

**Peirce School**  
85 Park Avenue Ext.  
Arlington, MA 02474  
781-316-3736  
(fax) 781-316-3748  
**Karen Hartley, Principal**  
khartley@arlington.k12.ma.us  
**Arlington Public Schools**  
www.arlington.k12.ma.us/peirce

An Equal Opportunity School System with a High Commitment to Diversity

January 2016

Dear Peirce Elementary School Parents and Guardians:

I am pleased to share an overview of our school's "report card". Report cards answer important questions about a school's overall performance and contain specific information about student enrollment and teacher qualifications, student achievement, accountability, how a school is performing relative to other schools in the district and the state, and the progress made toward narrowing proficiency gaps for different groups of students.

In this report you will find the following important information about our school:

**Student enrollment and teacher quality:** This section of the report card provides information about the students and teachers in our school as compared to the district and the state. 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
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications

**Student assessment on MCAS and other tests:** This section of the report shows how our students are performing on the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests as compared to the district and the state.

**School and district accountability information:** This section of the report contains three important pieces of information:

- **Accountability and Assistance Levels:** Schools and districts are placed into one of five accountability and assistance levels (1-5), with the highest performing in Level 1 and lowest performing in Level 5. Peirce has been placed into Level 2 because of not fully meeting the goal for narrowing the achievement gap.
- **School Percentiles:** A school percentile between 1 and 99 is reported for most schools. This number shows the overall performance of our school relative to other schools that serve the same or similar grades. Our school percentile is 88. This means that our school is performing higher than 88 percent of the elementary schools in the state.
- **Progress and Performance Index (PPI):** The PPI is a number that indicates our school's progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, or, in other words, helping *all* students reach proficiency

and be prepared for success after high school. Massachusetts has set a goal of reducing proficiency gaps by half between the years 2011 and 2017. For a group of students to be considered to be making sufficient progress toward narrowing proficiency gaps, its cumulative PPI must be 75 or higher.

To improve student achievement in our school, we are implementing our school improvement plan, which includes increasing support to our high needs students through continued math and reading intervention. We are implementing the "Lucy Calkins" writing program to increase our student's ability to express their thinking more effectively. We believe children are most successful when they have a good relationship with their teachers, and feel liked and valued. Therefore, our teachers will have time and resources to improve classroom relationships and community within Peirce, including consultation with Jessica Minnehan and pilots of "Responsive Classroom". As always, we also continue our efforts to improve two-way communication with home, through increased use of social media, our website, and at the classroom level, with parent-teacher communication.

We encourage you to become involved in helping us improve our school. Some of the ways you can become involved are:

- Encouraging your child's learning at home
- Attending parent-teacher meetings and other special meetings
- Serving as a volunteer in our school or district
- Encouraging other parents to become involved

For more information about what we are doing to improve student achievement or to request information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers, please feel free to contact me at 781-316-3737.

Sincerely,

*Karen Hartley*



# 2015 Massachusetts School Report Card Overview

## PEIRCE (00100045)

Arlington Public School District (00100000)  
 Karen I Hartley, Principal  
 Grades Served: K,01,02,03,04,05

85 Park Avenue Ext , Arlington, MA 02474  
 Phone: 781.316.3736  
 Website: <http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us>

