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Dear Queen Bee 16 Families,

Last week the Illinois State Board of Education released our scores for the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), which is the required assessment for all of the students in Grades 3 through 8. The IAR Scores are reported for both Attainment and Growth. Attainment scores indicate the percentage of students who Exceed, Meet, Approach, or Do Not Meet the standard of performance in English and/or Math. The Growth measure is the Student Growth Percentile (SGP), and this indicates how our improvement compares to other schools and districts across the state. An SGP score of 50 indicates that our students improved at the average rate when compared. SGP scores greater than 50 indicate that our students earned a rate of improvement that is greater than the statewide average.

I am proud to report that our students continue to perform well on both attainment and growth measures. Our students performed above the state averages in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science in every subgroup district-wide. This is a testament to the commitment of our teachers and the hard work of our students. We are even more excited by our growth measures. Our student's growth percentile in English was 61 and 55 in Math. This indicates that our student's improvement or growth was 11 percent greater than the state average in English and 5 percent greater than the state average in Math. Our growth has been significant over the past two years, and it is a reflection of the effort put forth by our students, teachers, and administrative team each day.

We are committed to engaging each student and family whom we serve and are working hard to ensure that each student receives the best education that we can provide. We are responsible for the growth and performance of all students and are held accountable for the performance of all subgroups. I can report to you that the growth that we have experienced district-wide is also evident in our subgroup scores. Each subgroup experienced a rate of growth that was greater than the state average and is evidence that all of our students are benefitting from our continued investment in and access to our core academic program.

Our attainment scores are solid and improving while our student growth percentile is significant on both a county and state level. I very much appreciate that the Illinois State Board of Education recognized our students and teachers in their press release last week. They have earned it, and I have little doubt that they will continue to do so.

Please accept our thanks for your continued support of our schools and our congratulations to our students for a job well done. The energy, enthusiasm, and hard work of our students define our school community, and it is an honor to partner with you to continue to improve the quality of education that we are able to provide. I encourage you all to take a moment to review our progress at www.illinoisreportcard.com and to contact your principal if you have any questions about an individual IAR score.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph R. Williams".

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