

## THE NEW MARYLAND REPORT CARD:

# Our State's School and School District Accountability System

## What is an accountability system?

Maryland's accountability system measures school and school district performance. It provides information to educators, parents, and the public about each school and paves the way for improvement. Through a strong accountability system, stakeholders gain an understanding of how schools are doing and where support is needed in order for those schools to perform better.



## What does the new Maryland Report Card include?

- 1 Provides indicators of school performance:**  
Achievement in student growth on state tests in English Language Arts and math; postsecondary readiness; progress of English learners in achieving English language proficiency; graduation rate; and students with access to and earning credit for a well-rounded curriculum. In future years, the system will also include science and social studies achievement, and the results of a student/faculty survey.
- 2 Information about schools throughout the State:**  
Users can view their neighborhood school, and also performance of schools throughout Maryland.

## How are Schools Measured?

Schools receive points based on their results on the **Maryland School Accountability System**. There are three areas to review for a brief summary of a school's performance:

**STAR RATING:** Highlights the tally of a school's total earned points percent.

**PERCENTILE RANK:** How a school performed in comparison to other schools.

**TOTAL EARNED POINTS PERCENT:** The total number of points earned by the school, divided by the total possible points.



## Do Schools Receive Help?

Schools are identified as needing support based on performance on the Maryland accountability system. Lowest-performing schools, and schools with groups of students that are low-performing or consistently underperforming, must develop improvement action plans. Supports might include leadership coaches, professional learning, on-site visits, and staffing, scheduling, and programmatic change assistance. Depending on how much improvement is needed, either the State or school system will guide and monitor the school's progress. Even if a school is not identified by the accountability system as particularly low-performing, there are universal supports such as online resources and statewide collaboration. Regardless of the level and type of support, all actions will be informed by data, research, and a focus on student learning and well-being.



MSDE has developed an Accountability User's Guide to help you better understand the new Accountability System measures and School Report Cards. To see the latest School Report Cards, view the User's Guide, and find more information, please visit: [MdReportCard.org](http://MdReportCard.org)

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