

December 11, 2018

Dear Marie Reed parents and families,






This December, the Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE) released a new citywide School Report Card that includes information about how every public school in DC performed in the 2017-2018 school year. At Marie Reed, we want to make sure that all of our families understand the School Report Card, how our school performed, and our upcoming plans to ensure each and every one of our students has access to an excellent education.

OSSE’s School Report Card and the School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) Framework

In 2015, President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), a new federal education law to replace No Child Left Behind (NCLB). As a result of this new law, OSSE created a citywide plan that includes goals for student achievement and a new accountability system, the STAR Framework. OSSE also created a new School Report Card to provide families with a range of information, including school points of pride, academic performance, attendance, and each school’s rating on the STAR Framework.

Explaining the STAR Rating

The STAR Framework first measures a school’s performance for all students across multiple areas of performance. The maximum points that can be earned for each area is shown in the chart below (up to 95 points this year). Schools earn points based on their students’ performance in each area compared to students across the city. The STAR Framework also measures performance for specific student groups including students with disabilities, students who are at-risk, English Learners, and each racial/ethnic group in the school. The school’s overall STAR Rating is based on its overall score which is calculated by combining the school’s performance of all students and the performance of each student group.

	Academic Achievement 	Academic Growth 	School Environment 	English Language Proficiency 	Graduation Rates 	Total Maximum Possible Points
Elementary/Middle	Up to 30 pts	Up to 40 pts	Up to 20 pts	Up to 5 pts	N/A	95
High School	Up to 40 pts	N/A	Up to 39 pts	Up to 5 pts	Up to 11 pts	95

STAR Rating by Score:

- 5 Stars: 80 - 100 score
- 4 Stars: 60 - 79 score
- 3 Stars: 40 - 59 score
- 2 Stars: 20 - 39 score
- 1 Star: 0 - 19 score

Our School's Rating

For the 2017-2018 school year, our school received a **5 STAR Rating**. In many ways, the hard work of our students and educators has paid off! We're proud of the high-quality education we provide our students and the great things happening in our school. Still, we are always reaching higher to ensure excellence for every one of our students, and we need to reflect on the areas we can grow and take targeted steps to do so.

Our Data and Our Plan

For the past five years we have steadily been focusing on aligning our curriculum in English and Spanish literacy and Mathematics from Kindergarten through 5th grade. Our Instructional Coaches of Literacy, Math, and Dual Language have provided targeted professional development and coaching to teachers to ensure every classroom is operating at the highest levels for students. We have strengthened our responsiveness to students' needs by intervening earlier and more strategically when students show signs of struggle. Many of our teachers have been teaching in the same content/grade-level for multiple years and are now experts in their classrooms. Additionally, we have brought greater consistency and high-quality experiences to our early childhood classrooms through coaching and shared professional learning. Finally, we have strengthened our systems for tracking student attendance and providing supports to families as needed to ensure that all of our students come to school on time and every day.

I am pleased that our total 83.7 points are a reflection of high levels of performance and growth across ALL categories – from PARCC achievement and growth to student attendance and Early Childhood metrics. Among our subgroups, our Black and Hispanic students, our English-Language learning students, and our At-Risk students did exceedingly well. The one subgroup that did not perform on par with the rest of the school is our students with disabilities.

Our 5-star rating validates all of the hard work of the past 5 years and supports the Comprehensive School Plan that we had already developed for this year. Ensuring that our students with disabilities reach grade-level expectations is an area that we had already identified as needing improvement. This is reflected in our Comprehensive School Plan and is why I hired a Manager of Specialized Instruction (Ms. Patrick) and an additional Special Education Teacher to ensure we are working intentionally to raise the bar for our students with IEP's (Individualized Educational Plan).

Our Next Steps

We are committed to growing and improving together with our families and school community in order to achieve our goal of providing an excellent education to each of our students. DCPS is committed to providing the resources and support we need to improve outcomes for all of our students and will continue to partner with us throughout the process. Please join us at this Thursday's PTO Meeting at 5:30pm or Friday's Coffee With The Principal at 9:00am to share your ideas about ways to continue this great work.

I look forward to the progress I know we will see for each of our students, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside each of you. For any questions or for information about upcoming feedback sessions and opportunities to get involved, please contact the main office at 202-673-7308.

Sincerely,

Katie Lundgren
Principal