

## WHAT'S CHANGING IN OHIO EDUCATION

# School and District Report Cards

Ohio is changing the way it measures and rates the performance of schools and districts. The 2012-2013 school and district report cards will grade schools and districts on a mix of new and previously used items with an *A-F letter-grade* system that is easier for parents and the community to understand.

The A to F letter grades are familiar to parents and citizens. It's what most of us received when we were students. And that will make it easier for everyone to know just how schools and districts are performing.

For more information visit:  
[newreportcard.education.ohio.gov](http://newreportcard.education.ohio.gov)



### What is changing?

Previous report cards mostly were based on how well students performed on state tests. While tests will still be a major part of school and district grades, the new report card will show the results in a different way.

The new approach takes the place of the existing system that used six labels to describe school performance: Excellent with Distinction, Excellent, Effective, Continuous Improvement, Academic Watch and Academic Emergency.

### How will it work?

Schools and districts will receive letter grades in six broad categories:

- **Achievement:** How well students are doing against national standards of success?
- **Gap Closing:** Are students in all racial and demographic groups making gains?
- **Graduation Rate:** Are students getting the help they need from their schools and districts to earn diplomas?
- **Progress:** Are students of all abilities improving? This includes grades for improvement of gifted students and those with disabilities.
- **K-3 Literacy:** Are students in kindergarten through Grade 3 reading on grade level?
- **Prepared for Success:** Are students ready for college and careers?

There will be a grade for each measure within a category. The grades within each category will result in a grade for the category. A single overall grade for the school or district will be the combination of grades of all six categories.

### When does it start?

While grades in most categories begin in August 2013, an overall grade for each category and the school and district will not be issued until August 2015. This gives schools time to adjust to the new system and focus their efforts on being successful in all areas being measured.