



Hello, and welcome to Research Triangle High School!

Our 2018-2019 School Report Card data has been released and is available for your viewing. For the second year in a row our school received an 82, which by state standards is a B grade.

This score is in part a weighted average of both proficiency, which is how well our students perform on certain tests, and growth, which is a calculated measure of improvement. 80% of the score is proficiency and 20% of the score is growth. This year, RTHS students demonstrated higher growth than in the previous year. Proficiency remained about the same, so our overall score remained about the same.

Other factors are to be celebrated: 100% of our students complete Math 3. 93% of our students met the state benchmark on the ACT. Our four year graduation rate was reported as 93%, though this is due to how the state accounts for the number of students that should be graduating. The state counted students who left our school in the past but failed to provide sufficient documentation about their leaving to be removed from our graduation rolls. I can you tell that every student who should have graduated last year did so.

Of course we would want to earn an A, and every year we make an effort to understand why our students do not score as high on End of Course exams. What we know is that while we cover the state curriculum, we also cover additional material that we believe to be more appropriate for our college-bound students based on our teachers' practical experience and connections with professionals in those fields. This may reduce our time spent on preparing for those exams, but we believe it better prepares our students for work in and after college.

Finally, we believe that the story of a school should be told over four years and not one. We are far more focused on growing our students over the long term during their time here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric A. Grunden", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Eric A. Grunden
Chief School Officer

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