



**CAREER AND COLLEGE**  
 Gifted Services  
 Excellence in Education

Onslow County Schools

# AIG Focus

**Monthly Goal: Student sets high standards and challenging goals for himself/herself.**

## Goal Setting

Learning to set goals is an important part of growing up and learning responsibility for children. From building confidence to teaching perseverance, helping kids set goals is key for achieving success both inside the classroom and out.

### Types of Goals Your Child Should be Setting

- **Grade-based goals:** These goals should be realistic, measurable, and achievable.
- **Habit-based goals:** These goals support grade-based goals, working hand-in-hand to accomplish a bigger goal.

### Helping Your Child Achieve Goals

- **Start with short-term goals.** Short-term goals will help your child see and appreciate what he or she is able to accomplish.
- **Shift into long-term goals.** These goals allow your child to see what can be accomplished with ongoing focus and determination.

### Evaluating and Achieving Goals

- **Revisit and readjust.** Revisiting your child's goals helps determine if there are any problems, if more help is needed, or if additional steps need to be added.
- **Offer positive affirmations and encouragement.** It's important to help your son or daughter remain committed to his or her goals, and words of encouragement go a long way.
- **Set new goals when they have been achieved.** This will encourage your child to continue thinking about the next goal he or she can work toward.

Setting goals with your child helps to teach perseverance, build confidence, and demonstrate what can be accomplished with hard work.

To read more about goal setting and to see goal examples, read "[Types of Goals Your Child Should be Setting \(and Why They're Important for Success\)](#)" from Oxford Learning.

## Director's Discussion

As we move into October this can be a time when some kids are finding their footing, others may be looking for something more, and still others may be needing a little extra support. The great thing about setting goals is they keep us always forward focused. Perhaps the best thing we can do for our kids (and ourself) is to set and share our goals. Sharing goals helps our kids know that we too are learning and growing. Additionally, our kids often are the best accountability partners we can ever find. Afterall, they do not let us get away with forgetting our own homework.

During the school year our AIG specialists ask each identified student to share their goals (academic, social, athletic, etc.) as well as to self-assess on some of the criteria from NC Portrait of a Graduate. Ask you child (or the AIG specialist) what your child has shared. Sometimes it is interesting to see what kids say and share at school versus at home.

If there are some learning goals that you would like to see your child work toward, please do reach out to your AIG specialist and see what plans we can all make to help make them come to reality.

Dr. Michael Elder

Director, College and Career Readiness

## A note from your specialist...

**Here is a snapshot of what we have been doing in the AIG pullout groups.**

**4th Grade Reading:** Students are being introduced to Greek and Latin word roots and how to use them to find the meaning of new words. This will be an ongoing study throughout the year. Students will also be studying graphic novels. In this unit we will learn about common elements of graphic novels with a focus on theme and mood. Students will be writing a biography in the format of a graphic novel.

**5th Grade Reading:** Students will be studying the classic poem "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe. We will be focusing on poetic elements such as imagery, symbolism, and tone and how they impact the overall meaning of "The Raven". Students will be completing an artistic representation of "The Raven" at the end of the unit.

### **4th/5th Grade Math:**

Students are working on hands on equations and algebraic concepts. Students will be learning how to use inverse operations to solve for unknown variables to balance an equation.

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