



POPLAR CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

"MOVING AS A PACK TO SUCCESS"

Brady J. Reinke, Principal

Jennifer Walden, Associate Principal

October 22, 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you may be aware, educational reform in the State of Wisconsin will be changing the way schools and educators are evaluated and students are assessed, all to promote greater student achievement.

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has issued a **School Report Card** for our school and for every public school in Wisconsin as part of the new statewide accountability system. The School Report Card, using multiple measures of student learning, provides valuable guidance on how Poplar Creek Elementary School is performing and where we can improve.

With the School Report Cards, each public school earns a "score," called an accountability index score, from 0 to 100. The score is based on our performance in four priority areas:

- **Student achievement** in reading and mathematics on state assessments
- **Student growth**, measured by year-to-year improvements in reading and math achievement
- **Closing gaps** in performance between specific student groups (comparing English language learners, low-income students, students with disabilities, and members of racial or ethnic group with their peers)
- **On-track to graduation/postsecondary readiness**, using reliable predictors of high school graduation and postsecondary success

It's important to note that the 0 to 100 accountability index score is not a "percent correct" measurement. Instead, in combination with other school data, the score will help us determine our greatest strengths and where we need improvement.

A school's score determines where it falls on a spectrum of categories ranging from "Significantly Exceeding Expectations" down to "Persistently Failing to Meet Expectations."

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Based on our school's score of 70.9, we were placed into the category "Meets Expectations". Our report card shows:

- Our student achievement scores are above the state average.
- Our student achievement has remained relatively consistent over time.
- We score above the state average for our students being On-Track and Postsecondary ready.
- We have met all of our Student Engagement Indicator Scores.

We will seek to continue to grow in several areas, most importantly our work in closing achievement gaps. To do this we are in the process to implementing the Readers and Writers Workshop model in our literacy instruction. These models assist teachers in helping students to be strategic readers and writers. They also provide a framework that will allow teachers to meet individually or in small groups to work with students based upon their particular needs more frequently.

We are confident the new School Report Card, as well as the many other changes being implemented in Wisconsin schools, will help our school identify our strengths and promptly move to address opportunities for improvement. For more information on School Report Cards, please visit the DPI website at www.dpi.wi.gov/oea/acct/accountability.html.

Please note: Our school is in a unique position in the State of Wisconsin as a K-6 school being compared, in this report, with K-5 schools throughout the state. Please be aware of this if you choose to compare our report card to other elementary school report cards.

If you have any questions about our School Report Card, please contact me. Thank you for your support of our school.

Sincerely,

Brady J. Reinke
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