

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
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MEMORANDUM

January 25, 2024

To: Members, Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services

From: Committee Staff

Re: Hearing titled “America’s Report Card: Oversight of K-12 Public Education”

On **Tuesday, January 30, at 2:00 PM ET, in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building**, the Oversight and Accountability Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services will host a hearing titled “America’s Report Card: Oversight of K-12 Public Education.”

I. BACKGROUND:

Public schools are struggling to perform their most basic task: educating America’s children. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, student performance across the nation has suffered. The Nation’s Report Card assessment shows that test scores in reading and math have significantly declined, especially for lower-performing students. Additionally, chronic absenteeism is a hindrance to efforts by teachers to help students catch up.

II. HEARING PURPOSE:

This hearing will examine the long-lasting impacts of pandemic-era school closures, current issues in K-12 education, and strategies for state and local school districts to help students get back on track.

III. WITNESSES:

Ms. Virginia Gentles

Director, Education Freedom Center
Independent Women’s Forum

Dr. Nat Malkus, Ph.D.

Senior Fellow and Deputy Director, Education Policy Studies
American Enterprise Institute