

ACCOUNTABILITY–REPORTING TO THE PUBLIC

The Board is conscious of its responsibility for making informed decisions that will impact student learning and school system operations. As an elected body, the Board recognizes that it is accountable to the citizens of the school unit for its decisions and the educational achievement of its students. Basic to accountability is the reporting of information concerning student achievement and the operations of the schools.

The Board directs the Superintendent to prepare appropriate reports that will provide the Board with the information required to make appropriate policy and planning decisions and to keep the public informed regarding the academic progress of its students, the effectiveness of school programs, and the needs of the school system. As practicable, the Superintendent may combine such reports into a single document and/or presentation or use multiple reporting processes, depending upon the nature of the information. Such reports shall be made available to the public, following presentation to the Board.

The Superintendent shall also be responsible for gathering and submitting data to the Maine Department of Education (DOE) and other agencies as required by law and/or regulations and for preparing and disseminating reports to the Board and the public in compliance with applicable laws and/or regulations. Data collated by the State shall be incorporated into reports to the Board and public, as required.

A. Annual Report

Each year the Superintendent shall prepare and present to the Board an annual report addressing the activities of the school unit and their recommendation(s) for improving student learning and school system operations. The report shall be made available to the public as a means of informing parents and citizens of the school system's progress and plans for improvement.

Under Maine law, each school unit must develop and implement a Comprehensive Education Plan that is aligned with Maine's system of Learning Results, focused on the learning of all students, and oriented to continuous improvement and includes the elements listed in Chapter 125, Section 4.02, of Department of Education Rules. The Superintendent shall make an annual report to the Board and public on the school system's Comprehensive Education Plan, and school improvement progress. The Board shall annually review and approve the report and plan.

B. District Report Cards

In compliance with federal law and regulations and to provide relevant information concerning the academic performance of the school system and of its individual schools, the Superintendent shall be responsible for annually collecting and submitting required data and for preparing and making available to schools, the parents of children in those schools, and the public in the form of a “district report card.”

District report cards shall contain the following information:

1. Aggregate data on student achievement at each proficiency level on state academic assessments and disaggregated data reflecting race, ethnicity, gender, disability, migrant status, english proficiency, and economically disadvantaged;
2. Comparison of student sub groups regarding their achievement levels on each of the State assessments;
3. Percentage of students tested, disaggregated by student sub groups;
4. Most recent two-year trend data in achievement by subject area and grade level in areas where assessments are required;
5. Data on state indicators that determine ratings for schools and their status within the Maine School Performance Grading System (MSPGS), also known as the “A to F” System;
6. Cohort completion rates for the high school;
7. Information on the school unit’s performance relevant to the number and names of schools identified for improvement, including how long they have been so identified, under Maine’s approved accountability system;
8. Other “local” data as deemed appropriate (e.g. NWEA, READ 180, Fountas & Pinnell, AIMSweb, Student Surveys, Performance System Targets);
9. Professional qualifications of teachers and percentage of teachers with advanced degrees.
10. Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers; and
11. Comparison of the school unit’s student achievements on state assessments and other indicators to students in the state and/or nation, as available.

C. Financial Reports

The Superintendent/designee shall provide to the Finance Committee, the Board and public, reports concerning the financial condition of the school system, as a minimum on a quarterly basis, as recorded monthly.

D. Other Reports

The Board may request that the Superintendent/designee provide to the Board and/or public other reports related to school system goals and objectives, the instructional program, and operations of the schools, as they deem appropriate.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 6311 (No Child Left Behind Act)
20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 4502(1), (6)
Ch. 125, 127 (Me. Dept. of Ed. Rules)

Cross Reference: IK Student Achievement/Evaluation of Student Achievement
ILA Student Assessment
IKAB Learning Results – Report Cards/Progress Reports
ILD Surveys, Interviews, Questionnaires and Other Educational Research