

The Northbridge Public Schools Town of Northbridge

87 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588 (508) 234-8156 FAX (508) 234-8469

www.nps.org

Dr. Catherine Stickney, Superintendent
Kathleen Perry, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

Amy McKinstry, Director of Curriculum
Melissa J. Walker, Business Manager

December 12, 2017

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are pleased to provide an overview of Northbridge Middle School's "report card". Report cards answer important questions about a school's overall performance and contain specific information about student enrollment and teacher qualifications, student achievement, accountability, how a school is performing relative to other schools in the district and the state, and the progress made toward narrowing proficiency gaps for different groups of students.

In this report you will find the following important information about our school:

Student enrollment and teacher quality: This section of the report card provides information about the students and teachers in our school as compared to the district and the state. If your child attends a school that receives federal Title I funds, you also have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether your child's teacher is licensed in the grade levels and subject areas they teach
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under an emergency license or waiver
- The college degree and major of your child's teacher
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

Student assessment on MCAS and other tests: This section of the report shows how our students are performing on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests as compared to the district and the state.

School and district accountability information: This section of the report contains three important pieces of information:

- **Accountability and Assistance Levels:** Schools and districts are placed into one of five accountability and assistance levels (1-5), with the highest performing in Level 1 and lowest performing in Level 5. Because of the change from "legacy" MCAS to MCAS 2.0 this year, school's that were previously levels 1 to 3 were given no level this year. However, as a district, we are still considered in need of technical assistance for not meeting gap narrowing goals for our students with disabilities.
- **School Percentiles:** A school percentile between 1 and 99 is reported for most schools. This number shows the overall performance of our school relative to other schools that serve the same or similar grades. However, as this was a transition year from MCAS to MCAS 2.0, no school percentiles are provided this year.
- **Composite Performance Index (CPI):** The CPI is a number from 1-100 that represents the extent to which all students are progressing toward proficiency in a given subject. When all students demonstrate proficiency on MCAS tests, the CPI will be 100. Our school's CPIs for science 2014-2017 are listed on the Report Card Overview.

Always More to Learn. Always Striving to Improve.

It is the policy of the Northbridge Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, or homelessness in its educational programs, services, activities, or employment.

To improve student achievement in our school, we have committed ourselves to attaining the state determined benchmarks for the MCAS test. At each grade level, we have incorporated enrichment and remediation activities in each of the core subject areas during our extended learning block, and have increased Title 1 support programs for students who qualify. The staff has been delving into the MCAS data looking at both student achievement and growth. We have seen significant growth in grades 5 and 6 this year, and are showing improvements in grades 7 and 8.. The staff and administration are committed to moving each student to the highest level of performance.

We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our school. Some of the ways you can become involved are:

- Encouraging your child's learning at home
- Attending parent-teacher meetings and other special meetings
- Serving as a volunteer in our school or district
- Encouraging other parents to become involved

Northbridge Middle School receives federal Title I funds to provide students who qualify with additional remediation in ELA and math. As such, you have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s):

- Whether your child's teacher is licensed in the grade levels and subject areas they teach
- Whether your child's teacher is teaching under an emergency license or waiver
- The college degree and major of your child's teacher
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

For more information about our school's report card or to request information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers, please feel free to contact us at (508) 234-8718.

Sincerely,

John Zywiec, Principal

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2017 Massachusetts School Report Card Overview

NORTHBIDGE MIDDLE (02140305)

Northbridge Public School District (02140000)
 John J Zywiec, Principal
 Grades Served: 05,06,07,08

171 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA 01588
 Phone: 508.234.8718
 Website: <http://www.nps.org/nms>

