Use this optional guide to foster conversations about the information that matters to your community.

**Learn More**

The School Performance Reports reflect the New Jersey Department of Education’s (NJDOE) extensive efforts to engage with parents, students, and school communities, and share the information that is most valuable in providing a picture of overall school performance.

We encourage you to use these reports to:
- **Learn more** about the school and the district
- **Start conversations** with school community members and ask questions
- **Engage** with school communities to identify where schools are doing well and where they can improve

**Start Conversations**

Start conversations by asking questions that reflect the unique needs of your student.

Here are some example questions:
1. What are my goals for my student? Where is my student’s school meeting those goals? Where is the school falling short of identified goals? Why is the school strong or weak in certain areas?
2. What student needs are being met? What needs are not being addressed for the students or school?
3. To what degree do students have access to counselors and nurses?
4. To what degree do students have opportunities in the visual and performing arts or music?
5. Is full-day or half-day pre-kindergarten offered in my student’s school and is there a cost to attend?
6. To what degree do students have opportunities in the visual and performing arts or music?
7. What is changing in the school or district? What needs to change? How do I know?
8. What is unfamiliar to me? What do I want to learn more about?

**Engage**

Reflect on the reports and have these conversations with individuals in your school or district. Consider the cause of any issues your school community is experiencing and figure out how you can be part of the solution. You might consider:

1. Which decision makers can I meet with to address my concerns (teachers, principals, superintendents, board of education members)? What resources are available to me to address my student’s needs?
2. What resources are available to help address student needs outside of school?
3. How can I better understand the needs of my student? How can my student’s concerns be heard by teachers and leaders?
4. How does my student’s school compare to others in the district? In the area? What are some of the best practices from other schools that can be used at my student’s school?
5. Do the school’s goals for my student reflect the goals that I have set for my student?
6. How can I help my student access rigorous coursework and well-rounded educational supports?

Access our **School Performance Reports** and **Stakeholder Engagement Guide** for more information.

- [www.state.nj.us/education](http://www.state.nj.us/education)
- [www.njschooldata.org](http://www.njschooldata.org)
- [reportcard@doe.nj.gov](mailto:reportcard@doe.nj.gov)