

Benefits of Standards-Based Report Cards


- All assessments are clearly aligned to the state standards.
- Students have multiple opportunities and ways to demonstrate proficiency.
- Reports are determined by what a student's skills are right now, not an average over time.
- Education becomes more learning-focused so the teacher can spend more time working closely with students individually rather than grading written assignments.
- Teachers know exactly where students stand on their progress toward learning targets and what supports need to be provided.
- Parents can monitor their student's progress on specific skills and see exactly what their students know and are able to do.
- Parents know which areas their child needs more support and where their child should be pushed to higher levels.





Standards-Based Report Cards

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Parent
Brochure



What are standards?

The Common Core standards establish grade-level expectations in Math and English Language Arts. The standards are aligned with college and work expectations, based on evidence and research, and internationally benchmarked so that all students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society.

What is the purpose of grading?

The purpose of grading at FGS is to define expected learning outcomes, accurately reflect what students know and are able to do, and communicate student progress to parents.

Why Standards-Based Report Cards?

A standards-based report card meets the purpose of grading better than traditional letter grades. It offers students, parents, and teachers specific information about strengths and areas of need for individual students as they work through standards during the school year.



How does a standards-based report card improve teaching and learning?

Knowing where students are in their progress toward meeting objectives is crucial for planning classroom instruction.

Teachers teach to the needs of each student. Standards-based assessment gives teachers more information about each student's progress in meeting the level of proficiency required by each standard.

In addition, teachers share the standards with students and parents, helping them to better understand the learning that needs to take place.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TRADITIONAL & STANDARDS-BASED REPORT CARDS

- Traditional grading uses averaging of student work over time and other student characteristics such as work habits, attendance, homework, and effort. Letter grades are often calculated by combining how well the student performed on daily work, quizzes, and tests at a single point in time. They may also reflect how well the student met the teacher's expectations or how much effort the teacher believes was put forth.
- Letter grades do not tell parents which skills their child has mastered or whether they are independently working at, above, or below grade level.
- Standards-based grading focuses solely on a student's academic achievement and progress toward attainment of learning targets. They are continuously monitored and can be mastered throughout the year.