



## West Orange Public Schools

179 Eagle Rock Avenue  
West Orange, New Jersey 07052  
(973) 669-5400, ext. 20515 Fax (973) 243-6059

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**Assistant Superintendent for  
Curriculum and Instruction**

**Mrs. Eveny de Mendez**

January 6, 2021

Dear K-5 Parents / Guardians,

As of December 21, access to your child's K-5 Standards Based Report Card for the first trimester of the 2020-2021 school year via the parent portal has been provided. After years of research-based committee work and extensive conversations around standards-based instruction, the district is lastly implementing a report card that is aligned with standard educational practices for reporting learning outcomes of K-5 students and clearly communicates what students are expected to know and be able to do as outlined by the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

### *Purpose of a Standards-Based Report Card*

Standards based instruction and grading identifies the most important content area concepts and skills in each grade level that are taught and assessed. Student tasks are designed and evaluated to determine where a student is in his or her development of mastery in toward the standards being assessed.

### *Standards-Based Grading*

A standards based report card aligns grading with the expected student learning outcomes as defined by the NJ Student Learning Standards. It provides students, parents and guardians with clear connections between the grade level standards, what a student is expected to learn in a particular grade level, how his/her progress toward meeting the standards is assessed, and consistent grading practices across classrooms and schools.

Standards-based report cards differ from traditional report cards in that the report card language is directly aligned with the core content standards that are assessed in the curriculum. The language of a standards-based report card identifies how well a child is mastering each concept and skill as it relates to the standards, as opposed to quantifying a collection of skills by calculating averages for an overall subject area. Instead of traditional “A” / “B” letter grades, students receive grades that show how well they have mastered the grade level standards.

By evaluating a student’s progress toward specific standards within each subject, parents, students, and teachers can be better informed about any areas in which a student is excelling, mastering or requiring additional work. Additionally, classroom teachers are able to identify student strengths and areas for growth in a standards-based learning environment fostering a more informed approach to individual student instruction.

### *Ensuring Consistency*

To ensure consistency with district standards-based grading practices, teachers use rubrics and benchmarks to ensure expectations for students are the same across classes and schools. Student progress toward meeting the standards is measured by a consistent application of a common grading criterion for each of skills and concepts a student is expected to learn and rubrics demonstrate the progressions that should be made from one trimester to the next.

### *Standards-Based Marking Key*

The report card is specific to each grade level, provides feedback on a student’s progress toward Meeting, Approaching or Developing each of the standards addressed in the trimester. Upon our return to in person instruction via the hybrid model, “EXCEEDS” will be added to the marking key to identify the concepts and skills in which a student is surpassing the expectations of the NJ Student Learning Standards.

### *Reading & Accessing Your Child’s Standards-Based Report Card*

In the illustration below, you will find key features of the report card, to include:

- Attendance (absent, tardy)
- Grading Key (indicates your child’s progress toward meeting each standard)
- Standards assessed in the first trimester (T1)

You can easily access your child's report card by logging in to the district's Parent Portal in Powerschool. A quick guide is available by clicking on the link below.

### [PARENT GUIDE TO ACCESS ELEMENTARY REPORT CARD VIA PARENT PORTAL](#)

If you have not yet signed up to the district's [Parent Portal](#), please contact your child's school in order to create a Parent Portal account in PowerSchool and obtain your access ID (code). If you already have an account and have forgotten your password, use the "forgot password" feature on the [Powerschool login page](#).

**Attendance**

| Attendance  | T1 |
|-------------|----|
| Days Absent | 2  |
| Times Tardy | 0  |

**Grading Key**

**Meets (M):** -Student consistently meets grade level standards and expectations. Student performance is characterized by the ability to apply skills with accuracy and independence expected at this grade level, as demonstrated by their E-Learning experience.

**Approaches (A):** -Student is progressing in understanding, however, grade level skills are not yet mastered. Student requires additional practice and support in order to meet proficient levels of understanding, as demonstrated by their E-Learning experience.

**Developing (D):** -Student demonstrates limited knowledge, skills and understanding for this area, which are below the expectations of the standards at this grade.

