

Standards Based Report Cards

Why will report cards be changing?

- We have shifted our instructional practices to align to specific learning targets that we want each child to master.
- When assessing students, we want to know if they have mastered each learning target.
- We will now report how well students are performing in relation to the learning targets that are being taught and assessed.

What does this change mean?

- Traditional letter grades often include aspects of student effort and behavior. Now student performance will always be reported separately from effort and behavior.
- Traditional letter grades were calculated by averaging student performance on a variety of tasks covering a variety of skills. Now students will be assessed on skills separately and their performance will be reported for each standard.
- In traditional grading, there was often a discrepancy among the way grades were calculated. Some grades included just quizzes and tests, while others included more homework and projects. Now student ratings will be always based on their ability to demonstrate proficiency on specific learning targets.

What will this do for my child?

- Your child will know what is expected in his/her learning and how he/she can demonstrate mastery.
- Your child will know his/her strengths and areas for improvement.
- Your child will receive multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of a learning target and will not be penalized for starting with no mastery.
- With a shift of focus from grades and how much an assignment is worth to learning and mastering content, students are freer to take educational risks as they learn and practice.

What can parents expect?

- You will begin to see student work that is graded on a 4 point scale rather than points possible or a letter grade.
- The 4 point scale represents the following levels of mastery:
 - 1- Even with support the student is struggling to master the skill
 - 2- With support the student is able to show mastery
 - **3- The student can independently demonstrate mastery**
 - 4- The student independently applies the skill at a deeper, more complex level than expected