

Alternative School STAR Framework At A Glance

The DC School Report Card gives DC families a look into all public schools in the District. As outlined in DC’s Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan, the report card will include each school’s rating on the School Transparency and Reporting (STAR) Framework. The DC School Report Card, along with the STAR Framework, is a step toward a more transparent, equitable District of Columbia education system, with students at the center of critical decision-making.

WHAT’S IN THE STAR FRAMEWORK FOR ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS?

Some schools in DC are designed to provide programs to serve populations with unique educational needs. These schools are defined as alternative schools. Uniquely designed to match the goals and missions of alternative schools, this framework within the STAR Framework uses multiple types of data to measure performance in the following domains and metrics (each metric includes the possible points in parenthesis):

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Measures student performance on PARCC and MSAA and how many students are approaching, reaching, and exceeding proficiency in ELA and mathematics.

PARCC 4+/MSAA 3+
Students meeting or exceeding expectations in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Math on the state assessment (3)

PARCC/MSAA Weighted Index
An index score for student performance across all levels of PARCC and MSAA with heavier weight placed on higher levels of proficiency (10)

ACADEMIC GROWTH

Measures student progress on PARCC.

Median Growth Percentile (elementary and middle school grades)
Median growth of the school’s students compared to other students who took the PARCC test across the country (22)

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Addressing Chronic Absenteeism

- **90+ Attendance:** Percentage of students who are attending over 90% of school days Best Of Metric Worth: 7
- **Attendance Growth:** Improvement in student level attendance rates from year to year

Re-engagement
Percentage of students at the school who are now enrolled and academically engaged but who were academically disengaged in the previous year (7)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

ACCESS Growth
Progress of English learners in learning to speak, listen, read and write in the English language (5)

GRADUATION RATE

Five-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (high school grades)
Percentage of students who graduate with a diploma within 5 years of entering high school (11)

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

Tracks student progress with coursework toward the goal of completing secondary education.

8th to 9th Grade Promotion (middle school grades)
The percentage of students who were promoted from 8th to 9th grade (10)

Secondary Completion (high school grades)
The number of students who complete school with a credential – regular high school diploma, National External Diploma Program (NEDP) certificate, Individual Education Plan (IEP) Certificate of Completion, or General Equivalency Diploma (GED)[®] – divided by the number of students expected to receive a credential in their terminal year of secondary school (10)

HOW THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL FRAMEWORK WORKS

In the development of the STAR framework for Alternative Schools, OSSE recognized the importance of measuring multiple areas of school performance. The Alternative School framework weights areas differently than the Elementary, Middle, and High School frameworks based on the unique goals and mission of an alternative school. A table of those weights within the Alternative School framework is listed below.

| | Academic Achievement | Academic Growth | School Environment | English Language Proficiency | Graduation Rate | Educational Progress |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Alternative Framework | 13 points | 22 points | 14 points | 5 points | 11 points | 20 points |

HOW IT IS CALCULATED

The Alternative School framework is calculated similarly to the grade-band frameworks within the STAR Framework but uses different weights for student groups, as detailed below. The Alternative School framework first measures a school's performance for all students in each of the applicable metrics. Schools earn points based on their students' performance compared to students in other alternative schools across the city. The Alternative School framework then measures performance for:

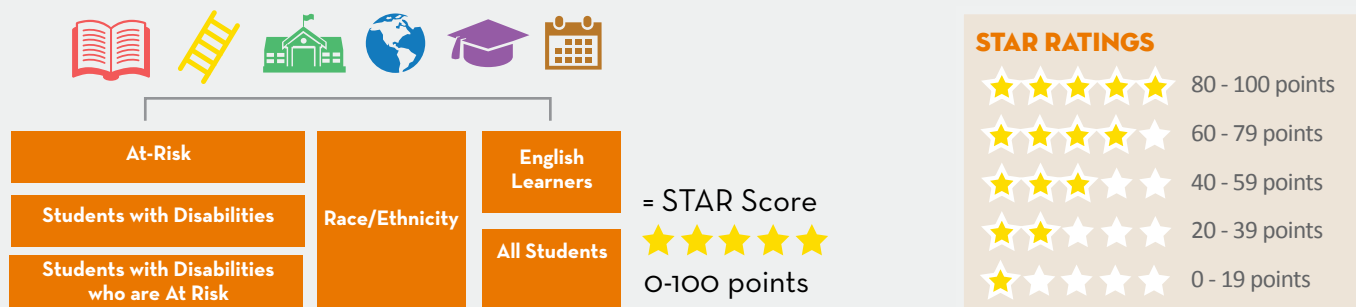
- All Students
- Students with Disabilities
- Racial/Ethnic Groups
- Students who are At Risk
- English Language Learners
- Students with Disabilities who are At Risk



85 points distributed to these groups based upon the specific population served by each alternative school. This decision acknowledges that alternative schools disproportionately serve students who are at risk and who have disabilities.

The proportional weighting of the Students with Disabilities, At-Risk and At-Risk Students with Disabilities within the Alternative School framework also allows the performance and growth of the students served by alternative schools to be compared against the performance and growth of these same student groups across the city.

Schools earn points based on how their students in each of these groups perform relative to similar students. The overall score and rating is calculated by combining the school's overall performance of all students and the performance of each student group. Once all of these points are totaled, the school receives a rating from 1 to 5 stars.



LEARN MORE

To learn more about the DC School Report Card and the STAR Framework, please visit our website at DCSchoolReportCard.org. If you'd like to join our mailing list about the DC School Report Card, please send an email to: DCSchoolReportCard@dc.gov.