



**L.E. Scarr Resource Center**

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**January 2020**

**Dear Parent/Guardian:**

A copy of your child's report card is enclosed. As a District, we believe a report card should do three things:

1. Report on the whole child
2. Show your child's current performance on Washington State Standards
3. Report current performance on the Interdisciplinary Skills, Attributes, and Content Knowledge from the Lake Washington School District Student Profile ([https://www.lwsd.org/uploaded/Website/About\\_Us/Student-Profile.pdf](https://www.lwsd.org/uploaded/Website/About_Us/Student-Profile.pdf))

**Grade Marks:**

You will find an explanation of what each of the grade marks mean at the bottom of the report card. Teachers do not teach all Standards at once, so they place a "/" in the strands that have not yet been taught. Parents will see grades in these slashed areas in the June report card. A "+" is being used this year for Science Standards. Further information on Science reporting is included on the opposite side of this letter.

**Trend Grading:**

Teachers collect a variety of scores on in-class tests, assignments, and quizzes. Each score is then entered into an electronic grade book (Skyward) which shows trends of growth for each Standard. Trends are calculated using a formula that tracks progress over time. These trends run for the entire school year so we have a precise understanding of how your child is performing on each Standard at all times. At report card time, we take a "snapshot" of how your child is performing.

**Level "2" Scores:**

Scores on the first report card of the year reflect learning on new grade level Standards so parents will likely see some "2's" on their child's report card. A score of "2" reflects that a student is making progress or "approaching" Standard. It is very important that parents do not equate a "2" with an "F" on an A-F letter grade scoring scale. In a Standards-based grading system, a "2" truly means a child is making progress on the Standard being measured.

**Students with an IEP:**

If your child is on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) and is receiving Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) in reading, writing and/or math, an asterisk (\*) will appear on the report card in the content area(s) where they qualify for SDI. The asterisk indicates "Addendum attached" which refers to a "Measurable Annual Goals – Student Progress Report" prepared by your child's special education teacher.

Thank you for taking the time to review your child's report card and for supporting your child's education. Our partnership with you in helping your child succeed and grow is very important to us.

**Sincerely,**

Tim Krieger

Director of Data, Research, and Accountability



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Dear Families,

This is an exciting time in science education as we transition to the new [Washington State Science and Learning Standards \(WSSLS\)](#)! One of the changes that comes with the WSSLS, also known as the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) is a greater focus on Science and Engineering Practices: what real scientists and engineers do as a part of their work. Emphasis on practices, rather than solely on memorizing scientific facts, better prepares students for future opportunities within the fields of science and engineering. This focus also allows all students to become more scientifically literate citizens who can think critically about issues that matter, from healthcare to the environment.

With this change in standards, curriculum materials, and instructional practices, this year's report card will look different in science. The three practices we will be focusing on this year are: **Developing and Using Models**, **Constructing Explanations/Arguments**, and **Engaging in Argument with Evidence**. The growth of your child's skills in these areas has been evaluated by their teacher as they progress through their new science units. A summary of how your child is developing in science will be provided to you in the report card comments or discussed during your conference. In June, a single cumulative grade on their progress with the science practices will be recorded within the "Processes" category on the report card.

If you would like to know what the units are that your student is learning throughout the year, please refer to this Amplify Science resource: <https://amplify.com/programs/amplify-science/whats-included/>. If you have specific questions on the units, new curriculum materials, or assessments, please feel free to ask your child's teacher or you may also contact Hanna Seidler ([hseidler@lwsd.org](mailto:hseidler@lwsd.org)), our K-12 Science Curriculum Specialist, or Jen Rose ([jerose@lwsd.org](mailto:jerose@lwsd.org)), Director of Teaching and Learning. We are excited to support teachers and students in this new curriculum and happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

*Jen Rose*

Dr. Jen Rose  
Director of Teaching and Learning