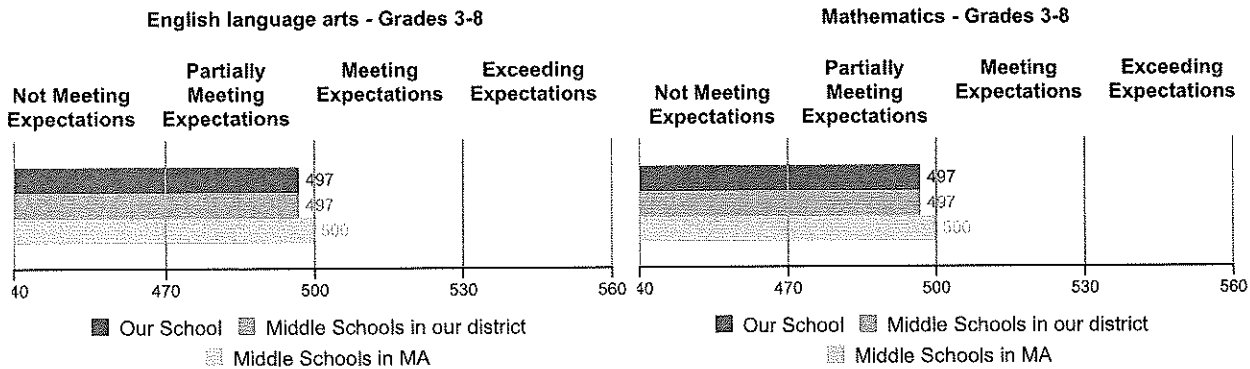
Report cards help parents/guardians and the general public see where schools and districts are succeeding and where there is still work to do. This report card overview answers important questions about our school's performance. For the full report card containing additional data contact the school's principal or visit the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's website at <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu>. For more information about report card data, visit our [Profiles Help](#) page.

How is our school doing overall?

Accountability and assistance levels		School percentile
Our school	No level Students in this school participated in 2017 Next Generation MCAS tests	School percentiles (1-99) indicate how a school is performing overall compared to other schools that serve the same or similar grades. Our school's percentile is below.
Our district	No level Students in grades 3-8 participated in 2017 Next Generation MCAS tests	
Most schools are assigned a level from 1-5, with those meeting their proficiency gap-narrowing goals in Level 1 and the lowest performing in Levels 4 and 5. A district is typically assigned a level based on the level of its lowest performing school. Placing schools and districts into levels helps districts know which schools need more support, and helps the state know which districts need the most assistance. More information is available here: http://www.mass.gov/ese/accountability .		Overall progress in narrowing gaps Massachusetts aims to reduce proficiency gaps by half between 2011 and 2017.
		All students - High needs students - Economically disadvantaged - Students with disabilities - English language learners & former ELLs -

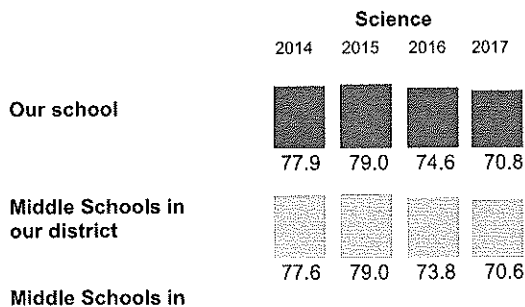
How does our school's achievement over time compare to the district and the state?

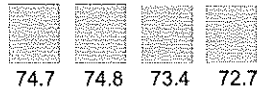
Next Generation MCAS (Average Scaled Score)



Legacy MCAS (CPI)