**Not Applicable (N/A):** - Not applicable

| Teacher Name:                                                                     | T1 | T2 | T3 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| <b>Language Arts 2nd Grade</b>                                                    |    |    |    |
| <b>Reading: Literary and Informational Text</b>                                   |    |    |    |
| Retells stories/identifies main topic with key details                            | M  |    |    |
| Reads at grade level                                                              | M  |    |    |
| Asks and answers questions by referring to the text                               | M  |    |    |
| Understands language and vocabulary                                               | M  |    |    |
| <b>Foundational Skills</b>                                                        |    |    |    |
| Applies phonics and word analysis skills                                          | M  |    |    |
| Reads with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension                          | M  |    |    |
| <b>Writing</b>                                                                    |    |    |    |
| Follows the structure of the genre                                                | M  |    |    |
| Strengthens writing by planning, revising, and editing                            | M  |    |    |
| Integrates information and evidence from text/digital resources on the same topic | M  |    |    |

| Teacher Name:                                                                                                                          | T1 | T2 | T3 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| <b>Science Grade 2</b>                                                                                                                 |    |    |    |
| <b>Understanding of Scientific Principles</b>                                                                                          |    |    |    |
| Disciplinary Core Ideas: Matter and Its Interactions, Ecosystems, Biological Evolution, Earth's Place in the Universe, Earth's Systems | M  |    |    |
| <b>Application of Scientific Principles</b>                                                                                            |    |    |    |
| Engagement in the Science and Engineering Practices and application of Crosscutting Concepts to explain phenomena                      | M  |    |    |
| <b>Teacher Comments:</b>                                                                                                               |    |    |    |
| Interested and eager to learn                                                                                                          |    |    |    |
| <b>Teacher Name:</b>                                                                                                                   |    |    |    |
| <b>Social Studies Grade 2</b>                                                                                                          |    |    |    |
| <b>Historic and Civic Related Concepts</b>                                                                                             |    |    |    |
| Develops the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions as productive citizens in local, national and global communities          | M  |    |    |

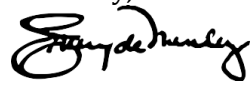
**Standards Assessed in Trimester 1**

#### *Elementary Town Hall*

On Wednesday, January 20th at 6:30 PM, the district will host a K-5 Elementary Townhall to present and answer questions around the instructional program, curriculum and assessment, instructional strategies in virtual and hybrid instruction,, and the K-5 Standards-Based Report Card. We invite you to virtually attend via Zoom and will post links to the Townhall as the date approaches.

Thank you for your continued support and feedback.

Sincerely,



Eveny de Mendez  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction



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**Assistant Superintendent for  
Curriculum and Instruction**

**Mrs. Eveny de Mendez**

6 de enero de 2020

Estimados padres / tutores de K-5:

A partir del 21 de diciembre, se ha proporcionado acceso a la boleta de calificaciones basada en los estándares K-5 de su hijo para el primer trimestre del año escolar 2020-2021 a través del portal para padres. Después de años de trabajo del comité basado en la investigación y extensas conversaciones sobre la instrucción basada en los estándares, el distrito finalmente está implementando un Reporte de Calificaciones que está alineado con las prácticas educativas estándar para informar los resultados de aprendizaje de los estudiantes de K-5 y comunica claramente lo que se espera que los estudiantes sepan y puedan hacer como indicado en los *Estándares de Aprendizaje Estudiantil de Nueva Jersey*.

### ***Propósito de Reporte de Calificaciones Basado en Estándares***

La instrucción y la calificación basadas en estándares identifican los conceptos y habilidades más importantes del área de contenido en cada nivel de grado que se enseñan y evalúan. Las tareas de los estudiantes se diseñan y evalúan para determinar dónde se encuentra un estudiante en su desarrollo de dominio hacia los estándares que se evalúan.

### ***Calificación Basada en Estándares***

Un reporte de calificaciones basado en estándares alinea la calificación con los resultados de aprendizaje esperados de los estudiantes según lo definido por los *Estándares de Aprendizaje de los Estudiantes de NJ*. Proporciona a los estudiantes, padres y tutores conexiones claras entre los estándares de nivel de grado, lo que se espera que aprenda un estudiante en un nivel de grado en particular, cómo se evalúa su progreso hacia el cumplimiento de los estándares y prácticas de calificación consistentes en las aulas y escuelas.

Los reportes de calificaciones basados en estándares difieren de los reportes de calificaciones tradicionales en que el lenguaje de los reportes de calificaciones está directamente alineado con los estándares de contenido básico que se evalúan en el plan de estudios. El lenguaje de un reporte de calificaciones basado en estándares identifica qué tan bien un niño está dominando cada concepto y habilidad en relación con los estándares, en lugar de cuantificar una colección de habilidades mediante el cálculo de promedios para un área temática general. En lugar de las calificaciones tradicionales con letras "A" / "B", los estudiantes reciben calificaciones que muestran qué tan bien han dominado los estándares del nivel de grado.

Al evaluar el progreso de un estudiante hacia estándares específicos dentro de cada materia, los padres, estudiantes y maestros pueden estar mejor informados sobre cualquier área en la que un estudiante esté sobresaliendo, dominando o requiriendo trabajo adicional. Además, los

maestros del salón de clases pueden identificar las fortalezas de los estudiantes y las áreas de crecimiento en un entorno de aprendizaje basado en estándares que fomenta un enfoque más informado para la instrucción individual de los estudiantes.

