NJ School Performance Reports:
Guide for Middle and High School Families and Communities

Use this optional guide to foster conversations about the information that matters to your community.

Learn More

The School Performance Reports reflect the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) commitment to providing parents, students, and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and district. These reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education.

We encourage you to use these reports to:
- **Learn more** about the school and the district
- **Start conversations** with school community members and ask questions
- **Engage** with school communities to identify where schools are doing well and where they can improve

Start Conversations

Ask questions that reflect the unique needs of your student. Here are some examples:

1. What are my **goals for my student**? Where is the school meeting those **goals**? Where is the school **falling short** of identified goals? Why are we **strong or weak** in certain areas?
2. What is **unfamiliar** to me? What do I want to learn more about?
3. Without statewide assessment or student growth data for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, what data is being shared by the district to monitor **student growth and performance** and identify students that need support?
4. Did my district offer **additional supports and opportunities** in the summer and/or during the school year to address the disruptions caused by COVID-19?
5. Is there evidence of equitable access to **rigorous and diverse coursework, career-based learning, visual and performing arts, or other opportunities** that meet the needs and interests of all students?
6. What percentage of students take the **SAT or ACT**, take **Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB)** courses and exams, enroll in **dual enrollment coursework** to earn college credit, or graduate with **industry-valued credentials**?
7. Are students in all student groups **graduating** at the same rate? How are students meeting the **graduation assessment requirements?** Are students enrolling **in colleges and universities** after graduation?
8. Does the ethno-racial **diversity of the educators** in my school reflect the diversity of the state?
9. Does student have access to **counselors, nurses, child study teams, and librarians**?
10. What is **changing** in the school or district? What needs to change? How do I know?
11. How do **per-pupil expenditures** in my school compare to other schools in the district?

Engage

Reflect on the reports and **have these conversations with individuals in your school or district**. Consider the causes of any issues your school community is experiencing and figure out how you can be part of the solutions. You might consider:

1. Which **decision makers** can I meet with to address my concerns (teachers, principals, superintendents, board of education members)? What **resources** are available to me to address my student's needs?
2. What resources are available to help address student needs outside of school?
3. How can I **better understand** the needs of my student? How can my student's concerns be heard by teachers and leaders?
4. How does our school **compare** to others in the district? In the area? What are some of the **best practices** from other schools that can be used at our school?
5. Do my **school's goals** for my student **reflect** the **goals that I have** set for my student?
6. How can I help my student access **rigorous coursework** and well-rounded educational supports?

Access our School Performance Reports and Stakeholder Engagement Guide for more information.

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