



**School District U-46**  
Elgin High School  
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Tony Sanders, Chief Executive Officer

**U-46.org**

Dear Elgin High School Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to tell you about the state of Illinois' efforts to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the education accountability law that aims to ensure all students across the nation are meeting high academic standards. All of us at Elgin High School strongly support that goal and it aligns with our School District U-46 mission "Academic Success for All."

As part of ESSA, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) issues an annual report card for each school in the state. Those report cards become public tomorrow, October 31st, and are posted on Illinois Report Card and will be on our school website later this week. The report card includes metrics such as the school's graduation rate and attendance.

As the state releases this year's results, it will also release new school designations based on the above-cited metrics and a process that weighs performance data across the state to create an index. For our first year of these designations, 45 schools in U-46 are deemed "Commendable," while eight are deemed "Underperforming." There are no schools in U-46 that were deemed "Lowest Performing."

Our school continues to use our School Improvement Plan (SIP) Team to review our practices, data, and ensure we are working to improve student learning. If you would like to consider being part of our School Improvement Plan Team, please contact me.

Our SIP Team has already led our school to:

Earn accreditation from the AdvancEd organization, which recognizes institutions that are committed to continuous improvement by adhering to goals and standards important to the quality of education.

Increased number of students taking Advanced Placement exams; from 600 in 2014 to 1200 in 2018.

Host monthly Parent University sessions on topics such as financial aid assistance, university enrollment, college admissions and preparing for the SAT.

Elgin High School received an "Underperforming" designation. This means Elgin High School qualifies to receive additional support from the state to help accelerate academic progress. We see this as an opportunity to build on the hard work of our teachers and staff in collaboration with families and community partners.

We remain committed to continuous improvement and we believe we have the capacity to help every child succeed. If you have any questions about our school's status under the state report card, or anything else, please contact me. You can also submit questions or comments through Let's Talk, our new U-46 customer service tool.

Sincerely,

Krystal Thomas

Principal Elgin High School