



# 2019 ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

TELL YOUR STORY ABOUT INVESTMENTS & STUDENT OUTCOMES

## EXPLORING Site-Based Expenditure Reporting

Districts and communities will see school-by-school spending data for the first time on the 2019 Illinois Report Card.

The data visualizations invite inquiry and dialogue about the relationships between spending, student outcomes, and student characteristics within a district. Remember when exploring the data that differences in spending between schools can arise from many factors, including positive ones; for example, a commitment to equity may result in tailoring resources based on students' needs. The Questions to Consider listed below give examples of where dialogue may go as stakeholders in your community have productive

conversations about the Report Card visualizations. When facilitating conversations in your community, also consider more open-ended inquiries with sentence starters like:

- I notice...
- I wonder...
- So, what do we do?

You may also encourage stakeholders to contact key district leaders as they share their observations and seek deeper understanding.

### Report Card Visualizations

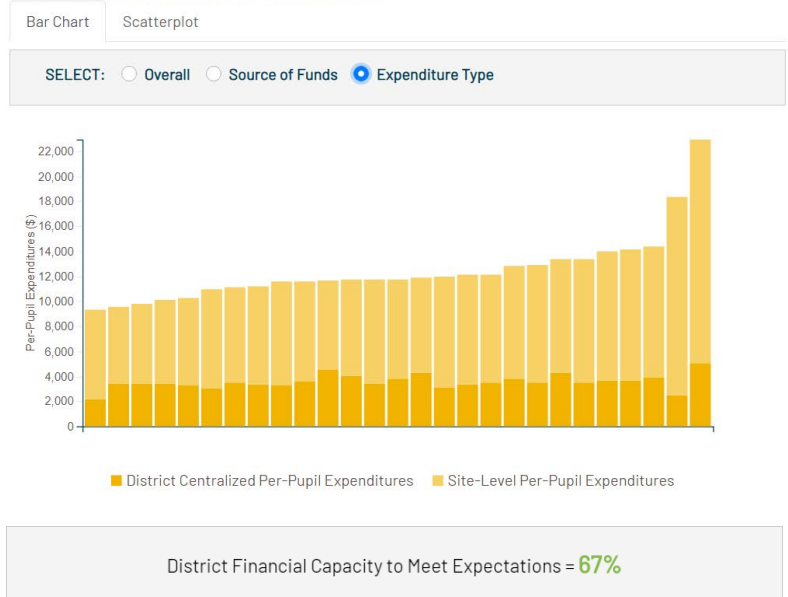
**1** The District and School Report Cards display the per-pupil expenditures for each school in the district in a bar graph. The data can be disaggregated by source of funds and by expenditure type: site-level vs. centralized. The display includes Evidence-Based Funding information for additional context.

#### Questions to Consider

- Why might schools be funded the same or differently, based on the school's local context?
- Could any of these typical drivers of school-by-school spending differences be affecting the data?
  - Additional resources for special student populations
  - Curriculum, schedule, or school improvement decisions
  - Programs at certain schools
  - School size variances
  - Strategic plan/priority investments
  - Teacher salary schedules differentiated by longevity or other factors in accordance with collective bargaining agreements

#### School Finances

Average expenditures per student at each school in the district





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## Exploring Site-Based Expenditure Reporting, *continued*

### Explore More Visualizations

**2** The District Report Card displays all schools in the district in a list beneath the bar graph, along with each school's per-pupil expenditures, enrollment, percentage of low-income students, percentage of English Learners, percentage of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), and summative designation.

School Name	Per-Pupil Expenditures	Enrollment	Low Income Students	English Learners	Student with IEPs	Summative Designation
Elementary School 1	\$12,911	424	41.30%	18.90%	15.30%	Commendable
Middle School 1	\$14,354	461	41.00%	6.30%	24.90%	Commendable
Elementary School 2	\$9,348	860	23.00%	13.50%	7.70%	Commendable
Middle School 2	\$11,902	1,231	81.50%	29.50%	15.70%	Commendable

#### Questions to Consider

- Do I notice any connections between student needs, student outcomes, and expenditures?
- What other information about a school's local context would be helpful to know, such as grade levels, geographic region, special programs, or school type?
- If the district has provided narrative above the data listing: How does the additional narrative add to your understanding of the data?

**3** The District and School Report Cards also provide a scatterplot display to further explore the relationships between data points.

#### Questions to Consider

- What information would be helpful to know about the district's strategic plan or priorities for student supports and school improvement?
- Which schools seem to achieve better than average results with less than average spending? What would you be interested in learning from those schools?
- What further information would help me better understand if the district is spending fairly across schools and students?

#### School Finances

Average expenditures per student at each school in the district

