

## A Message from the Superintendent of

# *Evergreen Local Schools*

---

---

Dear Evergreen Community,

According to the September release of the state report cards, Evergreen Local Schools received an overall rating of “B” and continues to show improvement. Thank you to our students, staff, teachers and administration for your hard work and dedication that resulted in our improved scores. We are proud of the progress our students have made, but we are also cognizant that we must continue to work diligently as there is still growth to be made.

The report card is comprised of six factors of academic importance; Achievement, Progress, Gap Closing, Graduation Rate, K-3 Literacy, and Prepared for Success. Achievement represents whether a student’s performance on state tests meets established thresholds and overall performance. Progress compares a student’s past performance with current results. Gap Closing shows how well a school is meeting performance expectations for the most vulnerable students in Math and English Language Arts. Graduation Rate is the percentage of students who successfully finish high school. Kindergarten to Third Grade Literacy examines reading improvement at early grade levels. Prepared for Success reviews how well students are prepared for all future opportunities.

The district report card is only one measure of how well our school district performs, but what is important to realize are the improvements Evergreen has made over the past few years. Three significant improvement areas are Performance Index, “B”, Gap Closing, “A”, and K-3 Literacy, “B”. As research suggests, Literacy is the foundation for all learning, and this year Evergreen is proud of our improved rating in the component that measures the reading improvement of at-risk students. The district continues to work on meeting students’ needs, which closes the learning gap for all students. Our continued focus on co-teaching and rigor has proven to be important factors in improving the Gap Closing component. In addition, we continue to show improvement in the area of Performance Index. Performance Index is a composite measure reflecting the levels of student achievement. Our goal each year is to increase this measure, as it proves we are moving more students to and beyond proficiency in our district. In the past three years, the district has improved the Performance Index score by 4.3 points.

Other important components are the Progress Component and Graduation Component. The Progress Component is a measure of student growth and is taken very seriously because we believe all students can and should make expected growth in core courses each year. Over the past two years, Evergreen has scored "A"s in all subgroups of growth, including students identified as gifted in our district and students with disabilities. We take pride in our Graduation Rate, which has exceeded 93% since 2015.

Evergreen is conscientiously working to improve the number of Indicators Met and the Prepared for Success component. The Prepared for Success Component is new to high schools across the state and we are working to meet this expectation. We expect this component to improve through increased ACT participation and more students availing themselves to university courses during their high school career.

## A Message from the Superintendent of

# *Evergreen Local Schools*

---

---

Unlike athletics, the District Report Card does not represent a win-loss record but it is more of a barometer on how well the district is meeting the rigor and relevance necessary for students to be college-career ready upon graduation. We scrutinize the individual components, which helps us prepare our students in a more meaningful way than the overall final grade. We will continue to analyze the data, implement instructional strategies and strategically look for opportunities to improve in all aspects of the Evergreen educational experience. It is through the utilization of performance data that we are able to intervene with our students and provide a learning experience that meets the needs of all of our students.

We are proud of the progress we have made through the hard work, dedication, and support of the entire Evergreen community. Our staff, teachers and administration will continue to inspire our students to be the best they can be!

Sincerely,

Eric J. Smola  
Superintendent  
Evergreen Local Schools