



School Report Cards

How Can the Wisconsin School Report Cards Impact Student Achievement?

The newest chapter in education accountability began on Oct. 22, 2012, when the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) released School Report Cards for every public and 2R (non-school board authorized) charter school in Wisconsin.

The new School Report Cards include an overall accountability score and rating (easily accessed on the DPI website), as well as priority areas of student achievement, including student growth, achievement gaps, and student engagement indicators. The past five years of results from the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE)

and the Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (WAA-SwD) are listed and benchmarked to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Specific school information includes grades, school type, enrollment, race/ethnicity and student groups. With a simple Internet search, the score for any school in Wisconsin is at your fingertips.

So, what does this mean for your students and your schools?

The mantra when presented with new data is “seek first to understand.” As an initial step, key administrators and teacher leaders could

review the priority areas that created the specific school score. What curriculum decisions in reading and mathematics have contributed to student performance? Have Common Core State Standards been embedded in the curriculum? What tools are being utilized to measure student growth? How is student growth information informing instruction on a daily basis? How does gap information affect individual student learning goals? Asking the right questions will gain better insight into the data.

The initial analysis needs to be shared with the professional teaching



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608-257-2622 | (Toll Free) 877-705-4422