

Navigating School Quality in Michigan

BUSINESS LEADERS FOR MICHIGAN, DETROIT REGIONAL CHAMBER, GRAND
RAPIDS CHAMBER – 3/14/2023



Imagine you
are a parent...



Currently, home-seekers will use what's available to them via Zillow or Realtor.com.

4



Source: Down Payment Resource®

Rental value

Rent Zestimate®
\$2,034/mo

Nearby schools in Grand Rapids

GreatSchools rating

2/10 Martin Luther King Leadership Academy
Grades: PK-8 Distance: 0.6 mi

2/10 Ottawa Hills High School
Grades: 9-12 Distance: 1.8 mi

Michigan - Grand Rapids - Grand Rapids Public Schools - Ottawa Hills High School

Ottawa Hills High School

2055 Rosewood Avenue Southeast, Grand Rapids, MI 49506 [Contact info](#) [Website](#)

2nd GreatSchools Rating 6 reviews

Public school 456 Students Grades 9-12 & Ungraded

Review Updates Compare

ACADEMICS

- Student Progress
- College Readiness
- College Success
- Advanced Courses

Test Scores

2/10 GreatSchools Summary Rating

- Student Progress: below average
- College Readiness: below average
- Equity: below average

List updated: Jul 21, 2022

These ratings offer a simple summation of school quality, like "2/10".

Michigan • Grand Rapids • Grand Rapids Public Schools • Ottawa Hills High School

Ottawa Hills High School

2055 Rosewood Avenue, Southeast, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

GreatSchools Rating: ★★★★★ Reviews

Public school 456 Students Grades 9-12 & Ungraded

Review Updates Compare

2/10 GreatSchools Summary Rating

3/10 Student Progress

1/10 College Readiness

1/10 Equity

5

below average

below average

below average

Last updated: Jul 21, 2022

Or, you might explore more "official" information, from the Michigan Department of Education.

Currently, there are 3 separate systems to consult.



**Michigan
School
Grades**



**Parent
Dashboard**



**School
Index**



Michigan School Grades ("A-F")

Each Michigan public school receives a letter grade 5 components:

- Proficiency
- Student Growth
- Graduation Rate
- Performance Among Peers

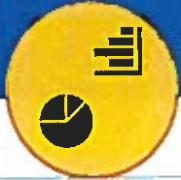
...and a relative ranking on 3 components:

- Attendance (Chronic Absenteeism)
- Test Participation
- Student Subgroup Performance

2021-2022 School Grades and Rankings Indicator Chart

Indicator	Indicator Label Type	What is it?	Why is it important?
Student Proficiency	Grade	The percentage of students who are meeting Michigan's learning standards based on statewide test results.	Performances on state tests measure students' knowledge of concepts and grade-level expectations. It also shows if students are on track to be ready for the next grade and for college and career pathways after high school.
Student Growth	Grade	The percentage of students who are on a path to becoming proficient, or to establish proficiency, within a specific timeframe.	All students should be making progress in every subject, every year. Student growth is the representation of learning and growth shows how much a school is helping their students grow toward the state's college and career readiness.
Graduation Rate	Grade	The percentage of grade high school students who, began 9th grade at least four years ago, and graduate within four years of starting high school without a grade is based on its highest graduation rate.	Many jobs and post-secondary education opportunities require the completion of high school.
Performance Among Peers	Grade	The comparison of student proficiency among similar schools, individual school to up to 30 schools with similar student enrollment, with similar numbers of students with disabilities, and with testing the number.	Provide student growth information to help parents make informed decisions about their child's education.
Attendance (Chronic Absenteeism)	Rank	The percentage of students who are absent on more than 10 percent of their enrolled days.	Students must be in school to learn. Research shows that more than 10 percent of the school year are lost when students are absent on more than 10 percent of their enrolled days.
Test Participation	Grade	The percentage of English Learners or students with disabilities who participate in the state ACCESS is the state test used to measure the proficiency and growth of students.	Research shows that more than 10 percent of the school year are lost when students are absent on more than 10 percent of their enrolled days.
Student Subgroup Performance	Grade	Students must be in school to learn. Research shows that more than 10 percent of the school year are lost when students are absent on more than 10 percent of their enrolled days.	Research shows that more than 10 percent of the school year are lost when students are absent on more than 10 percent of their enrolled days.

*Legend indicate data uses 2020-21 school year graduation rate



Parent Dashboard

8



Graphs represent 30+ sets of data/information on a wide variety of metrics across 3 categories:

- Student Data
- Staff Data
- School Services and Offerings

Graphs and charts include:

- Expulsion rates
 - Dropout rates
 - Graduation rates
 - Attendance
 - Student Transfers
 - Student Growth
 - Student Proficiency
- +MORE



School Index

9

From the MDE website:

The components overview shows how the seven school index components are combined to get a final overall index. For each component, its "Index Value" is multiplied by its "Percent Weight" to get its "Weighted Index". Then component "Weighted Index" values are summed to get the "Overall School-Level Index".

