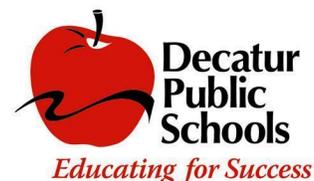


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Illinois School Report Card Designations Released

Decatur, IL –Decatur Public Schools #61 along with all districts in the state of Illinois have released the 2024 Illinois Report Card. The Illinois State Board of Education prepares this publication annually to provide a detailed look at each school’s progress on academics, student success, school culture and climate, and financial investments.

One component of the School Report Card is the annual summative designation for each school. The annual summative designation is a descriptor of how well each school in Illinois is meeting the needs of all students. This designation is federally required and is based on eight components of academic, school quality, and student success [indicators](#). There are five possible [designations](#), which include: exemplary, commendable, targeted, comprehensive, and intensive. Additional information on reading a School Report Card may be accessed via this [link](#).

“As a district, we remain committed to improving the academic achievements of our schools, knowing that meaningful progress takes time and dedication,” says Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Dr. Larry Gray. “We recognize that celebrating classroom achievements, big or small, is important as we move closer to our goals. Together as a district, we are building a stronger future for all of our students.”

Based on the current data, Montessori Academy for Peace and MacArthur High School received the second highest summative designation of Commendable for 2024. American Dreamer STEM Academy, Johns Hill Magnet School, & Eisenhower High School received summative designations of Targeted. Michael E. Baum, Dennis Lab, Parsons, and South Shores Elementary received summative designations of Comprehensive. Franklin Grove and Muffley Elementaries along with Hope Academy and Stephen Decatur Middle School received summative designations of Intensive.

Highlights from District #61’s 2024 Report Card include:

- All schools in DPS #61 demonstrated an 11.1% increase in overall performance
- Chronic Absenteeism decreased from 50.59% to 42.79%
- High School graduation rate increased from 73.97% to 74.64%
- American Dreamer STEM Academy, Dennis Lab School, Hope Academy, Montessori Academy for Peace, Muffley Elementary, Parsons Elementary, and Stephen Decatur Middle School each demonstrated more than 11.48% improvement in performance

Decatur Public Schools #61 continues to work on improving the academic performance for all of its schools. Areas of focus include:

- Offer all schools targeted instructional coaching and professional development for teaching staff to support student success
- Provide targeted, job-embedded school leadership coaching and professional development through partnerships with Illinois Principals Association and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- Implement Big Ideas mathematics curriculum in grades K-12
- Hire teaching assistant staff in grades kindergarten through third grade
- Expand support for students and families to boost student attendance and reduce chronic absenteeism
- Strengthen social emotional support for students and families with Cartwheel partnership
- Reinforce social-emotional learning through the continued use of 7 Mindsets curriculum

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