**Illinois Report Card Project**

**EDUC 111: Lycke**

**Overview**: For this project, you will use the Illinois Report Card website to gather information about 3 schools and record it on the attached chart. The project requires you to look at and record a range of data from the Illinois Report Card website and reflect on what you find. Two project goals are to (1) look more closely at RHS’s school data, and (2) compare RHS with others in Illinois on several data points.

**Instructions**:

* Go to the **Illinois School Report Card website** at <https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/>.
* Type **Richwoods High School** in the box that says School, District, City, or County name and click on it when it pops up.
* **Click on the links on the left to find information to fill in the chart about RHS**. I have filled in some of the information to get you started. You may want to check to see if there is newer data available than what I have reported (I made the chart over the summer!).
* Always **report the most recent data** you can find. It might be as current as 2018, or it might be as old as 2016.
* **Explore** other data you are interested in that is not requested on the chart. There is a lot to learn about RHS!
* Next, **choose two additional high schools (or K-12 schools, also called Unit schools**) in Illinois to explore. Try to find two that are different from each other and different from RHS. You may want to look at a suburban school, a rural school, or a Chicago public school. You may want to look at schools in different parts of the state. The point is to examine a variety of schools and look at the same data points, so you can do some comparing.
* If you go to the **State Snapshot** link from the Home page of the website, you will see a small map of Illinois on the right. You can try playing with that to choose a couple of different schools. Also, look at the **Summative Designation** box at the bottom of the same page in the center and try clicking on the higher and lower performing categories.
* After you choose your schools, find the same data to fill in on the chart.

**Reflection**:

Once you have completed the chart, **create a new Word document** and respond to the prompts listed below. Your responses should be written in 12-point font, double spaced, and a total of 500-750 words (2-3 pages). Responses should be organized, thoughtful, and proofread to eliminate spelling and grammar errors. Use the 4-part heading and number your responses.

1. Briefly **describe each school** using some of the specific data you found. Imagine you are describing the school to someone who has high school aged students and plans to move to Illinois. They want to get a bit of information about a few of the schools in the state to help them decide where they will live.
2. What are some striking or significant **similarities** and/or **differences** in the data you found across the schools? Were you surprised by what you learned? Why or why not?
3. Besides the audience you wrote to in prompt 1, who else would be interested in the data you explored and why?
4. What is some information the Illinois Report Card does NOT tell you about a school? To whom might this information be useful and why?
5. Look across the data on low income students. Do you see any trends that might corelate with other student data variables? For example, when you look across schools, do you see that more low income students means lower achievement rates or more racial minorities?
6. Why does this data matter to you as a future educator? What stakes do you have in this information?
7. What questions or concerns do you have about the way the data are gathered or reported?