

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Horace Mann Families:

Every year, each public school and school district in Massachusetts receives a report card. Just as your child's report card shows how s/he is doing in different subjects, the school's report card is designed to show families how our school performs in different areas. A link to our school's report card is available at <http://reportcards.doe.mass.edu/2019/02070075>.

The report card includes multiple measures of a school's performance – more than just MCAS scores. It represents a new way of looking at school performance, by providing information on student achievement, teacher qualifications, student learning opportunities, and more.

Report cards are designed to be useful tools for everyone connected to our school. Families can use the information to have meaningful conversations with us about what the school is doing well and where there is room for improvement. Community and education leaders can use the information to better understand how to support students and our school.

We are continuously striving to improve outcomes for all students, both on standardized test scores, and in our daily work with children. We are continuing to employ a variety of systems and practices that we believe will help all of our students achieve at a high level. These include:

- A commitment to differentiated instruction in all academic areas.
- A tiered system of academic interventions in our early literacy programming, including Title 1 services.
- Establishment of a positive school-wide culture that embraces diversity, inclusion, kindness, compassion, and a growth mindset.
- A commitment to becoming a more culturally responsive school that ensures equitable access to pedagogy, curriculum, and school-wide practices that are reflective of the diverse cultures that we welcome into our community.

Finally, because 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, and
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

If you have questions about our school's report card, would like to become involved in school improvement activities, or would like to request information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teacher, please contact [nardellimv@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:nardellimv@newton.k12.ma.us). To see our district's report card or to search for other schools' report cards, visit <http://reportcards.doe.mass.edu>.

Sincerely,

Mark Nardelli

Principal