February 9, 2022

Dear Families:

Every year, each public school and school district in Massachusetts receives a report card. Just as your child’s report card shows how they are doing in different subjects, the school’s report card is designed to show families how our school is doing. A link to our school’s report is available on our website at [www.smithtec.org](http://www.smithtec.org).

The report card includes multiple measures of a school’s performance – more than just MCAS scores. It represents a new way of looking at school performance, by providing information on student achievement, teacher qualifications, student learning opportunities, and more.

Report cards are designed to be useful tools for everyone connected to our school. Families can use the information to have meaningful conversations with us about what the school is doing well and where there is room for improvement. Community and education leaders can use the information to better understand how to support students and our school.

You will notice on our report card that we are above the state average in many categories like 9th grade passing rate, MassCore Completion, and Graduation Rate, while we are below the state average in Annual Drop-out Rate. These are important measures that show that our staff is working with students and families to keep students engaged and make the necessary progress to succeed. You will also see that there are some areas we need to target for improvement, and although they appear to be directly related to the pandemic, we are committed to finding solutions to bring student outcomes back up to our expectations. We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our school. We see parents as critical partners in the success of our students and school, and we are grateful for your continued support.

Finally, if your child attends a school that receives federal Title I funds, you also have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child’s classroom teachers:

* Whether your child’s teacher is licensed in the grade levels and subject areas they teach,
* Whether your child’s teacher is teaching under an emergency license or waiver,
* The college degree and major of your child’s teacher, and
* Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

If you have questions about our school’s report card, would like to become involved in school improvement activities, or would like to request information about the qualifications of your child’s classroom teacher, please contact me at [jbianca@smithtec.org](mailto:jbianca@smithtec.org) or via telephone at 413-587-1414. To see our district’s report card visit <https://reportcards.doe.mass.edu/2021/04060705>.

Respectfully,



Joseph C. Bianca

Principal