

MEDIA STATEMENT



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CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS STATEMENT ON OHIO REPORT CARD RESULTS

The following statement is attributable to Mary Ronan, Superintendent:

As we expected, the new Ohio Report Card shows that we have work ahead of us during this transition period to higher standards and a new state accountability system. At the same time, our outcomes in several areas demonstrate that we are moving in the right direction to increase student achievement. A bright spot is our 97 percent promotion rate in 3rd grade reading. We also are seeing higher test scores in reading and math at 8th grade, which we believe is the result of our recent redesign of high school buildings to serve 7th-12th-graders. Our graduation rate, while not where it needs to be, also rose again this year. We believe these positive high school trends will accelerate with the launch this year of our My Tomorrow initiative, which is designed to ensure that 100 percent of our seventh graders graduate well prepared to pursue college and careers.

Among Ohio's eight large-city school districts, Cincinnati Public Schools remains at the top with an 86.9 Performance Index, a measure of progress on all tests given at all grade levels and subjects. This compares with 83.5 for Akron, 75.2 for Dayton, 76.1 for Cleveland, 79.8 for Columbus, 83.7 for Canton, 77.7 for Youngstown and 82.8 for Toledo.

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