

INTRODUCTION

Hyannis West Elementary is using a Standards-Based Report Card to report on student progress. The change came from the belief that our previous report card did not fully communicate what students are expected to know and be able to do. Similar changes have taken place throughout school districts state-wide. The format of the report card helps you better understand your child's achievement of essential skills based on the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. The Hyannis West Standards-Based Report Card provides parents more information about their child's level of performance within each content area.



Our report card will be issued three times per year (a trimester system). The report card has two significant changes. First, the English Language Arts (ELA) and Math subject areas include many more specific items relating to the knowledge and skills your child should attain at each grade level. Secondly, instead of letter grades, a four point system will be used to reflect your child's progress toward meeting each standard. **The assessment rubric for ELA, Math, Science and History/Social Studies is as follows:**

4-Applying Standards at complex levels/Advanced: The student is meeting the grade level standard presented in the current trimester. The student applies the key concepts, processes and skills required of the standard at a complex level.

3-Meeting Standard/Proficient: The student is meeting the grade level standard presented in the current trimester. The student grasps and applies the key concepts, processes and skills required of the standard.

2-Making progress toward the standard/Needs Improvement: The student is making progress toward the grade level standard presented in the current trimester. The student is beginning to grasp and apply the key concepts, processes and skills required of the standard.

1-Making minimal progress toward the standard/Warning: The student is making minimal progress toward the grade level standard presented in the current trimester. The student is having difficulty grasping key concepts, processes and skills required of the standard.

X-not evaluated during the trimester

Additionally, there are two other assessment rubrics on our report card. The first describes Student Development as pertains to Interpersonal Skills and 21st Century Skills/Technology.

Assessment Rubric-Development

C-Consistently meets grade level expectation

S-Sometimes meets grade level expectations

R-Rarely meets grade level expectations

X-Not evaluated during the trimester

The other rubric is for Specialist Subjects (i.e. Art, PE, Music, etc.).

Assessment Rubric-Specialist Subjects

O-Outstanding effort and participation

S-Satisfactory effort and participation

N-Needs improvement in effort and participation

X-Not evaluated during the trimester

Key terms

Rubric - A set of guidelines used to score or rate a student's oral or written performance and states the characteristics being assessed with clear performance criteria and a rating scale.

Standard - A statement that identifies what students should know and be able to do.

Assessment - The ongoing process of gathering data or giving feedback about a student's performance in order to determine a student's strength and weaknesses, improve instruction and document student progress.

***The Standards Based Report Card is available in Portuguese and Spanish**

Visit the Hyannis West website at www.barnstable.k12.ma.us/hywest/

You will find grading rubrics for ELA and Math for each grade level as well as a copy of all grade level report cards.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does the Standard-Based Report Card compare to the letter grade system?

Letter grades measure how well students do in comparison to their classmates. Our report card measures how well an individual student is doing in relation to the grade level standard. This will give parents a better understanding of their child's strengths and weaknesses.

Is a 4 similar to getting a Grade of A?

It is important to understand a 4 **does not** mean a child is working on standards of a higher grade level. It means that a student is demonstrating mastery of a standard at a complex level. For example, if a child receives a 4 on the standard *Estimates and finds area and perimeter* not only can he solve the mathematical problem but he can put into writing the steps taken to find the perimeter and area while using the proper mathematical vocabulary.

What should I know about trimesters?

In a trimester system report cards are issued three times per year (December, March and June). Each trimester will be assessed independently of the other two. The grade your child receives is reflective of the lessons in that trimester alone.

Hyannis West Elementary School

Standards-Based Report Card

A Guide for Parents

