



**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



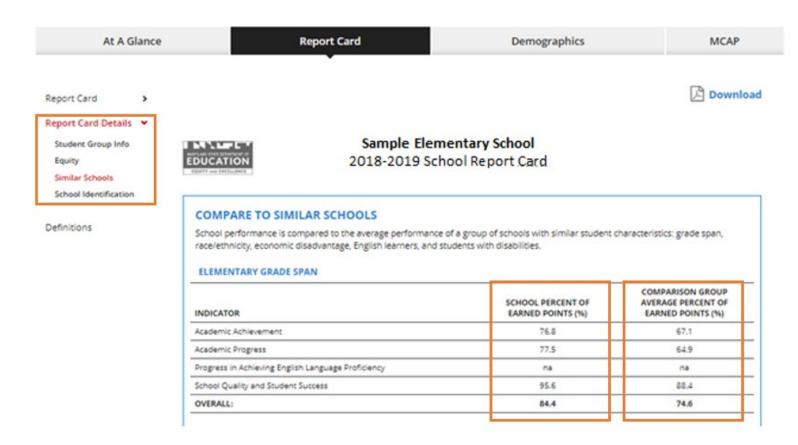
## Similar Schools Comparison Tool: Overview

- 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





## 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.