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Dear Parent(s) and Community Members:

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) released our annual School Report Card on October 31. You can access it by going to <https://www.illinoisreportcard.com> and entering each school name or input Tri City CUSD 1 (no hyphen) to look up the district. The Report Card shows how well each of our schools is progressing on a wide range of educational goals.

The four possible school designations are:

School Designations			
<i>Exemplary</i>	<i>Commendable</i>	<i>Underperforming</i>	<i>Lowest-Performing</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance in the top 10% of all schools • High schools with graduation rate higher than 67% • No underperforming student groups at or below the “all students” group in the lowest-performing 5% of all schools • Eligible to apply to serve as an IL-EMPOWER Learning Partner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance not in the top 10% of all schools • High schools with graduation rate higher than 67% • No underperforming student groups at or below the “all students” group in the lowest-performing 5% of all schools • Eligible to apply to serve as an IL-EMPOWER Learning Partner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One or more student groups underperforming at or below the “all students” group in the lowest-performing 5% of all schools; groups must have at least 20 students in at least three indicators • Completes a Work Plan for School Improvement and provided targeted support through IL-EMPOWER process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the lowest-performing 5% of Title I eligible schools statewide • High schools with graduation rate at or below 67% • Completes a Work Plan for School Improvement and provided comprehensive support through IL-EMPOWER process

The following is how each of our schools ranked:

Tri-City Elementary	Exemplary
Tri-City Junior High	Lowest Performing
Tri-City High School	Commendable



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Please help me congratulate the staff of Tri-City Elementary and Tri-City High School! Tri-City Elementary was the one of three schools and the only elementary school in Sangamon/Menard County to earn the designation of Exemplary.

While the rating for our junior high is a major disappointment, it means that we have access to additional funding, tools, and learning partners. We welcome this opportunity to utilize the expertise of an IL-EMPOWER consultant assigned by ISBE to work with our teachers to improve the teaching and learning process. Improvement begins with taking an honest and comprehensive look at where we are, so we can chart the path to where we want to go. The state's school-led IL-EMPOWER improvement process begins with a collaborative needs assessment, utilizing the IL Quality Framework and its Supporting Rubric. We will collect data and evidence comparing our current organizational and instructional practices to the seven standards and indicators that are the hallmarks of successful schools.

The administration is examining the issues and developing solutions and paths forward. We have begun by administration working directly with the students on goal setting and asking them for feedback on high stakes testing. Administration has continued to meet with the core teachers to review the data and address deficiencies in order to create an action plan. The teachers are updating their curriculum maps which include teaching strategies and cross-curriculum focus on reading comprehension and writing.

We are committed to continuous improvement and to providing the supports for every child to succeed. I deeply believe that we have the capacity to help all children thrive. The state's new support and accountability system is designed to provide each school the supports and resources we need to improve student outcomes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at the number above, extension 114 or by e-mail at jl Larson@tricityschools.org.

Educationally yours,

Jill Larson, Superintendent