

Report Cards

What do report cards mean?

- Write down what report cards mean to you. What do they “report”?
- When you think about grades, what does it mean to receive an “A” or an “F”? Or an E,S, or N?



What's in a grade?

- Traditional grading is based on percentages. Those percentages come from assignments, tests, and projects.
- Other factors are often worked into the percentages as well. These might include participation, attendance, preparedness, or perhaps even if a book was covered in time.
- Often late assignments receive lowered grades or are not accepted.
- In some classes mistakes can be corrected and in others not.

Consistency?

- Our current grading practices vary greatly from room to room and school to school.
- Receiving a “good grade” does not necessarily mean the standards have been met. Conversely, receiving a poor grade does not necessarily mean the standards have not been met.

Why are we discussing this?

- The need for changes to be made to our Elementary Report Card has been in discussion for a number of years.
- The transition to electronic report card systems is an opportunity to restructure the design. Making changes now would be more efficient than making changes after the system is in place.
- Across the country school districts are adopting standards based models.

What is Standards Based Reporting?

- Based on state standards
- Offers specific information regarding a student's mastery of state standards
- Philosophical change

Philosophical Change?

- Standards based reporting is based on the degree to which a standard has been met. What does this mean for everyday assignments?
 - Focused on mastery of the skill/standard
 - Traditional “correcting” changes as it is no longer used to formulate a grade based on percentages
 - Separates knowledge & skills from work habits

What does it look like?

- Many models are currently in use across the country
 - Examples from other communities have been included in your packets
- A Duluth model is currently being designed

FAQ

- What if a standard hasn't been addressed in a grading period?
- Will participation, work habits, and social skills still be reported?
- Are other schools using this at all levels?
- Are we doing this for sure?