The School Performance Reports reflect the New Jersey Department of Education’s (NJDOE) commitment to providing parents, students, and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and district. These reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education.

We encourage you to use these reports to:

- Learn more about the school and the district
- Start conversations with school community members and ask questions
- Engage with school communities to identify where schools are doing well and where they can improve

Start Conversations

Ask questions that reflect the unique needs of your student. Here are some examples:

1. What are my goals for my student? Where is the school meeting those goals? Where is the school falling short of identified goals? Why are we strong or weak in certain areas?
2. What is unfamiliar to me? What do I want to learn more about?
3. Without statewide assessment data or student growth data for 2019-2020, what data is being shared by the district to monitor student growth and performance and identify students that need additional support?
4. Is my district offering additional supports and opportunities in the summer and fall to address the disruptions caused by COVID-19?
5. Does my student have access to counselors, nurses, child study teams, and librarians?
6. Do students have opportunities in the visual and performing arts or music?
7. Is full-day or half-day pre-kindergarten offered in my student’s school and is there a cost to attend?
8. What is changing in the school or district? What needs to change? How do I know?
9. How do per-pupil expenditures in my school compare to other schools in the district?
10. Does the ethno-racial diversity of the educators in my school reflect the diversity of the state?
11. What information did the district or school share in the Narrative section of the report? Is there additional information that I want to know that is not included there?

Engage

Reflect on the reports and have these conversations with individuals in your school or district. Consider the causes of any issues your school community is experiencing and figure out how you can be part of the solutions. You might consider:

1. Which decision makers can I meet with to address my concerns (teachers, principals, superintendents, board of education members)? What resources are available to me to address my student’s needs?
2. What resources are available to help address student needs outside of school?
3. How can I better understand the needs of my student? How can my student’s concerns be heard by teachers and leaders?
4. How does our school compare to others in the district? In the area? What are some of the best practices from other schools that can be used at our school?
5. Do my school’s goals for my student reflect the goals that I have set for my student?
6. How can I help my student access rigorous coursework and well-rounded educational supports?

Access our School Performance Reports and Stakeholder Engagement Guide for more information.