Component	Index Value	Percent Weight	Weighted Index
Overall Index	79.08		
Growth Index	69.54		
Graduation Rate Index	N/A		
School Quality and Student Success Index			
Proficiency Index	93.01		
English Learner Progress Index	N/A		
Support Category	Universal Support		
Assessment Participation Index	100.00		
Summative Growth	69.54	43.01	29.85
Semester Proficiency	80.00	30.71	34.14
Graduation Rate	.	.	.
EL Progress	.	.	.
School Quality/Student Success	70.41	17.72	12.48
Assessment Participation	100.00	2.50	2.50
English Learner Participation	.	.	.
Overall School-Level Index Value: 79.08			

*This component does not have enough data to be included in calculations or is not applicable to the school

INDEX- Michigan's Federally approved accountability system

10

- ▶ School interventions as prescribed by Michigan's federally approved ESSA plan, are only triggered by the index, not dashboard or A-F
 - ▶ Most intensive support- Partnership District status:
 - ▶ "To improve student academic achievement by identifying schools in need of additional support, and drawing up a partnership agreement with the school and community partners to generate a plan for success." -MDE- ESSA overview, 4/3/2017
- ▶ The index is a ranking, with confusing weighting formulas, and a numbered index score that is not clear
- ▶ A ranking, vs. a rating, means a school cannot predict their ranking, nor are they in control of the improvements that can be made to increase their ranking, as how others perform will affect your ranking.
- ▶ A rating is predictive, and districts can work to improve weighted factors to improve their overall (summative) score

**Is there a
better way?**

Let's look at
2 examples

12



TEXAS



MASACHUSETTS



TEXAS: School Accountability Ratings

Schools are evaluated on a simple set of metrics, including:

- Performance on state assessment (STAAR)
- College, Career, and Military Readiness
- Graduation Rate
- Academic Growth
- Relative Performance

For clarity, each school receives a single, overall, summative grade.

Accountability Rating Summary

	Component Score	Scaled Score	Rating
Overall		93	A
Student Achievement		92	A
STAAR Performance	68	92	
College, Career and Military Readiness			
Graduation Rate			
School Progress		91	A
Academic Growth		84	A
Relative Performance (Eco Dis: 27.6%)		68	B
Closing the Gaps	98	95	A

This campus is NOT identified for comprehensive support and improvement, targeted support and improvement, or additional targeted support.

Identification of Schools for Improvement

Distinction Designations

Component	Scaled Score	Rating
ELA/Reading		A
Mathematics		A
Science		A
Social Studies		A
Comparative Academic Growth		A
Overall	93	A

- ✓ ELA/Reading
- ✓ Mathematics
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Social Studies
- ✓ Comparative Academic Growth
- ✓ Postsecondary Readiness
- ✓ Comparative Closing the Gaps



MASSACHUSETTS: School Report Cards

14

Accountability Information

Viewing data for: Lawrence: Robert Frost (01490018) | Organization Name: Lawrence: Robert Frost (01490018) | School Type: ES | Title / Status: Title I School | Grades Served: K, 01,02,03,04

School Percentile Results

Year	2018 School Percentile	2019 School Percentile	2022 School Percentile
	11	13	23

For more detailed school percentile data, click [here](#).

Student Group Percentile by Year

State Designation Information

Year	State Designation	Low Overall Performance (Percentiles 1-10)	Low Performing Student Group	Low Graduation Rate	Low Participation Rate
2022	None				

How is this school doing in the state's accountability system?
 An accountability system brings together a set of measures in order to provide clear, actionable information about district and school performance. In Massachusetts, accountability results are calculated using information related to student performance on state tests, chronic absenteeism, high school completion, and advanced coursework completion. Schools with higher percentiles are generally higher performing, and schools with lower percentiles are generally lower performing.

Accountability Percentile

Accountability percentiles (1-99) indicate how a school is performing overall compared to other schools that administer similar MCAS tests. They are calculated by combining information related to achievement, growth, English learner progress, chronic absenteeism, high school completion, and advanced coursework completion. Schools with higher percentiles are generally higher performing, and schools with lower percentiles are generally lower performing.

Compare our school among the lowest performing elements and middle schools statewide

Information and data is simply presented, located **in a single location** on the department's website with **drop down menus in parent-friendly language**.

Each **school is given an "accountability percentile"** with an explanation in lay terms of what the score means.

GOALS

- 1) **CLARITY:** parents deserve a system that helps them successfully find a school for their child.
- 2) **CONSISTENCY:** providing multiple systems/dashboards doesn't work. Parents and educators deserve better.
- 3) **VISION:** Michigan's academic outcomes must improve in order to realize widely shared opportunity for all children. Any system ought to encourage and support improvement – and celebrate excellence.
- 4) **EQUITY:** We cannot foster greater equity if it is too challenging to locate the challenges and opportunities.

LAUNCH MICHIGAN RECCOMENDATION (1/2)

16

Develop, in partnership with education leaders and stakeholder groups, implement and utilize, a school performance rating system that will help parents, policymakers, and residents understand how each school is performing in the state, as well as supporting educators in targeting school improvement efforts. Michigan's existing A-F rating system shall be removed, and Michigan shall amend it's ESSA plan to reflect the description of this (new) system.

This system shall meet the following criteria:

- i. Michigan shall have a single, summative rating system with five clear and intuitive labels, that complies with federal law, significantly prioritizes academic weighting factors, limits the total number of weighting factors to 10, aligns with a parent-friendly transparency/comparability tool, and includes a strong emphasis on student subgroup performance.
- ii. The rating system shall be published annually, no later than November 1st of the following school year from which the data is calculated.

LAUNCH MICHIGAN RECCOMENDATION (2/2)

17

Continued...

It shall be:

1. Published such that each school building receives a rating
2. Published and aggregated such that each district and PSA operator receives a rating
3. Published and aggregated such that each PSA authorizer's portfolio receives a rating.

iii. The rating system shall include a user-friendly parent/community facing transparency dashboard that is based on the same calculations as the rating system. The "guts" and metrics of dashboard must reflect the "guts" and metrics of the rating system. The transparency dashboard shall include at least:

1. The ability to enter a zip code and quickly locate and compare all public educational options in that area,
2. Each district's/PSA's Student Achievement and Investment Plans and annual education reports, and
3. Field testing to ensure user friendliness.

WWW.LAUNCHMICHIGAN.ORG

