December 9, 2019

Dear Ross Elementary Parents and Families,

The Office of the State Superintendent (OSSE) recently released the second annual citywide School Report Card that includes information about how every public school in DC performed in School Year 2018-2019. At Ross, we are focused on ensuring every student receives an excellent education. This letter provides an overview of our results this year and background information on the Report Card and STAR Framework.

For the 2018-2019 school year, our school received a rating of 4 Stars, which is consistent with our rating from last year. Our rating of 4 Stars indicates that our dedication to meaningful learning opportunities is resulting in strong results for our students. With your partnership, we look forward to continuing to build on these results to ensure all our students achieve academic excellence through a continued focus on nurturing a culture of academic achievement. You can learn more here: <https://dcschoolreportcard.org/>

Our team works hard each and every day to improve outcomes for all of our students. To understand more about our focus areas as a school, please review our Comprehensive School Plan (CSP) Snapshot available online at <https://dcps.dc.gov/snapshots> This snapshot shares our strategies for improvement and student success.

If you have additional questions about the STAR Rating Framework, please find a quick overview on the back of this page. In addition, please join us at an upcoming parent meeting where I will be available to answer questions. If you cannot attend, or if there are any questions our team of educators can answer, please let me know by emailing me at [holly.searl@k12.dc.gov](mailto:holly.searl@k12.dc.gov)

**Parent Meeting**

**Friday, December 13 at 8:00am in Room 205**

Sincerely,

Holly M. Searl

Principal

STAR Rating Background

**OSSE’s School Report Card and the School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) Framework**

In 2015, President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), a new federal education law to replace No Child Left Behind (NCLB). As a result of this new law, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) created a citywide plan that includes goals for student achievement and a new accountability system, the STAR Framework. OSSE also created a new School Report Card to provide families with a range of information, including school points of pride, academic performance, attendance, and each school’s rating on the STAR Framework.

**Explaining the STAR Rating**

The STAR Framework measures a school’s performance for all students across multiple areas. The maximum points that can be earned for each area is shown in the chart below (up to 95 points this year). Schools earn points based on students’ performance in each area compared to students across the city. The STAR Framework also measures performance for specific student groups including students with disabilities, students who are at-risk, English Learners, and each racial/ethnic group in the school. The school’s STAR Rating is based on its overall score, which is calculated by combining the school’s performance of all students and the performance of each student group.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Academic Achievement**  **Ribbon** | **Academic Growth**  **Upward trend** | **School Environment**  **Schoolhouse** | **English Language Proficiency\***  **Earth Globe Americas** | **Graduation Rates**  Image result for graduation hat icon | **Total Maximum Possible Points** |
| **Elementary/Middle** | Up to 30 pts | Up to 40 pts | Up to 20 pts | Up to 5 pts | N/A | 95 |
| **High School** | Up to 40 pts | N/A | Up to 39 pts | Up to 5 pts | Up to 11 pts | 95 |

*\*if applicable*

**STAR Rating by Score:**

* *5 Stars: 80 - 100 score*
* *4 Stars: 60 - 79 score*
* *3 Stars: 40 - 59 score*
* *2 Stars: 20 - 39 score*
* *1 Star: 0 - 19 score*

For more information, please visit <https://dcschoolreportcard.org/>.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Ross | Maintained | Decreased in Rating |
| 4 Stars | For the 2018-2019 school year, our school received a rating of 4 Stars, same as last year. Our rating of 4 Stars indicates that we have much to celebrate as a school community, including strong student achievement. We’re proud of the high-quality education we provide our students and the great things happening in our school. In order to continually improve, we are focusing on math instructional planning and teacher coaching; Early Childhood Instruction; and strategies to support our English Language Learners. | N/A |