

No Child Left Behind

Distribution of 2010 NCLB Report Cards

To: Superintendents and Charter School Leaders

From: Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D., Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

Date: January 25, 2011

In accordance with the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), all districts must prepare and disseminate annual report cards containing data for the district as a whole and each school within the district. These report cards are important tools for communicating information about teacher quality, student demographics, student academic performance, accountability, and other key indicators to parents/guardians, community members, and other stakeholders.

Availability

District and school report cards will be posted under the Accountability tab for each school and district on the Department's public [School and District Profiles](#) website in February.

Data Included

2010 NCLB Report Cards will display enrollment, teacher quality, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), MCAS, and growth data from the 2009-10 school year, and Massachusetts' National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data from 2009, the most recent administration of NAEP for which the state has complete results.

Beginning with the 2010-11 school year, report cards for the current year will display data from the prior year. For example, 2010 Report Cards will display data from the 2009-10 school year, and 2011 Report Cards will display data from the 2010-11 school year.

Also, beginning with the 2010-11 school year, report cards for all districts (excluding Commonwealth charter schools) will display the percentage of public elementary and secondary school teachers issued licensure waivers during the 2009-10 school year. For more information about licensure waiver data, please refer to the [State Report Card](#).

In the future, we intend to make report cards available for distribution in the fall, once official MCAS and AYP data based on the spring test administration are released.

Distribution Deadline and Additional Information

Report cards must be distributed to parents/guardians using at least one of the following options:

1. via U.S. mail,
2. by distributing hardcopies to all parents, such as giving report cards to students to bring home in their backpacks, or
3. via email.

Districts using the third option must ensure that each parent/guardian has a valid email address and that parents/guardians prefer email over other methods of communication. Parents/guardians who do not have valid email addresses or who prefer other forms of communication must receive report cards using the first or second option. The report card can be included as an attachment or the district can give a link to the report card on the Internet, as long as it is a direct link to the report card.

It is each district's responsibility to prepare and disseminate report cards to parents/guardians. We ask that districts distribute report cards by the end of March.

More information about NCLB Report Cards, including Federal non-regulatory guidance and information for communicating with parents, is available from the Department's NCLB website at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/nclb/reportcard/>.

Questions about report cards may be directed to reportcards@doe.mass.edu or (781) 338-3550.