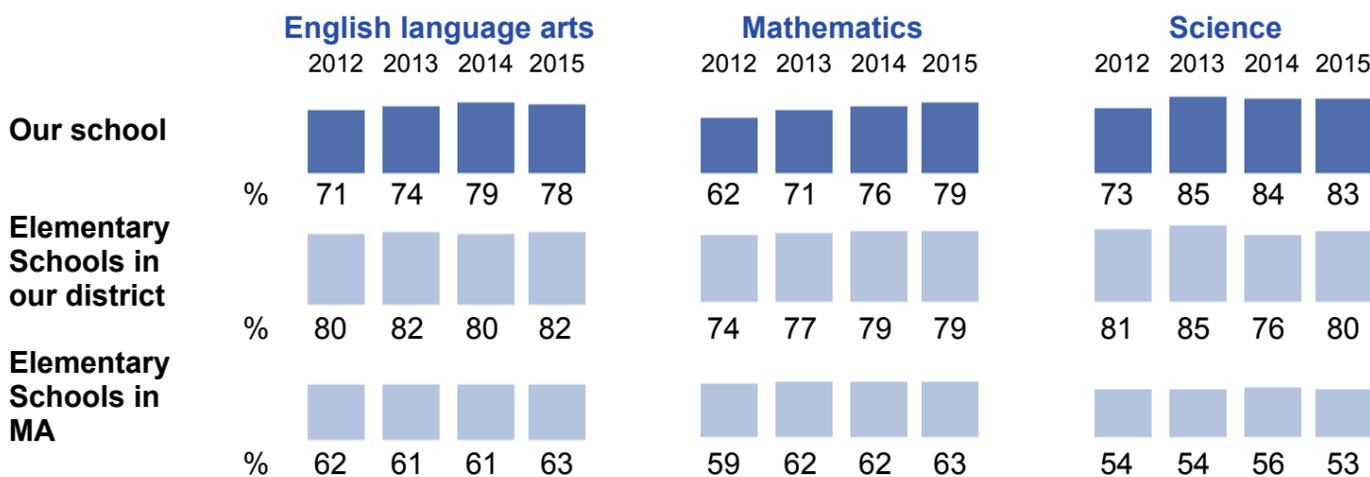
Report cards help parents/guardians and the general public see where schools and districts are succeeding and where there is still work to do. This report card overview answers important questions about our school's performance. For the full report card containing additional data contact the school's principal or visit the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's website at <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu>. For more information about report card data, visit our [Profiles Help](#) page.

### How is our school doing overall?

Accountability and assistance levels		School percentile										
<b>Our school</b>	<b>Level 2</b> Not meeting gap narrowing goals	School percentiles (1-99) indicate how a school is performing overall compared to other schools that serve the same or similar grades. Our school's percentile is below. 1      25      50      75 <b>88</b> 99 Lowest performing      Highest performing										
<b>Our district</b>	<b>Level 2</b> One or more schools in the district classified into Level 2											
Most <b>schools</b> are assigned a level from 1-5, with those meeting their proficiency gap-narrowing goals in Level 1 and the lowest performing in Levels 4 and 5. A <b>district</b> is typically assigned a level based on the level of its lowest performing school. Placing schools and districts into levels helps districts know which schools need more support, and helps the state know which districts need the most assistance. More information is available here: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/ese/accountability">http://www.mass.gov/ese/accountability</a> .		<b>Overall progress in narrowing gaps</b> Massachusetts aims to reduce proficiency gaps by half between 2011 and 2017.										
		<table border="0"> <tr> <td><b>All students</b></td> <td><b>Met Target</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>High needs students</b></td> <td>Did Not Meet Target</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Economically disadvantaged</b></td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Students with disabilities</b></td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>English language learners &amp; former ELLs</b></td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table>	<b>All students</b>	<b>Met Target</b>	<b>High needs students</b>	Did Not Meet Target	<b>Economically disadvantaged</b>	-	<b>Students with disabilities</b>	-	<b>English language learners &amp; former ELLs</b>	-
<b>All students</b>	<b>Met Target</b>											
<b>High needs students</b>	Did Not Meet Target											
<b>Economically disadvantaged</b>	-											
<b>Students with disabilities</b>	-											
<b>English language learners &amp; former ELLs</b>	-											

