

Understanding the Illinois School Report Card



www.illinoisreportcard.com

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL REPORT CARD?

The Illinois School Report Card is an important tool that measures how well our schools are serving students and communities.

It provides a clear picture of school performance that helps everyone—parents, educators, and community members—understand where our schools excel and where they need support.

WHAT DOES IT TELL US?

- If kids are learning to read and do math
- If students come to school every day
- If the school is safe
- If students finish high school
- If teachers are helping students learn

WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

School attendance impacts school ratings!

- Student attendance is a key measure on the School Report Card and schools with strong attendance receive better ratings
- Schools with high absenteeism may struggle to demonstrate student growth and proficiency
- Every absence affects learning opportunities and school performance
- Higher attendance rates lead to better academic outcomes

THE OPERATIONAL IMPACT OF POOR ATTENDANCE

Attendance work strains school resources and operations!

- Staff resources are redirected to making absence calls, sending letters, and holding attendance meetings. Schools often need to hire staff for these tasks.
- Teachers spend valuable instructional time addressing and assisting students when absent
- Administrators divert time to attendance monitoring and intervention
- Counselors and social workers focus on attendance cases rather than other student support needs
- The cost of these operational challenges affects a school's ability to focus on educational improvement

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

For Your School

- Helps teachers know what they're doing well
- Shows where additional resources and support are needed
- Guides administrators in making data-driven improvement plans

For The Community

- Helps people decide if they want to move to your neighborhood
- **GOOD SCHOOLS = STRONGER COMMUNITY!**
- When schools do well, property values go up
- Good schools help businesses want to come to town
- Everyone benefits when students learn and succeed!

**TOGETHER, WE CAN
STRENGTHEN OUR
SCHOOLS AND
COMMUNITY THROUGH
AWARENESS AND
ENGAGEMENT!**

