



**HOLLISTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Office of the Superintendent**  
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*Bradford L. Jackson, Ed.D.*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

*Timothy M. Cornely*  
*Assistant Superintendent*

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Dear Parent or Guardian:

On January 8, 2002, President Bush signed the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* into law. The law calls for sweeping changes in public education. Among these is a new federal requirement that all states and school districts in receipt of Title I assistance must, by 2003, issue annual "report cards" to parents. The purpose of the report card is to give parents information about their child's school in terms of academic achievement and the professional qualifications of its teachers. Our district and school report cards are published on our website at [www.holliston.k12.ma.us](http://www.holliston.k12.ma.us). Copies are also available at each school and at the public library.

The information contained is divided into three parts.

- Part I: Teacher Qualifications
- Part II: School Performance Ratings in Reading, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Technology
- Part III: School Achievement in terms of reaching Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Part I provides information about the qualifications of the teachers on our faculty. As you will see, most, if not all teachers in the school are certified, and most, if not all, are highly qualified. Those who are not are either working on a waiver granted by the Massachusetts Department of Education, or are long-term or permanent substitutes. While qualified to teach within Massachusetts, certain teachers are now in the process of demonstrating subject matter competency through additional coursework.

No Child Left Behind requires that state test results be reported annually. The information contained in Part II summarizes how we did on the last round of MCAS examinations. The data is broken down by grade level, subject area, and the performances of different subgroups, or learning populations in the school such as limited English proficient students or students with disabilities. This information is similar to what you received about your child's MCAS scores. Now this data has been added together to provide a snapshot of how the students in our school have performed as a whole.

Part III provides information about how well our school is doing relative to its performance in past years. The "Proficiency Index" (PI) scores for Mathematics and English Language Arts are part of Massachusetts' School Performance Rating system. This system has been set up to comply with the accountability provisions of No Child Left Behind which require, among other things, that each school make adequate yearly progress (AYP) toward meeting a national goal of all students being "proficient" in mathematics and English by the year 2013-2014. The Proficiency scores and AYP ratings in the student achievement data are meant to signal whether or not our school is on target to meet this goal or whether it has fallen behind and is "in need of improvement". All of our schools are on target to meet this goal.

In closing, please know that we are prepared to help you further should you have more questions about what this report card means and how you can use it to help you and your child grow stronger academically. Please feel free to call me or the principals directly if we can be of additional assistance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradford L. Jackson".

Bradford L. Jackson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

BJ/kc