



**NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN W. ROBERTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SALT BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

September 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are writing to inform you of changes that were made to our K-6 Report Cards which will be implemented during the 2019-2020 school year. The revisions were researched and completed by a district-wide committee made up of teachers, department heads, and administrators. The committee's goals were as follows:

- Create shorter documents that align with the updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards and skills.
- Provide clear and concise information on student progress to parents.
- Ensure consistency between grade levels in language and grading whenever possible.
- Review the grading scales and number of performance levels (ie. three levels versus four).
- Review grading in trimesters instead of quarterly marking periods.

The revised report cards are designed to provide you with an accurate representation of your child's progress according to standards, including the learning level attained. The report cards will also inform you about the areas in which additional support is needed. The most significant changes are noted below:

	Old Report Card	New Report Card
Items on Report Card	Items were aligned to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.	Items are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
Grades K-3 Overall Subject Area Grading Scale	<p>K-1 No overall letter grade was given for each subject area.</p> <p>2-3 Overall letter grades were given for each subject area as follows: B - Beginning D - Developing S - Secure</p>	<p>K-3 No overall letter grade will be given for each subject area.</p>

<p align="center">Grades K-3 Subject Area Standards Grading Scale</p>	<p>K-1 Grades were given in each standard within each subject area as follows: B - Beginning D - Developing S - Secure</p> <p>2-3 Grades were given in each standard within each subject area as follows: + = Area of Strength / = Meets Grade Level Expectations - = Area of Need</p>	<p>K-3 Grades will be given in each standard within each subject area as follows: 4 = The student consistently exceeds expectations. 3 = The student successfully meets expectations. 2 = The student is progressing toward expectations. 1 = The student needs support in order to meet expectations.</p>
<p align="center">Grades 4-6 Overall Subject Area Grading Scale</p>	<p>4-6 Overall grades were given as follows: A = 95 - 100 A- = 90 - 94 B = 85 - 89 B- = 80 - 84 C = 75 - 79 C- = 70-74 D = 65 - 69 D- = 60 - 64 F = 59 and below *Note the “-” for the lower range of each letter grade.</p>	<p>4-6 Overall grades will be given as follows: A+ = 95 - 100 A = 90 - 94 B+ = 85 - 89 B = 80 - 84 C+ = 75 - 79 C = 70-74 D+ = 65 - 69 D = 60 - 64 F = 59 and below *Note the “+” for the upper range of each letter grade.</p>
<p align="center">Grades 4-6 Subject Area Standards Grading Scale</p>	<p>4-6 Grades were given in each standard within each subject area as follows: + = Area of Strength / = Meets Grade Level Expectations - = Area of Need</p>	<p>4-6 Grades will be given in each standard within each subject area as follows: 4 = The student consistently exceeds expectations. 3 = The student successfully meets expectations. 2 = The student is progressing toward expectations. 1 = The student needs support in order to meet expectations.</p>

Trimesters

The grading/marketing periods will change from quarterly (4) marking periods to trimester (3) marking periods. This change will provide more consecutive time for teachers to challenge and support students’ academic, social, and emotional growth between each grading period. The longer grading period will allow for more information, data, and grades, which will assist teachers with a more accurate representation of student progress. The longer grading periods will also provide more time for student growth to be evident.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences between parents and teachers will continue to provide an opportunity for reporting student progress and discussing students' social and work skills. Conferences for students in grades 1-6 will be held in early November which does not represent a change in the district's schedule and calendar. All students in grades 1-4 will be scheduled for a conference while conferences for students in grades 5-6 will be scheduled as needed. Conferences for students in Kindergarten will be held during the second week of December. These dates will coincide with the release of the Kindergarten Report Cards to parents.

The table below outlines the trimesters and parent-teacher conferences for the 19-20 school year:

<u>2019 - 2020</u>
<u>Trimester 1</u> : September 4th - December 5th
<u>1st Grade-6th Grade Parent-Teacher Conferences</u> : November 4th - 6th
<u>Kindergarten Conferences</u> : December 11th-13th
<u>Trimester 2</u> : December 6th - March 16th
<u>Trimester 3</u> : March 17th - June 23rd

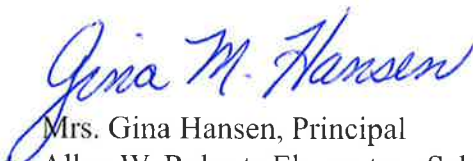
Report Card Dissemination

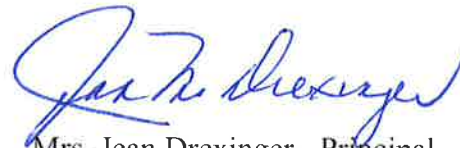
Parents of students in grades 1-6 will receive electronic copies of the report cards after the completion of the first and second trimesters. Printed copies will be sent home at the end of the school year. Parents of students in Kindergarten will receive a printed copy of the report card during the parent-teacher conferences in December and at the end of the school year. Report cards for the second trimester will be disseminated electronically.

The process of evaluating and revising the K-6 Report Cards began with teacher feedback about best practices and continued with almost two years of collaboration and hard work. The committee produced more updated and concise documents that align with curriculum and clearly convey student progress to parents. Every effort was made to ensure that the reporting process remains consistent from one grade level to another.

We look forward to meeting you at our upcoming Back-to-School Nights when we will also provide presentations regarding our new K-6 Report Cards. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact your school's Principal.

Sincerely,


Mrs. Gina Hansen, Principal
Allen W. Roberts Elementary School


Mrs. Jean Drexinger, Principal
Salt Brook Elementary School