

Prescott Elementary again achieves top 10 percent of Illinois public schools for academic performance

Prescott receives highest “Exemplary” rating on 2024 Illinois Report Card each year post-Covid

CHICAGO (October 30, 2024) – William H. Prescott Elementary School has again earned the highest “Exemplary” rating on the Illinois State Board of Education’s 2024 Illinois Report Card because [Prescott is in the top ten percent of all public schools in Illinois for academic performance](#). It is one of twenty-six [Chicago public schools](#) – and one of only six schools within a four-mile radius – to earn the rating. Prescott School has been rated Exemplary by the state in all three years of the rating system since Covid.

Check here for the list of [CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 299 | Summative Designation](#)

Prescott is a neighborhood K-8 CPS school with a rigorous curriculum focused on accelerated science, math, reading, writing, and Social Studies learning, and an emphasis on social and emotional learning and restorative practices.

“Once again, Prescott students worked hard, teachers brilliantly tailored lessons to meet each student where they were, and families supported and held high expectations their children and teachers,” said Prescott School Principal Dr. Erin Roche. “Our tightly aligned curriculum, strong feedback systems, robust before and after-school programs, and culturally responsive instruction boosted our students’ critical thinking and analytical writing and math skills. Teachers and staff deeply care about each student’s growth academically and social-emotionally”

The Illinois State Board of Education’s Exemplary designation is given to schools whose performance is in the top ten percent of schools statewide as measured by the [multi-measures accountability index](#), and in which no student demographic groups performed at or below the level of the “all students” group in the lowest five percent of all schools, and which has a graduation rate greater than 67 percent.

“Our Prescott students quickly learn how to manage their time, space, and relationships with each other,” said Prescott Kindergarten Teacher Lisandra Barajas. “With these strong executive functioning and social-emotional skills, the minds of our five and six-year olds are freed up to learn. They can explore the meanings of words and stories and the patterns of numbers.”

Prescott students exceeded their pre-Covid Reading, Writing, Math, and Science scores. Third through eighth graders took the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), which measures achievement in reading, writing, and math according to the challenging Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Fifth and eighth graders took the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) which aligns to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

In English Language Arts (aka, reading and writing), 80% of students met or exceeded CCSS standards, and in math 59% of students met or exceeded CCSS standards on the IAR. In Science, 70% of fifth and eighth graders met or exceeded expectations on the ISA. They grew tremendously yet again: ELA growth was in the 68th percentile and Math growth in the 58th percentile.

Prescott has narrowed achievement gaps since 2019 in ELA and math across race, IEP status, and income. Most notably, the ELA gaps between African-American and white students has shrunk by 49% and between Latino and white students by 71%. Students are improving across Prescott. View Prescott's full 2024 [Illinois Report Card](#).

Since 2010, Prescott has grown tremendously from a low-performing school on the brink of shutting its doors permanently to a thriving community that proudly attained the prestigious recognition with the [2019 National Blue Ribbon](#) award from the U.S. Department of Education.

Prescott's mission is to nurture creative minds and caring hearts that contribute significantly to their communities through anti-racist curriculum and culturally-relevant pedagogy, rich and rigorous academic experiences that are tailored to individual needs, divergent thinking and artistic expression, and team collaboration.

To learn more about Prescott, tour the school, or register to attend, please visit <https://prescottparents.com/>.

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