Reinventing School Report Cards
The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) continues to require States and districts to publish annual report cards that include information on a variety of metrics, and requires that these report cards be “concise,” “accessible to the public” and “presented in an understandable and uniform format.”

ESSA makes several significant changes regarding the specific information included on both State and local report cards.
Major Report Card Provisions Under ESSA

· Continues the requirement that state and local report cards disaggregate assessment data by major student subgroups, and adds the requirement to disaggregate by homeless, foster-care, and military-connected students.

· Requires more detailed and complex data on teachers.

· Requires school-level finance data, including per-pupil expenditures of federal, state, and local funds.
Major Report Card Provisions Under ESSA (cont.)

- Requires extensive data from the Civil Rights Data Collection survey, including data on school climate, preschool enrollment, accelerated coursework, and other issues.

- Adds the requirement that State report cards include performance on NAEP reading and math assessments for grades 4 and 8.

- Under the proposed regulations, requires extensive data on charter schools.
Clear report cards that include relevant data can be a powerful tool to help family members make important decisions about their child’s education.

Clear report cards can also help educators, policymakers, and other stakeholders identify important trends in education programming and outcomes.

To achieve these important goals, the information presented on report cards must be relevant and must not be overly burdensome for States or districts.