



School Report Cards Fall 2012 Release Information

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has produced new accountability reports for Wisconsin schools. Schools will receive the new School Report Card for the first time in September. The School Report Cards are the accountability reporting for the 2011-12 school year. This document describes the secure and public releases of the 2011-12 School Report Cards, available resources, and district responsibilities.

Overview

There will be **two phases** to report card release: Preliminary and Final. There are **two types** of the School Report Card: Secure and Public. It is critical that Secure School Report Cards are never shared in a public setting and are not distributed to parents. There are **two versions** for each school: the School Report Card (one page summary) and the longer School Report Card Detail (18 pages).

Secure Preliminary School Report Cards will be released via login to districts the week of September 24. Public Preliminary School Report Cards will be posted on the DPI website the week of October 8. The release of the Secure Preliminary School Report Cards begins a 30-day review period during which districts may present possible data-related issues to DPI. See below for information about this process.

Preliminary Releases

Secure Release: September 24

The secure release is through an online tool called SAFE, the Secure Access File Exchange. Information about accessing your report cards in SAFE is available at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/lds/pdf/safe-access-four-steps.pdf>. In order to provide schools with as much data as possible, data in the Secure Preliminary School Report Cards have not been redacted. The report cards may include data that could be used to identify students. As a result, the report cards are considered secure and **no information provided on the secure report cards should be released in any public setting**. This is true even after the public release.

The purpose of the secure release is twofold:

- For districts to understand their data used in the accountability system before the School Report Cards are public, and
- For districts to raise, if necessary, any questions or potential issues related to the data in their School Report Card.

Should adjustment be necessary, DPI will update report cards as quickly as possible. Some changes, however, may be incorporated after the initial public posting of the Public Preliminary School Report Cards in October.

Public Release: October 8

Public Preliminary School Report Cards will be posted to the DPI website, organized alphabetically by district name. Select a district for the list of schools in that district. Each school will have two documents: the Public Preliminary Report Card and the Public Preliminary Report Card Detail. **The Public Preliminary Report Cards will be different than the Secure Preliminary Report Cards – they will be redacted to protect student privacy.**



Review Period

Schools will have 30 days following release of the Secure Preliminary School Report Cards to contact DPI if they have identified a potential data issue in the report card. If such an issue arises, schools should submit the Preliminary School Report Card Inquiry Form located here: <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/acct/accountability.html>. Users are highly encouraged to review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) released with these report cards (available at <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/acct/accountability.html>) before submitting an inquiry form.

Note that index scores and supplemental information provided in School Report Cards are based upon certified Individual Student Enrollment System (ISES) data and Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) results, both of which have already been verified by districts. The review processes for these underlying data are complete. Districts that believe their ISES or WSAS data are incorrect may submit an errata letter; contact oeaemail@dpi.wi.gov for details on that process.

Inquiry forms are due no later than Friday, October 26, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. To submit, e-mail the completed form to oeaemail@dpi.wi.gov. An Office of Educational Accountability staff member will respond.

Final Releases

Final Release: November, TBD

Two versions of the School Report Card will be distributed as part of the Final Release:

1. Secure Final School Report Cards – for internal district use only; distributed through SAFE
2. Public Final School Report Cards – for public use; posted to DPI's website

Available Resources

A variety of resources have been created to accompany the release of the report cards. These resources are intended to support interpretation and use of the School Report Cards, but also to build understanding of the new accountability system. Please send questions, comments on the resources, or suggestions for additional resources, to oeaemail@dpi.wi.gov or call 608-267-1072. The following resources are available online: <http://dpi.wi.gov/oea/acct/accountability.html>

- ✓ Interpretive Guide
- ✓ Technical Guide
- ✓ A Parent's Guide to School Report Cards
- ✓ e-Learning Module: A Guide to Wisconsin's School Report Card
- ✓ Report Card Inquiry Form

The resources above, with the exception of the e-Learning Module, will also be available in SAFE for the convenience of those with access.