## Garantizar la Coherencia

Para garantizar la coherencia con las prácticas de calificación basadas en estándares del distrito, los maestros utilizan rúbricas y puntos de referencia para garantizar que las expectativas para los estudiantes sean las mismas en todas las clases y escuelas. El progreso del estudiante hacia el cumplimiento de los estándares se mide mediante la aplicación constante de un criterio de calificación común para cada una de las habilidades y conceptos que se espera que el estudiante aprenda y las rúbricas demuestran las progresiones que se deben realizar de un trimestre al siguiente.

## Clave Basada en Estándares

El reporte de calificaciones es específico para cada nivel de grado, brinda retroalimentación sobre el progreso de un estudiante hacia el cumplimiento, aproximación o desarrollo de cada uno de los estándares tratados en el trimestre. Al regresar a la instrucción en persona a través del modelo híbrido, se agregará "EXCEDE" a la clave de calificación para identificar los conceptos y habilidades en las que un estudiante está superando las expectativas de los *Estándares de Aprendizaje Estudiantil de NJ*.

## Leer y Acceder el Reporte de Calificaciones Basado en Estándares de su Hijo

En la ilustración, encontrará características clave de la boleta de calificaciones, que incluyen:

- Asistencia (ausente, tarde)
- Clave de calificación (indica el progreso de su hijo hacia el cumplimiento de cada estándar)
- Estándares evaluados en el primer trimestre (T1)

Puede acceder fácilmente a la boleta de calificaciones de su hijo iniciando sesión en el Portal para padres del distrito en Powerschool. Una guía rápida está disponible haciendo clic en el enlace a continuación.

**Attendance**

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|-------------|--|----|
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**Grading Key**

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| Reads at grade level                                                                                                                   | M  |    |    |
| Asks and answers questions by referring to the text                                                                                    | M  |    |    |
| Understands language and vocabulary                                                                                                    | M  |    |    |
| <b>Foundational Skills</b>                                                                                                             |    |    |    |
| Applies phonics and word analysis skills                                                                                               | M  |    |    |
| Reads with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension                                                                               | M  |    |    |
| <b>Writing</b>                                                                                                                         |    |    |    |
| Follows the structure of the genre                                                                                                     | M  |    |    |
| Strengthens writing by planning, revising, and editing                                                                                 | M  |    |    |
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| <b>Teacher Name:</b>                                                                                                                   |    |    |    |
| <b>Science Grade 2</b>                                                                                                                 |    |    |    |
| <b>Understanding of Scientific Principles</b>                                                                                          |    |    |    |
| Disciplinary Core Ideas: Matter and Its Interactions, Ecosystems, Biological Evolution, Earth's Place in the Universe, Earth's Systems | M  |    |    |
| <b>Application of Scientific Principles</b>                                                                                            |    |    |    |
| Engagement in the Science and Engineering Practices and application of Crosscutting Concepts to explain phenomena                      | M  |    |    |
| <b>Teacher Comments:</b>                                                                                                               |    |    |    |
| Interested and eager to learn                                                                                                          |    |    |    |
| <b>Teacher Name:</b>                                                                                                                   |    |    |    |
| <b>Social Studies Grade 2</b>                                                                                                          |    |    |    |
| <b>Historic and Civic Related Concepts</b>                                                                                             |    |    |    |
| Develops the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions as productive citizens in local, national and global communities          | M  |    |    |

**Standards Assessed in Trimester 1**

## [GUÍA PARA PADRES PARA ACCEDER A LA TARJETA DE CALIFICACIONES DE LA PRIMARIA A TRAVÉS DEL PORTAL PARA PADRES](#)

Si aún no se ha registrado en el Portal para padres del distrito, comuníquese con la escuela de su hijo para crear una cuenta en el [Portal para Padres](#) en PowerSchool y obtener su identificación de acceso (código). Si ya tiene una cuenta y ha olvidado su contraseña, utilice la función de "contraseña olvidada" en la página de inicio de sesión de [Powerschool](#).

## Ayuntamiento de Primaria

El miércoles, 20 de enero, a las 6:30 p.m, el distrito organizará un ayuntamiento de primaria K-5 para presentar y responder preguntas sobre el programa de instrucción, el plan de estudios y la evaluación, las estrategias de instrucción en la instrucción virtual e híbrida y el reporte de calificaciones basado en estándares. Lo invitamos a asistir virtualmente a través de Zoom y publicaremos enlaces al ayuntamiento a medida que se acerque la fecha.

Gracias por su continuo apoyo y comentarios.

Sinceramente,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eveny de Méndez', written in a cursive style.

Eveny de Méndez  
Superintendente asistente de currículo e instrucción