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Dear HMS 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 in different areas. A link to our school's report card is available [HERE](#).

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.

While MCAS is only one measure of student performance, results from MCAS do provide us with information about student performance based on our curriculum as well as information about how our school is performing when compared to other schools in the district and across the state. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education did not issue school, district, or state accountability determinations last year. With that said, prior accountability ratings and information may be found within our report card.

This school year we have been working diligently to address the student learning that have been pinpointed through several identifiers including MCAS, STAR Assessment, VOCAL Survey, and the Panorama Survey. Our report card shows that our students are continuing to make gains. Here are some of those takeaways:

- HMS is out performing 85% of other middle schools as it relates to achievement, growth, english learner progress and absenteeism
- 70% of our students were meeting or exceeding expectations on the ELA MCAS
- 69% of our students were meeting or exceeding expectations on the Science/Technology MCAS
- 65% of our students were meeting or exceeding expectations on the Math MCAS

As we look ahead, we will continue to work towards continual improvement for all students and encourage you to become involved in helping us improve. We see parents as critical partners in the success of our students and school, and we are grateful for your continued support.

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 feel free to contact us at 978-365-4558. To see our district's report card or to search for other schools' report cards, click [HERE](#).

Sincerely,

*Kyle Grady*