

Hawthorn School District 73

Townline Elementary School

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Dr. Jennifer Haack, Principal

October 30, 2019

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

As you may know, the State of Illinois released its newly updated Illinois School Report Card today. This report card is aligned with our nation's federal education law, ESSA. In order to assess each school's progress toward meeting ESSA goals, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) measures the performance of all students, as well as specific student subgroups, across a variety of academic and school quality indicators. This data is used to generate a school's composite score. Schools are ranked based on their composite scores, and this comparative ranking is a school's "official designation" for the school's report card.

This year, Townline Elementary earned a "commendable" designation. This means that our performance, as measured by the Illinois ESSA Plan, *has no underperforming student subgroups*.

We value each of the measures included in the Illinois ESSA Plan, and will continue to use these scores to ensure the success of all students. We also recognize that this system weights Illinois Assessment of Readiness data more heavily than the other academic indicators. At Townline Elementary, we use a variety of measures to determine how well we are meeting the academic needs of our students. We also consider each student's progress in daily learning activities and projects, as well as classroom-based assessment measures to develop a more complete picture of our academic performance. In addition, we strongly value the development of the whole child. Our students' social and emotional growth, participation in athletics and extracurricular programs, STEAM based activities, student leadership opportunities, service-learning efforts, and other positive contributions to our school community are all essential components of our success at Townline.

During the 2018-2019 school year, Townline had an attendance rate of 98.04% and took 7th place out of 152 schools in Lake County for attendance. Additionally, our students worked hard to meet their individual growth targets in academics and extracurricular areas. We had over 85 students participate in band and orchestra. Our Science Olympiad program included over 50 students. During the local competition, our Science Olympiad teams medaled in all events including three first place finishes. We had over 50 students participate in our Eagle Chorus and over 50 students take on leadership roles in Project Change and Yearbook.

This year, we are focused on fully implementing professional learning communities to ensure all students learn at high levels. We are continuing our commitment to a positive school culture focused on collaboration. We are most proud of our continued efforts in developing the whole child. Along with our strong academic support, we continue to focus on developing students' social and emotional skills. At Townline, we continue emphasizing SOARing above the line (Safe, On-task, Acting Responsible, Showing Respect), developing a growth mindset, and explicitly teaching social emotional skills through our Second Step program. Many of our classrooms are co-taught with special education and/or English Language teachers so all students at Townline are fully included with their same-age peers.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. You are also welcome to visit our district website at www.hawthorn73.org/hawthorn-information/essa for additional information and resources to support your understanding of the Illinois ESSA Plan and the Illinois School Report Card. We are looking forward to a successful year of growth and learning for all students at Townline Elementary School.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jennifer Haack
Principal