



2015-16
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REPORT CARD

Charleston CUSD #1

- Effective Leaders**
- Collaborative Teachers**
- Involved Families**
- Supportive Environment**
- Ambitious Instruction**

- 1st among Illinois' counties for return on property taxes (SmartAsset, 2014)
- 2nd Safest College Town in America (SafeWise, 2015 & 2016)
- 2nd Most Affordable College Town in America (Business Insider, 2015)
- 3rd best city in Illinois for young families (NerdWallet, 2013)
- 9th Safest City in Illinois (CreditDonkey, 2016)
- 11th Safest City in America (ADTsecurity.com, 2015)
- Rated among 'best schools' in *U.S. News and World Report (Charleston High School, 2010)*
- Association of Illinois Middle Level Schools Demonstration School (Charleston Middle School)
- Illinois Honor Roll Schools (Jefferson Elementary School, 2006, Charleston Middle School, 2006, Ashmore Elementary School, 2004)
- Numerous and award-winning extra-curricular programs

Effective Leaders

- 76% of district teachers report that our school leaders work with teachers to implement a clear and strategic vision for school success.*
- District administrators average 13.8 years in educational leadership experience.
- The Illinois State Board of Education has granted a certificate of financial recognition to CUSD #1.

Collaborative Teachers

- 71% of district teachers report that our staff is committed to our schools, receive strong professional development, and work together to continually strengthen our schools.*
- District teachers average 15.2 years of instructional experience.
- 14 CUSD #1 teachers have earned National Board certification.

Involved Families

- 93% of district teachers report that school staff work hard to build trusting relationships with parents.*
- CUSD #1 students benefit from strong parent associations and organizations (e.g., PTA/PTO, Trojan Booster Club, Music Boosters, etc.).
- 216 community and family members volunteered in our schools during the 2014-15 school year.

Supportive Environment

- 76% of district students and teachers report that our schools are safe and orderly, that teachers have high expectations for students, and that students are supported by their teachers and peers.*
- CUSD #1 has recently strengthened its security measures.

Ambitious Instruction

- 64% of district students and teachers report that classes are academically demanding and engage students by emphasizing the application of knowledge.*
- District students' composite ACT score is 20.8 and consistently above the State's average.
- CUSD #1 incorporates a researched-based K-12 comprehensive literacy curriculum and aligns instruction to the Common Core State Standards.

* As reported by the 5Essentials Survey, Spring 2015