




SCHOOL REPORT CARD FAQ FOR PARENTS




[Utah School Report Cards](https://utahschoolgrades.schools.utah.gov) will be published for parents and community stakeholders on January 3rd, 2019. (URL: <https://utahschoolgrades.schools.utah.gov>). This FAQ is designed to help parents navigate the new school report card site, answer frequently asked questions, and assist parents in understanding the information on the school report card for their child's school.

Q. WHAT IS THE NEW SCHOOL REPORT CARD?


 The School Report Card is just one piece of information that, when combined with other information, shows how a school is performing in multiple areas. It is designed to show each school's strengths and areas in need of improvement in order to ensure Utah schools are meeting the needs of all students. The new school report card is an interactive, online tool designed for parents that is easily searchable, provides detail into specific content areas, and clearly displays school-level information. Reports are available for all schools, charter schools, districts, and the state.



Q. HOW CAN I USE THIS INFORMATION AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?


 The Utah School Report Card is an interactive online tool for parents and communities. You can use this information to learn about the school, evaluate the performance of your school across multiple areas of school performance, compare your child's school to the local school district and state, and see the school's progress over time. Select the 'View Details' buttons to learn more about each area.

Q. WHAT YEAR DOES THE SCHOOL REPORT CARD APPLY TO?


 Each year, The School Report Card published shows student performance during the prior school year. This year's report cards show schools' performance during school year 2017-2018. Graduation rate is lagged an additional year, showing the graduating class of 2017.



Q. EACH INDICATOR HAS A METER, OR RATING. HOW IS THIS RATING CALCULATED?


 Each indicator of school accountability has a number of points possible assigned for that indicator. The meter shown is based on the number of points earned for that indicator. The ratings of "Exceptional", "Commendable", "Typical", "Developing", and "Critical Needs" help you to interpret how well the school performed in each area.

Q. WHY IS THE SCHOOL ONLY EVALUATED IN CERTAIN AREAS?


-  School report cards are a way for the State of Utah to evaluate school performance, or school accountability. While each school is unique and different, the measures, or indicators, included in school accountability are just some of the key measures of school success that are comparable across all schools. Schools also have the opportunity to share additional information about their school in areas that are unique to their school in the Self-Reported Indicators section of your child's school report card.



Q. HOW WILL THE REPORT CARD IMPACT MY CHILD'S SCHOOL?


-  The information on the school report card gives schools a roadmap to becoming a better school. It can drive instruction, help schools know where to focus resources, and help them develop improvement plans.

Q. WHAT IF MY SCHOOL ISN'T PERFORMING AS WELL AS I WOULD LIKE?

-  Ask how you can help. To help you support your child's learning and growth, schools want to listen to you and other parents. Ask about your worries, and share your goals for your children. Your voice and contribution can help improve the actionable tools and resources schools develop and curate for your child. Research supports that strong parent engagement has positive benefits for schools and their child's education.



Q. WHERE CAN I GO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

-  More information can be found here on [Utah's Accountability system](#), or on the Utah State Board of Education's [Assessment and Accountability website](https://schools.utah.gov/assessment): <https://schools.utah.gov/assessment>

