



Columbus School District

200 W. School Street | Columbus, Wisconsin 53925 | (920) 623-5950

Columbus High School
1164 Farnham Street

Columbus Middle/Intermediate School
400 S. Dickason Boulevard

Columbus Elementary/Discovery Charter
200 Fuller Street

Columbus School District Meets or Exceeds Expectations on ALL State Report Cards

COLUMBUS, WI- Student performance led to a rating of Meets Expectations or Exceeds Expectations on all Columbus school and district report cards released publicly by the Department of Public Instruction on November 12.

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) generates a School Report Card and District Report Card for every publicly funded school and district in the state. These public report cards can be found online at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>. The Report Cards are intended to help schools and districts utilize performance data to target their improvement efforts so that students are ready for their next educational step – including the next grade level, graduation, college, and careers.

The current School Report Card is based primarily on last year’s performance, the 2018-19 school year. At the foundation of the report cards are four priority areas:

- **Student Achievement** proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics on the annual state assessments
- **School Growth** measured by year-to-year progress in ELA and Math achievement
- **Closing Gaps** in performance between specific student groups (comparing English learners, low- income students, students with disabilities, and members of a racial or an ethnic group with their peers)
- **On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness** showing reliable predictors of how many students are on-track to graduate from high school and student readiness for post-high school success

Columbus receives four report cards: Columbus School District, Discovery Charter School, Columbus Middle School, and Columbus High School. **One thing crucial for understanding is that in 2018-19, each of the four report cards are based on different criteria.**

Overall Weight of Each Priority Area on the Overall Report Card Score

	DCS	CMS	CHS	District
Student Achievement	75%	42.9%	33.1%	29.9%
School/ District Growth	N/A	32.1%	20.2%	20.1%
Closing Gaps	N/A	N/A	26.7%	25%
On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness	25%	25%	20%	25%



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Columbus School District, Discovery Charter School, and Columbus High School's ranking is Meets Expectations. Columbus Middle School's ranking is Exceeds Expectations.

Some schools, like Columbus Elementary School and Columbus Intermediate School, do not have the data necessary to calculate School Report Card scores and instead participate in an [Alternate Accountability](#) process. This includes new schools; schools without tested grades; schools exclusively serving at-risk students; and schools with fewer than 20 full academic year students who took the state test, or those with only one year of data from the state test. Because the report cards depend on multiple data points across multiple years, DPI cannot calculate a traditional report card score for schools in these scenarios. For the 2018-19 school year, CES and CIS participated in this Alternate Accountability process.

Alternate Accountability is a district-supervised self-evaluation process in which schools report and evaluate their performance in raising student achievement in English Language Arts (ELA), mathematics, and in preparing students to be on-track for college and careers. These priority areas align to those found in the School Report Cards. Instead of the five rating categories on the report card, Alternate Accountability schools receive a rating of either *Satisfactory Progress* or *Needs Improvement*.

Columbus School District is pleased to report that both Columbus Elementary School and Columbus Intermediate School received a rating of *Satisfactory Progress*.

Over the last two years, the district systematically changed the literacy curriculum and provided staff with ongoing professional development and coaching to support them in the implementation. To improve performance in math, this district provides math teachers with ongoing professional development and coaching of stronger mathematical teaching practices. Currently math curriculums are being piloted at the elementary, middle, and high school levels in select classrooms.

To work towards closing gaps, the district is using three main strategies:

- Co-teaching service model
- Building capacity through a Bilingual Resource Teacher (Hired in the 2019-20 school year)
- Multi-Level Systems of Support (District-wide implementation in 2019-20)

By focusing on literacy, all students will grow into avid readers and writers. By improving math curriculum and practice, students will develop into creative problem solvers and critical thinkers. Co-serving and inclusive practices allows all students access to learning at high levels.

DPI stresses that the report cards are just one source of information about our schools. The schools are working hard to provide students with a great educational experience every day.

Columbus School District is conducting a Community Report Card presentation on Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30 pm in the Columbus Middle School library. The district will explain the components and differences among all Columbus district/school report cards at this meeting as well as discuss the district's efforts for continuous improvement.