11/27/23

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had a rewarding start the school year with great student attendance, high participation in clubs and activities, and strong student engagement in classes. We have been fully staffed this year from the first day of school and our Gateway partnership remains as strong as ever. As a learning community, we are continually looking to improve our students' academic and social-emotional growth at R.E.A.L. One source we use to reflect on our strengths and areas for improvement is the School Report Card.

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) generates a School Report Card and District Report Card for every publicly funded school and district in the state. These public report cards can be found online at: http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards. The Report Cards are intended to help schools and districts utilize performance data to target their improvement efforts so that students are ready for their next educational step – including the next grade level, graduation, college, and careers.

The current School Report Card is primarily based on last year's performance, the 2022-23 school year. At the foundation of the report cards are four priority areas. Schools and districts receive a score for each priority area:

- **Student Achievement** proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics on the annual state assessments
- School Growth measured by year-to-year progress in ELA and math achievement
- Target Group Outcomes examines outcomes for students with the lowest test scores and promotes equity to help provide support for students who need it the most.
- On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness showing reliable predictors of how many students are on-track to graduate from high school and student readiness for post-high school success

Schools and districts are also evaluated on their level of student engagement – chronic absenteeism rates and dropout rates – when applicable.

The priority area scores are aggregated into an overall accountability score, from 0 to 100. This score is displayed in the top left corner 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.

Here's some information we'd like to share from our school/district report card:

Overall the REAL School continues to be in the category of "Meets Expectations"





- Our growth data continues to be one of our strongest measures
- Our graduation data continues to exceed the state average

I want to share these results with you because they help illuminate some of our successes and help to pinpoint areas of focus in our school/district. 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.

- 100% of 9th, 10th, & 11th graders participated in early-college STEM coursework at Gateway Technical College
- 100% of our 8th graders began Algebra 1
- 98% of our seniors graduated

Our full report card can be accessed online at http://dpi.wi.gov/accountability/report-cards along with resources that explain the report cards. As required, our School Report Card is also posted on our website: www.rusd.org/real.

Please let me know your thoughts and questions as they arise. I look forward to working with you to make 2023-24 a successful school year for your child!

Sincerely,

Curt Shircel

Directing Principal, R.E.A.L. School

