



October 30, 2024

Dear FSD 145 Staff, Parents/Guardians and Community,

The Illinois State Board of Education has released the annual Illinois Report Card at [www.illinoisreportcard.com](http://www.illinoisreportcard.com). The Report Card contains school performance data from the 2023-24 school year.

Academic achievement is undoubtedly our highest priority; however, it's essential to recognize that standardized test scores represent a snapshot of our broader mission. We want to take a moment to reaffirm our commitment to the success and well-being of each and every student in our district as reflected in our Mission Statement:

*In partnership with families, students, and the community, we commit to creating an innovative, inclusive, and student-centered learning environment so that all students are equipped and empowered to choose their college, workplace and career path, while becoming productive members of their community.*

On our 2024 Report Card, we are proud to see:

- An increase in our graduation rate from 70.7% to 75.1%.
- An increase in the reading proficiency of our 3rd-8th grade students from 14.4% to 19.3%.
- A decrease in our overall chronic absenteeism (students missing 10% or more of the school year) from 35.4% to 29.8%.
- All schools received the Illinois State Board of Education's maximum rate of 5% for elementary/middle schools and 6.67% for high school for student participation in the 5 Essentials Survey.
- Our teacher retention data has increased from 85.9% to 88.4%.
- Our overall district student attendance improved from 90.6% to 91.4%. The state average is 91.6%.

These results reflect the investments we have made in our adjustments to the literacy curriculum utilized at grades 3-8. FSD145 has also invested in professional learning for the family resource coordinators to proactively support families and students in getting to school. Additionally, Freeport High School has worked to proactively identify students off track with graduation requirements to reinforce their success and increase their chance of graduating in four years.

While we are happy to celebrate our many successes this year, we know there is room for us to grow and we are committed to engaging in continuous school improvement to provide the best possible services and support to our students. In the coming year, we will continue to improve the following:

- Proficiency and overall growth in literacy and numeracy with our African American and English Learners
- The percentage of 9th graders identified as “on-track”.
- Achieving our school improvement goals related to chronic absenteeism, proficiency in literacy and numeracy, as well as other important indicators of success.

One component of the Report Card is the [Annual Summative Designation](#), which is a federally mandated accountability category. This designation identifies schools that require support and evaluates how effectively our schools and district are addressing the needs of all students through eight performance indicators. We are pleased to report that none of our schools received a “Comprehensive” or “Intensive” designation for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Commendable Summative Designation	Targeted Summative Designation
Blackhawk Elementary School	Carl Sandburg Middle School
Center Elementary School	Empire Elementary School
Lincoln Douglas Elementary School	Jones Farrar, an IB World School
Freeport Middle School	
Freeport High School	

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude for the collaborative effort between the school administration, teachers and staff, families and community and our Freeport Board of Education for the continued partnership and investment in our students.

For a comprehensive explanation of the accountability categories and the Annual Summative designation for each school, we encourage you to attend the State of the District event on November 19, 2024 @ the FMS Conference Room, during the regular board meeting at 6:00 PM.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us by contacting the Office of the Superintendent at 815-232-0300.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Anna Alvarado,*

Superintendent of Schools