

Dear WPS families:

Every year, each public school and school district in Massachusetts receives a report card. Just as your child's report card shows how they are doing in different subjects, these report cards are designed to show families how our district and schools are doing in different areas. Links to our district's and schools' report cards are available as follows:

Winchendon District Report Card	Murdock Middle School Report Card
Winchendon PreSchool Report Card	Murdock High School Report Card
Memorial School Report Card	Murdock Academy for Success Report Card
Toy Town Elementary Report Card	

The report cards include multiple measures of a school's performance, providing information on student achievement, teacher qualifications, student learning opportunities, and more.

Report cards are designed to be useful tools for everyone connected to our school. Families can use the information to have meaningful conversations with us about what the school is doing well and where there is room for improvement. Community and education leaders can use the information to better understand how to support students and our school.

You will find both strengths and challenges on our report cards. At Murdock High School our school's performance percentile ranking has jumped from the 11th to 25th percentile and we are now making substantial progress towards improvement targets. However, we still lag behind the state on such important metrics as completion of advanced and college-preparatory coursework, graduation rate, and college-going rates. Across all grade levels, our students' access to arts education exceeds the state average. At 5th and 8th grades, we outperform the state on the science MCAS exams. Across grades 3-8, our MCAS outcomes in both ELA and Math were stronger in 2019 than they were in 2018 - but our overall performance still lags the state as a whole, and far too many of our students have yet to meet grade-level expectations.

We have made changes in recent years which are beginning to accelerate improvements. At the high school we have implemented a Freshman Academy, a dual enrollment pathway with Worcester State, expanded access to Virtual High School offerings and are starting a Project Lead the Way engineering pathway. At the middle school, we have instituted data-based planning, personalized learning, a rigorous standards-aligned curriculum and school-wide structures to support students' academic success. At the elementary level, in addition to data-informed instruction, we have instituted important reforms to both our literacy and math approaches that are beginning to bear fruit.

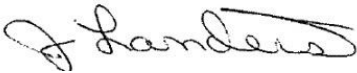
We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our schools. We see parents as critical partners in the success of our students and school, and we are grateful for your continued support.

Finally, if your child attends a school that receives federal Title I funds, you also have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether your child's teacher is licensed in the grade levels and subject areas they teach,
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under an emergency license or waiver,
- The college degree and major of your child's teacher, and
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

If you have questions about either the district or school report card, would like to become involved in school improvement activities, or would like to request information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teacher, please contact your school principal. If you wish to print a report card, instructions for printing are available on DESE's [report card website](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joan Landers".

Joan Landers, Superintendent