

## A Report Card on Your Child's School!

Everyone is familiar with the concept of a report card. A report card is one way of providing information on student performance in specific content areas as well as information on student behaviors such as attendance, tardiness, etc.

The *No Child Left Behind Act* was designed with strict accountability measures intended to provide parents and the community with information related to the performance of their children's school, the school district, and the state as a whole.

These annual **school report cards** provide information on student performance and achievement, graduation rates, teacher qualifications, and the number of students tested.

Only students in the 3rd through 8th and 11th grade who have attended for a Full Academic Year will have their test scores included in the school accountability report. A Full Academic Year means that an individual student has been enrolled in a specific school by the first of October and has attended there through the testing window (a the period of time in the spring when schools administer the Dakota STEP). Report cards will also identify schools 'in improvement status.' Parents of students attending these schools will receive additional information about their school and their options for their children attending that school.

Parents can also expect to receive results on their child from their school. Contact your school for additional information or to find out what you can do at home to help your child be successful.

For more information, please contact any of the following—

- ★ Your local school district
- ★ The South Dakota Parent Information & Resource Center toll free at 1-800-219-6247
- ★ South Dakota Department of Education at 605-773-4716
- ★ The U.S. Department of Education toll free at 1-800-814-6252

**South Dakota Parent Information and Resource Center**

PO Box 218 ★ Sturgis, SD 57785-0218

Phone: 800-219-6247

Fax: 605-347-5223

[www.sdpirc.org](http://www.sdpirc.org)

A Parent's Guide to: The  
No Child Left Behind Act

## Report Card on School Accountability



Parents and schools  
working together for  
student achievement.

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# How is YOUR school doing?

- 1**
- Go to the SD Department of Education website at [www.doe.sd.gov](http://www.doe.sd.gov).
  - On the left side of their site, there is a box titled Quick Links. Click on "Report Card."
  - Report cards are available beginning with the 2003 school year. Select the year you are interested in, probably the most recent year. After you have selected the year, you will see the image found below.

- 2**
- This is the listing of all the public school districts in South Dakota in alphabetical order.
- Find YOUR district and click on it.
  - You can find information on your district or individual school.

The screenshot shows the South Dakota Department of Education website. At the top, it says "No Child Left Behind 2005 Report Card". Below this, there are four tabs: "Assessment Results", "Attendance/Graduation Rates", "State Status", and "Teacher Qualifications". To the left of these tabs is a list of school districts, including Aberdeen 06-1, Agar-Blunt-Onida 38-3, Alcester-Hudson 61-1, Andes Central 11-1, Arlington 38-1, Armour 21-1, Avon 04-1, Baltic 49-1, Belle Fourche 09-1, Bennett County 03-1, Beresford 61-2, Big Stone City 25-1, Bison 32-1, Bon Homme 04-2, and Bonesteel-Fairfax 26-5. Below the tabs, there is a "Select a test/grade:" dropdown menu with options for Math and Reading, and grade levels from 03 to 12. A "Print Complete Report Card" button is located in the top right corner.

- 4**
- Click on this tab to see how your district/school is doing in the areas of attendance (elementary and middle school) and high school graduation.

- 5**
- Click on this tab to see if your district or school has been making adequate yearly progress (AYP) in meeting NCLB goals. Districts or schools not successful in meeting goals will be identified as in need of improvement.

- 3**
- Click on this tab to see student performance levels on statewide testing. Select either math or reading and then the grade level you wish to review. Information is found on all students in that grade as well as certain student subgroups (race, gender, English language proficiency, migrant status, disability status, and low-income status – each group must have a minimum of 10 students). Performance is reported using the following levels: **Advanced** – exceeding the expectations for the grade level; **Proficient** – meeting grade level expectations; **Basic/Below Basic** – performing below grade level.

- 6**
- Click on this tab to see how your district/school is doing in meeting the requirements for teacher qualifications.

There is information about the number of teachers with provisional or emergency licenses and the percentages of classes not taught by highly qualified teachers.