/or using distance learning.

"In a year that posed a variety of challenges to our students and their families, we are pleased with our ratings and are already using the data to inform our continuous improvement efforts," said Jen Wimmer, Superintendent of the West Bend School District.

The accountability ratings are generated by taking data and demographic information related to Priority Weight Areas which ensure that every school district and every individual school has certain factors taken into account for their rating. This means that the data within the Priority Weight Areas are calculated using different metrics for each unique school and district. The data is personalized to each school, making it useful for close examination of where changes can be made for greater improvement and growth. The Priority Weight Areas include:

- Achievement - proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics on the annual state assessments (priority weighting varies depending on the percent of economically disadvantaged students in the school)
- Growth - year-to-year progress in ELA and math achievement (priority weighting varies depending on the percent of economically disadvantaged students in the school)
- Target Group Outcomes - outcomes for students with the lowest test scores: the Target Group
- On-Track to Graduation - predictors of how successfully students are progressing toward completing their K-12 education

"Each school enrollment of students is unique; therefore, the state places different weights on the Priority Weight Areas when calculating each individual school's rating. As a result, the report card is tailored for each school and serves as one valuable piece of information that school staff use when examining students' performance in math and English Language Arts," said Wimmer.

"In our first review of the scores, we can see areas of success, such as students being on track to graduate and pockets of significant growth for targeted groups. We also identified areas in which there is room to grow, such as English Language Arts," continued Wimmer. "The school accountability report card is one resource we use to examine our strengths and areas for improvement."

The West Bend Joint School District #1 is proud to serve more than 6,000 students and their families from the city of West Bend, villages of Jackson and Newburg, and townships of Barton, Polk, Trenton, Jackson, West Bend, and Addison. We strive to ensure that every student is given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts, and co-curricular activities. Within our community-based 4K program, Head Start program, West Bend Virtual Academy, five elementary schools (K-4), one intermediate school (5-6), one middle school (7-8), and two high schools (9-12), families can expect a learning environment that supports the development of the whole child. Visit west-bend.k12.wi.us for more information.

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