

Legal Update

October/November 2022

Statewide 2021-2022 LRC Data

Statewide student proficiency rates on state tests increased for all student subgroups; however, the rates have not returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Reading proficiency as demonstrated on the third-grade reading test shows only 60.1% of third graders statewide scored proficient or higher.

Statewide attendance rate was 90.4%.

Across the state, 2,312 schools (69.4%) and 438 districts (72.2%) increased their Performance Index by at least three points in the 2021-2022 school year.

The increase shows evidence of increased learning but does not fully offset academic gaps widened earlier in the pandemic.

The state four-year graduation rate remained steady compared to the previous year at 87%. The five-year rate saw a slight increase, from 88.3% to 89%.



This Edition

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Local Report Cards

In September ODE released the 2021-2022 school report cards. The new report cards no longer include letter grades, but instead use a 5-star system.

While no overall star ratings were assigned this year, the following categories are rated:

Achievement: represents whether student performance on state tests met established thresholds and how well students performed on tests overall. Notably, 3 stars means the school met state-wide expectations, 4 exceeds expectations, and 5 means significantly exceeding expectations.

Progress: tracks how students are doing year over year. This component demonstrates that even if a student is very below grade-level expectations, growth in their learning during the year could be very large – more than a year's worth of learning.

Early Literacy: measures reading improvement and proficiency for K – 3 students. Three stars in this component means the school met state standards.

Gap Closing: measures the reduction in educational gaps for student subgroups such as black, Hispanic, economically disadvantaged, English language learner, economically disadvantaged, and students with disabilities.

Graduation: looks at the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate and 5-year adjusted cohort graduation rate. 1 star means a grad rate of less than 84%, 2 stars 84% - 89%, 3 stars 90% - 93.4%, 4 stars 93.5 - 96.4%, and 5 stars 96.5% and higher.

A new component, which did not receive a rating on this report card is College, Career, Workforce & Military Readiness, which reflects how well-prepared students are for opportunities after graduation, such as college, trade school, apprenticeship, military, or a job. This category uses information such as ACT/SAT scores, state-recognized licensure, College Credit Plus, Pre-Apprenticeship, OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal, and Internship/Work-based learning.

Dropout recovery schools' report cards still use the "expectations" system instead of stars.

Your school's local report card can be accessed at:

<https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/>



HB 123 – Safer Schools – Threat Assessment Teams

HB 123 went into effect last school year requiring several new actions on the part of schools to enhance safety.

Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, schools were required to adopt an anonymous safety reporting system which allows students and adults to share information with school officials and law enforcement about threats to student safety such as bullying, threats, weapon and suspicious devices, gang activities, odd or suspicious behavior, and self-harm or suicidal indicators.

New this school year is the requirement for schools to establish threat assessment teams. HB 123 requires schools to create a threat assessment team for each school building serving grades six through 12. The team should, when possible, be multidisciplinary and may include administrators, mental health professionals, and resource officers.

If a school already has a similarly constituted safety team, that team may serve as the threat assessment team, provided that the team and members comply with HB 123 requirements.

Team members must receive approved training upon appointment and once every three years thereafter.

Schools are required to submit proof of training with the emergency management plan. HB 123 also requires each school to incorporate a school threat assessment plan and protocol for their building's threat assessment team. Schools may simply adopt the state model policy

Remember: schools must implement these teams by March 24, 2023.

Charter School Stats

Currently, approximately 7,700 public charter schools serve more than 3.3 million students across 44 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

In the 2019-20 school year, charter schools enrolled 7.2% of all public school students.

Since the 2005-06 school year, the number of charter schools and campuses has more than doubled, while charter school enrollment has more than tripled.

Statistics courtesy of the National Association of Public Charter Schools.

For more information visit:

<https://data.publiccharters.org/digest/charter-school-data-digest/how-many-charter-schools-and-students-are-there/>

Q & A

Q: What is the difference between Annual Reports and the annual Local Report Card?

A: While both are a topic of interest for your board this time of year, they are two different documents. Local Report Cards are issued by ODE to every school across the state providing parents, communities, educators, and policymakers information about the academic performance of schools.

Annual reports are required to be prepared each year by charter schools and distributed to all charter school stakeholders no later than October 31st. Annual reports include:

1. School mission & vision
2. Activities and progress in meeting sponsor contract goals
3. Performance indicators from the Local Report Card
4. Financial information
5. School leader & board member names
6. School contact information

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