



Zach Jacobsmeier

Principal

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"Crafting The Best Version of Yourself"

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had a wonderful fall at Gilmore Fine Arts K-8! We are excited about our performing arts, our use of assessment, and early literacy. As a learning community, we are continually looking to improve each and every day. The school report card is one resource we use to reflect on our strengths and areas for improvement.

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) is required by state statute ([Wis. Stat. 115.385](#)) to generate a school report card and district report card for every publicly funded school and district in the state. The report cards are intended to help schools and districts use performance data to celebrate successes and improve their efforts to prepare students for their futures. These public report cards can be found online at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards>.

The current school report card is primarily based on last year's performance during the 2021-22 school year but does include data dating back to the 2018-2019 school year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DPI encourages caution when interpreting scores and ratings on the 2021-22 report cards.

At the foundation of the report cards are four priority areas. Schools and districts receive a score for each priority area:

- **Achievement** - proficiency in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics on the annual state assessments
- **Growth** - year-to-year progress in ELA and math achievement
- **Target Group Outcomes** - outcomes for students with the lowest test scores: the Target Group.
- **On-Track to Graduation** - reliable predictors of how successfully students are progressing toward completing their K-12 education.

The priority area scores are aggregated into an overall accountability score, from 0 to 100. This score is displayed on the front page of the school or district report cards. It is important to note that the 0 to 100 accountability score is not a "percent correct" measurement. Based on its score, a school or district receives one of five rating categories, from *Fails to Meet Expectations* to *Significantly Exceeds Expectations*, as well as corresponding one to five stars.

Shared with you below is some information we'd like to share with you about our school's report card:

- Our school growth in ELA exceeded the state's growth by nearly four points.
- Student achievement in Math across all demographics improved.
- Students identifying as Black or African American had the highest improvement score of any demographic on the ELA exam.

I want to share these results with you because they help illuminate some of our successes and help pinpoint areas of focus in our school. But as DPI stresses, these report cards are just one source of information about our school. Here are some additional results that show we are moving in the right direction.

- Our school had the best growth in RUSD in the area of 1st grade literacy.
- Our school's attendance this school year has improved by over seven percentage points.

- The Gilmore Fine Arts K-8 student body continues to highlight expression of creativity and performance throughout our school and in the community.

School and district report cards can be accessed online at <http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards> along with resources that explain the report cards. Our school report card is also posted on our website: <https://rusd.org/gilmore-fine-arts/school-report-card>

Please let me know your thoughts and questions as they arise. I look forward to continuing to work with you to make 2022-23 a successful school year for your family!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zach Jacobson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "Z".