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State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
DATE: February 25, 2020
SUBJECT: Maryland Report Card Update: Similar Schools Comparison Tool

PURPOSE:

To inform the State Board of Education about the Similar Schools Comparison Tool, now available on the Maryland Report Card website.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Maryland Report Card website now includes a Similar Schools Comparison Tool, which provides a side-by-side comparison of a school's performance on the accountability system with a group of similar schools. The State Board of Education will be provided with an overview and details about the tool, as well as a demonstration.

ACTION:

No action is necessary; for discussion only.

Maryland Report Card Update: Similar Schools Comparison Tool



State Board Meeting
February 25, 2020

Similar Schools Comparison Tool: Overview

- The **Similar Schools Comparison Tool** is a side-by-side comparison of a school's performance on the accountability system with a group of similar schools.
- Each school has a “comparison group” of schools that serves the same grade span and has similar proportions of economically disadvantaged students, English learner students, students with disabilities, and nonwhite students.

Similar Schools Comparison Tool

County Name
Sample Elementary School

At A Glance | **Report Card** | Demographics | MCAP

Report Card >

 Download

Report Card Details ▾

- Student Group Info
- Equity
- Similar Schools**
- School Identification

Definitions



Sample Elementary School 2018-2019 School Report Card

COMPARE TO SIMILAR SCHOOLS

School performance is compared to the average performance of a group of schools with similar student characteristics: grade span, race/ethnicity, economic disadvantage, English learners, and students with disabilities.

ELEMENTARY GRADE SPAN

INDICATOR	SCHOOL PERCENT OF EARNED POINTS (%)	COMPARISON GROUP AVERAGE PERCENT OF EARNED POINTS (%)
Academic Achievement	76.8	67.1
Academic Progress	77.5	64.9
Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency	na	na
School Quality and Student Success	95.6	88.4
OVERALL:	84.4	74.6

Similar Schools Comparison Tool: Details

- The size of the comparison group depends on how many schools in the state have similar grade spans and student characteristics. Average group size is 35 for elementary or middle grade spans and 23 for high school grade spans.
- Results are presented by grade span. Combined schools may have multiple comparisons.
- Only schools with a Star Rating are assigned to comparison groups.
- Results are provided at the indicator level.
- Detailed data are available for download. The download contains indicator results for each school in the comparison group individually, as well as the group averages.