

November 2022

Dear Parents of Kindergarten to Grade 6 Students,

Your child will bring their first report card of the year home in November, and we wanted to make you aware that the format will be different than what you have seen in previous years. Beginning this year, we will introduce standardized **outcome-based report cards** across the division.

What are outcome-based report cards?

The Alberta Education curriculum is based on students achieving specific outcomes. Outcomes describe the specific knowledge, skills, and understandings we expect students to reach by the end of a particular grade level. Our division is using the new K-6 curriculum rollout as an opportunity to standardize and improve how we communicate student achievement with our parents. We have adopted an outcome-based model report card that will help you understand how well your child has achieved each key learning outcome in each subject.

The goal of outcome-based report cards is to:

- Provide parents with a clear description of their child's learning
- Improve communication with parents about the student's achievement relative to provincial expectations and learning outcomes
- Contain clear learning targets for students, teachers, and parents
- Be a conversation starter between parents and teachers about a student's knowledge of learning outcomes.

Why is the division making this change?

Currently, the division has various report card formats and ways of reporting student learning that differ from school to school. Standardizing outcome-based report cards will:

- Help division administration ensure all students, regardless of school, are achieving similar levels of success and identify any gaps
- Assist teachers across the division in collaborating and working together in improving student learning while speaking a similar language
- Streamline the actions of those supporting the creation of student report cards on a division level

How will I know how my child is doing?

The new curriculum divides each subject into **Organizing ideas, Learning Outcomes and Knowledge, Understandings**, and **Skills and Procedures (KUPS)**. Your child's report card will see each of the four core subjects broken down into the learning outcomes for each subject. Students will be assigned an **academic achievement indicator (see below)** as they complete learning outcomes. In addition to these indicators, teachers will provide more detailed comments to parents on the report card to help you understand exactly how your child is doing. We encourage you to contact your child's teacher whenever you need information or have a concern.

M-Missing	B- Beginning	D-Developing	A-Achieving	E-Excelling
The evidence of learning is insufficient and/or highly incomplete.	The student demonstrates limited or no understanding of the learner outcome.	The student demonstrates an inconsistent and/or partial understanding of the learner outcome.	The student demonstrates a consistent understanding of the learner outcome.	The student demonstrates a mastery level of understanding by being able to transfer knowledge to a new area.

Can I check on my child's progress regularly?

Yes! Your parent PowerSchool app will let you see how your students are doing on the individual skills and procedures at any given time. Please be aware that some schools are implementing PowerSchool for the first time this year. Due to a gradual implementation, they may have limited information in the first reporting period.

We encourage parents to use the Powerschool app regularly to stay informed of their child's progress. If you haven't downloaded the Powerschool app, your school will work with you to get started.

Remember - you can help your school communicate effectively with you by ensuring the school has all your up-to-date and accurate contact information. You may update this information at any time during the school year by contacting the administrative assistant at your child's school.

What changes will I notice relating to the new K-6 curriculum?

For the 2022/2023 school year, K-6 students will be assessed on the new curriculum for ELAL (Language Arts), Physical Education, and Wellness, while K-3 students will also be assessed on the new math curriculum. The assessment for the remaining subjects will be based on the old curriculum. In addition, some individual teachers are piloting or optionally implementing K-6 Science or Grade 4-6 Math. Therefore, those individual teachers will report those courses separately from the report card. Learn more about the new curriculum by visiting alberta.ca/curriculum.aspx.

We encourage parents to provide feedback to their school principals as we implement this new report card so that we can make changes as required. Please get in touch with your school principal if you need more information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Westwind School Division