

SDNB “Exceeds Expectations” and Continues to Improve

All SDNB Schools Exceed Expectations and Show Improvement on District & School Report Cards

New Berlin, Wis. – The School District of New Berlin (SDNB) and its six schools have all increased their scores from 2013 to 2014 on the state-issued District and School Report Cards. All SDNB schools “exceed” or “significantly exceed” expectations.

This is the second year for District Report Cards and the third for School Report Cards. Both are intended to offer a better picture of how well individual schools are preparing students to graduate ready for college and career.

“We are very proud that our school district continues to exceed expectations,” said Superintendent Joe Garza. “The fact that our district and school scores have all increased show that our continuous improvement efforts are working. Our students, staff, parents, community and partners are all playing a part in the excellence that our school district delivers.”

On the report cards, every district and school earns a “score,” called an accountability index score, from 0 to 100. It’s important to note that the 0 to 100 accountability index score is not a “percent correct” measurement. 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.”

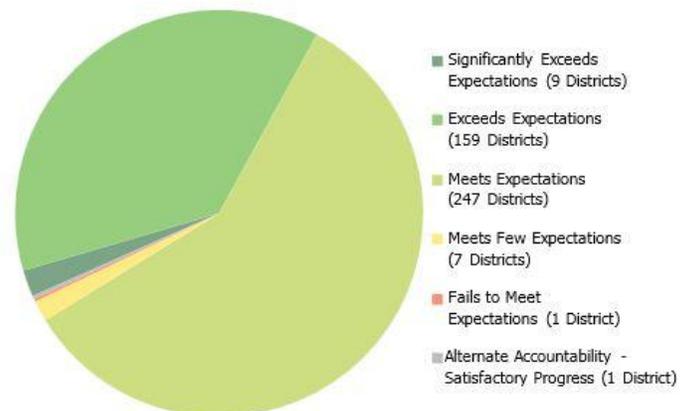
The score is based on performance in four priority areas:

- **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

Schools and districts are also evaluated on their test participation rates, chronic absenteeism rates, and dropout rates when applicable. District report cards also measure attendance and graduation scores. All SDNB report cards can be viewed at: www.nbexcellence.org/district/school-report-cards.cfm

	2013 Score	2014 Score	Point Increase	Rating
District	77.1	78.8	+ 1.7	Exceeds Expectations
Elmwood Elem.	85.7	90.4	+ 4.7	Significantly Exceeds Expectations
Orchard Lane Elem.	76.2	78.8	+ 2.6	Exceeds Expectations
Poplar Creek Elem.	75.4	76.8	+ 1.4	Exceeds Expectations
Ronald Reagan Elem.	73.3	78.5	+ 5.2	Exceeds Expectations
NB Eisenhower	80	80.5	+ 0.5	Exceeds Expectations
NB West	73.1	75.1	+ 2	Exceeds Expectations

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Garza said the district scores very well in the areas of graduation/postsecondary readiness and student achievement. The district will continue to build on those strengths while it improves in the areas of student growth and closing gaps.

“We want to make sure that every student in our district has the same opportunities to be successful in whatever path they choose after graduation. Our goal is for all our students to be ready for college and careers,” Garza said.

State Superintendent Tony Evers said the report cards are intended for continuous improvement and are just one measure for families to assess their school and district performance and overall student experience. Report cards, for example, do not measure music, art, physical education, career and technical education or extracurricular opportunities, Evers said in a [video message](#).

The report cards are issued each year as part of a state-wide accountability system designed to provide a more complete, balanced picture of school performance that can be used for school improvement planning. The accountability system is part of a package of educational reforms that also includes development of a new state achievement test, a new data system and new teacher evaluation methods.

For more information about the reforms known as Agenda 2017 visit <http://statesupt.dpi.wi.gov/files/statesupt/pdf/agenda2017.pdf>. For more information about the school report cards visit <http://reportcards.dpi.wi.gov>.

PLEASE NOTE: The School District of New Berlin has unique grade-level structures (elementary grades K-6; secondary grades 7-12), so that should be taken into consideration when community members are comparing scores and ratings to other districts and schools.

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