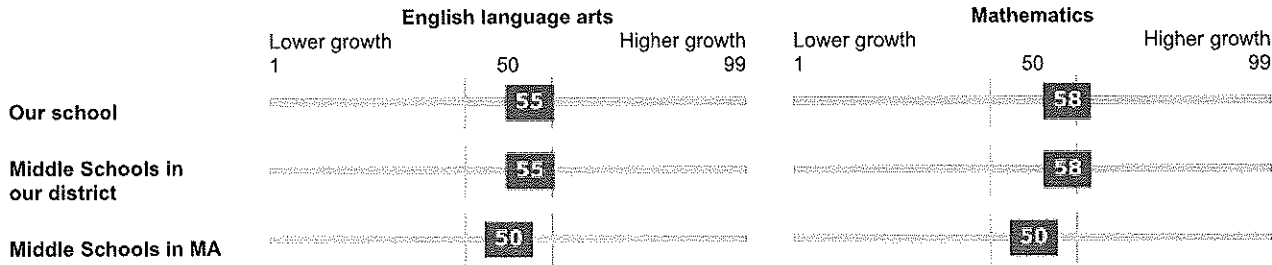
The Composite Performance Index (CPI) is a number from 1-100 that represents the extent to which all students are progressing toward proficiency in a given subject. When all students demonstrate proficiency on MCAS and/or PARCC tests, the CPI will be 100. Our school's CPIs for 2014-2017 are below.





How does our school's growth compare to the district and the state?

Transitional Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) measure gains in student achievement from year to year. SGPs between 40 and 60 represent moderate growth. Our school's median SGPs for 2017 are below. (Note: Growth values are truncated.)



How does our school's enrollment compare to the district and the state?

Total enrollment	Our school	Our district	Our state
	766	2,267	953,748
By high needs population	Our school	Middle Schools in our district	Middle Schools in MA
	# %	# %	# %
Economically disadvantaged students	193 25.2	193 25.2	46,310 26.9
Students with disabilities	135 17.6	135 17.6	30,164 17.5
English language learners	10 1.3	10 1.3	10,274 6.0

How do our school's teachers and classrooms compare to the district and the state?

General information	Our school	Middle Schools in our district	Middle Schools in MA
Teachers (#)	49.9	49.9	13,552.4
Core academic classes taught by highly qualified teachers (%)	-	100.0	96.7
Average class size (#)	22.6	22.6	19.1
Student : teacher ratio	15.3 to 1	15.3 to 1	12.6 to 1

How is our school doing on other important measures?

Attendance	Our school	Middle Schools in our district	Middle Schools in MA
2017 Attendance rate (%)	95.2	95.2	95.3
2017 Average days absent per student (#)	8.5	8.5	8.2
2017 Chronic absenteeism rate (%)	12.4	12.4	10.8
Discipline	Our school	Middle Schools in our district	Middle Schools in MA
2017 In-school suspension rate (%)	0.4	0.4	2.3
2017 Out-of-school suspension rate (%)	4.4	4.4	3.7
High school completion	Our school	Our district	Our state
2015 5-year graduation rate (%)	-	92.6	89.4
2016 4-year graduation rate (%)	-	91.2	87.5
2016 annual dropout rate (%)	-	1.0	1.9
2015 graduates attending institutions of higher education* (%)	-	57.6	75.9
2017 12th graders taking 1+ Advanced Placement courses (%)	-	51.1	41.4
2017 Advanced Placement tests with scores of 3 or higher (%)	-	38.7	65.7

2017 SAT average score - Reading	-	-	-
2017 SAT average score - Writing	-	-	-
2017 SAT average score - Math	-	-	-
2016 MassCore** - Completing a rigorous course of study (%)	-	100.0	77.4

**Postsecondary enrollment data includes any student enrolling in an institution of higher education within 16 months of earning a high school diploma*

***MassCore: 4 years of English & math, 3 years of history & lab-based science, 2 years of a foreign language, 1 year of arts & 5 additional "core" courses*

What else should you know about our school?

The Northbridge Middle School staff has been working diligently for the past three years to revise their curriculum in ELA, math and science to meet the challenging standards of Common Core and College and Career Readiness. Teachers have received professional development in the areas of math practices, student engagement strategies, lesson and unit planning, and vocabulary instruction. We have seen slow but steady growth in our MCAS scores at NMS over the past two years, and we hope that all of the training provided to the staff, as well as their dedication and hard work to implement new strategies and curricula, will result in significant increases in student achievement on this year's MCAS testing.

To view our school's full report card, visit <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu>. For more information about report card data, visit our [Profiles Help](#) page.
Published by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education