



VERNON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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January 16, 2018

Dear Parents, Guardians and Members of the School Community,

The New Jersey Department of Education has made available a significant amount of data for your perusal by issuing the New Jersey School Performance Reports. The data for school year 16-17 can be accessed at [rc.doe.state.nj.us/SearchforSchool.aspx](http://rc.doe.state.nj.us/SearchforSchool.aspx).

Whereas review of data often means immersing oneself in the numbers, the NJDOE has also provided one page summary reports and a guide that explains the different data points at [rc.doe.state.nj.us/Documents/SummaryReportGuide.html](http://rc.doe.state.nj.us/Documents/SummaryReportGuide.html).

The 2016-17 New Jersey School Performance Reports contain new data elements, including:

- Updated school narratives with information across a variety of categories;
- Full and/or half day Pre-K and K reporting;
- Chronic absenteeism by grade, subgroup and progress toward statewide goals;
- In-School and out-of-school suspensions; and
- School start and end times.

Federal law requires New Jersey to include a summative rating based on a formula that combines a few key measures (i.e., proficiency, student growth, graduation and chronic absenteeism). This summative rating is just *one part* of the overall performance of a school and it is used to determine which schools need the most intense support. Visit [www.state.nj.us/education/ESSA/](http://www.state.nj.us/education/ESSA/) for more information.

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The NJDOE continues to seek your input on how to further improve the usability of these reports. Please fill out the feedback survey ([www.surveymonkey.com/r/V5WKDYD](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V5WKDYD)) or email [reportcard@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:reportcard@doe.state.nj.us).

District administrators encourage you to review these reports and we are open to any discussion that might evolve from that review. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. DiBenedetto", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Arthur DiBenedetto

Superintendent of Schools

AD:rg