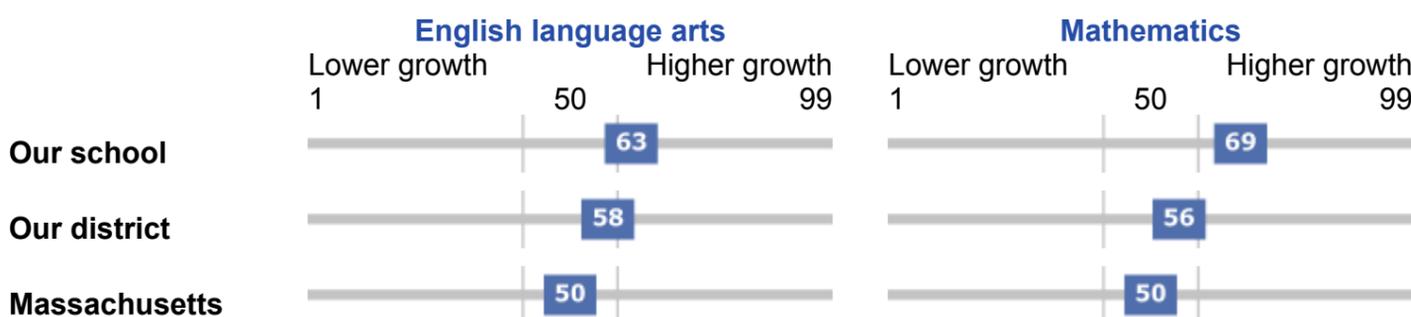
### How does our school's achievement over time compare to the district and the state?

Students scoring proficient or above on **Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS), 2012-2015**



### How does our school's growth compare to the district and the state?

Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) measure gains in student achievement from year to year. SGPs between 40 and 60 represent moderate growth. Our school's median SGPs for 2015 are below. (Note: Growth values are truncated.)



### How does our school's enrollment compare to the district and the

## state?

Total enrollment	Our school	Our district	Our state
	267	5,208	955,844

By high needs population	Our school		Elementary Schools in our district		Elementary Schools in MA	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Economically disadvantaged students	21	7.9	219	7.7	101,936	28.4
Students with disabilities	35	13.1	319	11.3	55,059	15.4
English language learners	25	9.4	190	6.7	38,873	10.8

## How do our school's teachers and classrooms compare to the district and the state?

General information	Our school	Elementary Schools in our district	Elementary Schools in MA
Teachers (#)	18.3	178.2	25,669.4
Core academic classes taught by highly qualified teachers (%)	100.0	99.4	95.8
Average class size (#)	-	-	-
Student : teacher ratio	14.6 to 1	15.9 to 1	14.0 to 1

## How is our school doing on other important measures?

Attendance	Our school	Elementary Schools in our district	Elementary Schools in MA
2015 Attendance rate (%)	95.3	96.6	95.5
2015 Average days absent per student (#)	8.3	5.9	7.8
2015 Chronic absenteeism rate (%)	3.3	3.6	9.5

Discipline	Our school	Elementary Schools in our district	Elementary Schools in MA
2015 In-school suspension rate (%)	-	0.0	0.4
2015 Out-of-school suspension rate (%)	-	0.0	0.9

High school completion	Our school	Our district	Our state
2013 5-year graduation rate (%)	-	92.5	87.7
2014 4-year graduation rate (%)	-	92.2	86.1
2014 annual dropout rate (%)	-	1.3	2.0
2013 graduates attending institutions of higher education* (%)	-	81.7	76.6
2015 12th graders taking 1+ Advanced Placement courses (%)	-	66.0	39.7
2015 Advanced Placement tests with scores of 3 or higher (%)	-	85.2	66.3
2015 SAT average score - Reading	-	578	508
2015 SAT average score - Writing	-	571	497
2015 SAT average score - Math	-	583	521
2014 MassCore** - Completing a rigorous course of study (%)	-	100.0	72.4

\*Postsecondary enrollment data includes any student enrolling in an institution of higher education within 16 months of earning a high school diploma

\*\*MassCore: 4 years of English, math, & science, 3 years of history, 2 years of a foreign language, 1 year of arts & 5 additional "core" courses

## What else should you know about our school?

To view our school's full report card, visit <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu>. For more information about report card data, visit our [Profiles Help](#) page.

Published by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education