

Liberty Elementary School

Parent Guide to Standards Based Report Cards

Liberty Elementary School utilizes a standards-based grading and reporting system for all 1st and 2nd grade students. Standards-based report cards inform how students are performing on a set of clearly defined grade-level standards. Unlike traditional report cards, standards-based grading measures students' knowledge of material by reporting the most recent, consistent level of performance on grade-level content standards. The following assessment methods may be utilized to determine your child's progress toward mastery of the standards:

- common written assessments (formative and summative)
- student performance and participation during class activities and discussions
- performance tasks
- teacher observation (whole group and small group)
- one-on-one assessments (teacher and student)
- class work, projects, and writing samples

The grading scale is as follows:

Exceeds E - Student consistently and independently demonstrates the ability to produce work at a higher level than the grade level standard indicates.

Meets M - Student consistently demonstrates mastery of the grade level standard.

Progressing P - Student is working toward mastery of the grade level standard but is not yet consistent.

Not Meeting N - Student is unable to demonstrate mastery of the grade level standard.

The goal for students at each grade level is to reach an M (Meets) in all areas by the end of the school year.

GUIDED READING LEVELS

Also reported is the instructional guided reading level. The following is the expected level for students at various points in the year:

1st Grade:

Expected Levels

1st 9 Weeks: D

2nd 9 Weeks: F

3rd 9 Weeks: H

4th 9 Weeks: J

2nd Grade:

Expected Levels

1st 9 Weeks: J

2nd 9 Weeks: L

3rd 9 Weeks: M

4th 9 Weeks: N

THE BENEFITS OF STANDARDS BASED GRADING

For Students:

- Learning targets are clearly defined and aligned with state standards.
- Students are offered multiple opportunities and ways to demonstrate proficiency
- Students monitor their own progress toward the achievement of specified targets
- Specific feedback on progress helps build self-esteem, pride, and motivation for students

For Parents

- Report card grades are less mysterious and have more meaning
- Parents are aware of what their child knows, is able to do, and next steps for progress
- Parents know in what areas their child needs more support

For Teacher

- Teachers know exactly where students stand in their progress toward learning targets and what support needs to be provided
- Teachers of the same courses have aligned expectations and standards
- Assessment results help teachers determine when students need extra help and when they need more challenging work

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher.

