Thank you for joining us for this video on understanding the North Carolina School Report Card. We want you to become more familiar with the information on the NC School Report Card website and use it to help improve education in your community.

Are you new to North Carolina and looking for information on the public schools your children will soon attend? Or, are you a North Carolina resident who wants to know more about schools in your community? You can find all you need to know at the state's central site for public school information: the North Carolina School Report Cards website.

The site offers the latest information on student achievement and attendance, class size, school safety, and teacher quality. You can access these data for the school, district and state.

So, where do you start?

First, visit the NC School Report Cards site at www.ncreportcards.org/src

Next, select the year you want to view. The most current year automatically displays, but you can go back to 2001.

Directly, below the school year drop-down menu, you'll notice there are four options for locating a school:

- A Quick Search allows you to enter the name of the school or system

- A Map Search allows you to select a region and county by clicking an area on a state map.
- A List search allows you to view a list of schools in a particular area by district, county, city or charter schools, and (speed up a bit)
- The Advanced search allows you to search by specific criteria to create a unique list of schools.
- You can also access the state-level Report Card from this page.

I want to look for a particular school in Wake County so I'll use the List search. First, I'll select District and scroll to Wake County, than click "Go." The next page displays all the public and charter schools in Wake County along with each school's name, address and grade range. Notice at the top of the list of schools there is a link with the name of the school district. You can select this link to view the district's School Report Card.

To view a particular school's Report Card, click on the school name. Let's take a look at Briarcliff Elementary School, for example.

The first page you will see is the school's profile. This page provides basic information and features links to more detailed data. If it's a Title I school you'll see that indicator in the top right on this page too. Now, let's move up to the top of the page to the orange bar. Here you'll find several options to help you locate information throughout the site. This bar appears whenever you view a school, district or the state Report Card:

- School Year allows you to select a school year
- Quick Search allows you to search for a county or school.

- Advanced Search takes you to the Advanced Search screen
- And finally, Resources links you to documents to help you understand the School Report Card

Move down the page a little below the orange bar and you will see links for School, District and State. Select the District link if you want to see your district's Report Card, or the State link if you want to see the state-level Report Card.

Let's go back to Briarcliff's Profile Page and look directly below the links. Here you'll see four tabs: School Profile, High Student Performance, Safe, Orderly and Caring Schools, and Quality Teachers. These tabs are the table of contents for each Report Card you view. The district-level Report Card looks similar and provides the same guiding tabs. The state-level report card looks a little different and provides data for student performance and teacher credentials.

Back to Briarcliff's Profile page, below the tabs, you can find helpful contact information, including links to the school's website and the principal's email address. If you look at a district-level Report Card, contact information for the district's office, the name of its superintendent and a link to the superintendent's email address is available.

Let's move down the page where you can find tables that provide details about school and class sizes that feature the average number of students enrolled in the school and in classes, by grade level, for a particular year. The table also shows how the school compares to other schools in the district and the state. Throughout each individual school's Report Card, numbers and percentages are shown along with averages at the district and state levels for you to compare.

At any time, if you would like more details, click "More Information" to see an explanation about the data and why it's important. Now, let's take a look at each tab and see what types of data are available for Briarcliff Elementary.

Under the High Student Performance tab, we can see how students performed on state End-of-Grade tests by grade level, by subject and student demographic group. The numbers show the percentage of test scores that are at or above proficiency for each grade level. Anywhere you see a triangle, under an indicator you can select it for more details about the data.

If you are looking at a high school's report card, similar information is reported for student performance on End-of-Course tests.

Let's move down the page to the School Performance Section. Here you can find information about how a school is performing according to the state's ABC accountability program. Under the ABCs model, schools are assigned specific designations based on whether students in the school are scoring at or above grade level on the state End-of -Grade or End-of-Course tests. It also tracts whether students have met or exceeded growth expectations in an academic year.

For example, you can see here that Briarcliff Elementary has earned the designation as an Honor School of Excellence, which means at least 90 percent of students' test scores are at or above grade level. Growth is indicated by a checkmark in one of these columns. Scroll down the page to view a school's Annual Measurable Objective results. The Annual Measurable Objectives, or AMO, replaced the Annual Yearly Progress target goals beginning with the 2011-

2012 school year. Next, we can click on the Safe, Orderly and Caring Schools tab. Information under this tab includes data relating to school safety, student attendance and instructional resources. For example, you can review the average age of the books in school's library or how many internet-connected digital learning devices are available at the school. Again, information is presented for district and state levels so you can make comparisons.

As we continue to move across the top of page for Briarcliff, and we select the Quality Teachers tab, we can access a variety of data about educators including the number of classroom teachers at the school, how many of those teachers are fully licensed, classes taught by highly qualified teachers, the number of educators with advanced degrees, the number of school staff with National Board Certification, and more. These data are also available for the district and state.

Let's take a look at a few helpful documents located under the school's contact information at the top of the page. These resources are available throughout the school's report card.

A printable version of your school's report card, called a "School Report Card Snapshot," provides an abridged version of the full online report card. "Tips to Understanding Your School's Snapshot" helps you understand how to read and use the information for your school's report card. Both are available in English and Spanish. You can go to the district profile page and access similar information for a district's report card as well.

Other resources are available to help you learn more about the NC School Report Cards website in the "Links" section under Resources for Understanding Report Cards.

If you want to know more about the history and background of the NC School Report Cards, check out the General Overview of the NC School Report Card.

Question about the School Report website? Take a look at the Frequently Asked Questions document to see if your question is addressed here.

The "What's New Release" document highlights new indicators and what has changed in the NC School Report Cards for the current year. **(Pause)**

If this is your first time on the site, make sure to review "How to Read Your School Report Card" so you can become a pro at navigating the school-, district and state-level report cards.

Run across a term you don't understand? Look it up in the School Report Cards Glossary.

Want to get technical? Check out the Data Sources and Information Guide to learn more about the data sources used in the NC School Report Cards.

Once you understand all of these data, it is time to start discussions about the Report Card results with other parents, school leaders and educators in your community. To help you begin these important conversations, review the "Questions You Should Ask about the North Carolina School Report Cards" documents for both parents and community leaders that are available to review and share.

It is important to remember that the best way to find out more about what is really happening in our classrooms is to talk with the educators who are working in and with North Carolina's public schools every day. They can share ways in which you can help support and improve public education in our state.

If you have specific questions about the NC School Report Cards website, please contact us at reportcards@dpi..nc.gov, or simply select the Contact Us link which you will always find in the top right corner no matter where you are on the site.