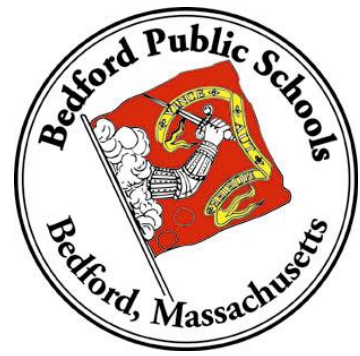


BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01730



April 2009

To the Bedford Community:

I am pleased to present you with the seventh annual **Report Card for the Bedford Public Schools**. The federal legislation, *No Child Left Behind (NCLB)*, requires all states, school districts, and schools to report student assessment results, drop-out rates, and teacher qualifications to the community on an annual basis. Bedford's Report Card results are available to you on the district **webpage: www.bedford.k12.ma.us**.

In Bedford we have also taken the opportunity to provide you with additional data that we consider "indicators of success." To that end, you will note that the Bedford High School Report Card includes test results for the Scholastic Aptitude Test and the Advanced Placement Exams as well as recent trends in terms of college acceptances and National Merit recognition.

In terms of the NCLB reporting requirements, Bedford has achieved the following:

- All of our schools are making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in the aggregate.
- We have been identified for improvement in the subgroup categories for mathematics (Special Education) at the middle school level and English Language Arts (Special Education) at the Lane School.
- Virtually all of our teachers (97%) are considered "*highly qualified*" for the subject(s) they teach.

While we are pleased with Bedford's overall progress to date, we also recognize that we have work to do in terms of student achievement as we disaggregate the achievement of certain student cohorts. That said, we also recognize that in Massachusetts, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has adopted the highest student performance standards in the nation. In Massachusetts, *all students* are expected to reach the "proficient level" on MCAS by 2014. Since MCAS is recognized as one of the most difficult state assessments in the nation, reaching that standard for *all students* will challenge every school district in the Commonwealth.

It is my hope that you will find the Report Card helpful in providing you with a snapshot of the schools. If you have any questions about the data, please call me, Dr. Cynthia Crimmin, or any of our principals. Thanks for your continued support of the work we do to make the Bedford Public Schools the best that they can be.

Sincerely,

Maureen LaCroix, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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