



October 7, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians/Students,

Re: Communicating Student Learning – Kindergarten to Grade 8

Our District's mission is to inspire all learners to reach their full potential and create a lasting legacy for the future. We acknowledge that all students have different strengths and our role as educators is to foster learning. Our District continues to value student assessment as a necessary part of the learning process. Educators have always provided parents/guardians, the answer to "How is my child doing in school?" Our District will continue to do this, but we want to inform you about a shift in how we communicate student learning (report cards) which we believe will benefit all students in Langley.

This new method of communicating student learning focuses on the idea that learning is a journey that has no end. It requires educators and families to have a deeper, multi-dimensional, and holistic view of their child, rather than a simple check mark or letter grade. It involves more care, communication, and collaboration among teachers, students, and their families.

We recognize that this change may cause some concern or raise questions for some. Our commitment to students and families is to provide as much information as possible and be able to respond to your concerns. Our teachers and administrators have been trained on this new assessment process. We are confident in our staff and their ability to guide you through these changes and continue to enhance your child's learning journey in our school system and beyond.

The following information bulletin has been compiled by our leaders in our Instructional Services department. Their role is to develop our District's overarching education strategy including assessment. Our staff are excited to roll out this new way of communicating student learning beginning in this school year.

Sincerely,

Gord Stewart
Superintendent of Schools

Cette notification est importante. S'il vous plaît demandez à quelqu'un pour la traduire afin d'être bien informé(e) à propos de l'école.

مهم جداً، نتمنى انكم تتواصل مع معلمكم لطلب المساعدة في ترجمة هذه المعلومات الى لغتكم.

这是一个很重要的通知。请找人翻译它的内容，这样你就可以及时知道学校的情况。

ਇਹ ਇੱਕ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਕੋਸ਼ਿਸ਼ ਪਾਓ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰਵਾ ਲਓ ਤਾਂ ਕੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਸਹੂਲਤ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਸਕੇ।

이것은 중요한 공지사항입니다. 이것을 번역할 수 있는 분에게 부탁해서 여러분이 학교에서 공지하는 것에 대하여 정확하게 인지할 수 있기 바랍니다.

Đây là một thông báo quan trọng. Xin vui lòng nhờ người dịch để bạn có thể biết thêm những thông tin về trường học.

Este es un aviso importante. Por favor consiga que alguien se lo traduzca para que usted pueda mantenerse bien informado sobre la información de su escuela.

Ito ay isang mahalagang notisya. Mangyari po lamang ay magkaroon ng taong tagasalin ng wika upang ikaw ay maging batid tungkol sa impormasyon ng paaralan.



COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

Information for Families

Where were we prior to September 2020?

Our elementary and middle schools have been using a table to outline student levels of expectation and letter grades.

Kindergarten		Minimally Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding
Grades 1-3	Minimally Meeting	Approaching	Meeting	Exceeding

Our educators have been assigning letter grades (e.g. A, B, C) to assess students in Grade 4 and above.

Where we are now?

Our elementary and middle schools are shifting away from assigning letter grades on report cards. Instead, teachers will use Proficiency Scales as a component of communicating student learning with families. We strongly encourage families to read the following information [here](#).

Proficiency Scale				
	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
	The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning,	The student demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.
	<i>"I don't get it yet, but I'm trying."</i> <i>"I am just getting started and learn best with help."</i>	<i>"I'm starting to get it."</i> <i>"I get some of it, and I am beginning to do more and more on my own."</i>	<i>"I get it."</i> <i>"I can do it on my own."</i>	<i>"I really get it and can teach others how to do it."</i> <i>"I go beyond what is expected of me."</i>

What does this mean for you and your child?

We believe it is important families receive meaningful information about their child(ren)'s learning.

This shift will:

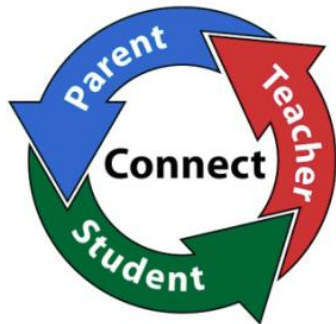
- ✓ Focus on learning as a continuous process
- ✓ Support a better understanding of learning; focus on next steps
- ✓ Encourage student reflection and goal setting
- ✓ Empower students to take ownership of their learning
- ✓ Foster hope, efficacy (belief in themselves) and a culture of learning

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

Information for Families



Why the shift in communicating student learning?



This change in reporting practice can be seen across the province, as school districts work to better align themselves with the Ministry of Education's reporting policy and with BC's redesigned curriculum.

Research is clear that traditional letter grades signal the end of learning by suggesting that a particular subject is mastered or completed, but learning is actually a continuous process. The use of Proficiency Scales will allow teachers to share where a student is currently at in their learning, as well as where they are going next. This model fosters a growth mindset for students, the empowering confidence that our abilities will continue to develop with hard work, effort and determination.

Proficiency Scales, as seen above, describe student learning based on widely held expectations for the grade level and time of year. Proficiency Scales, and the language of 'Emerging', 'Developing', 'Proficient', and 'Extending', will be used to describe student progress in all subject areas within a model of communicating student strengths, areas for growth, and ways to support learning at home and at school.

What can parents/guardians do to prepare for this shift?

We know families have always been involved in their child's education. We want to build on that success and invite parents to continue to engage with teachers and staff moving forward.

As a start, we encourage parents to take part in a **Family Information Session** which will be hosted virtually on **October 15th at 7:00 pm**. The Family Information Session will be hosted by the District's Director of Instruction, Dawne Tomlinson, and District Principal of Instructional Services, George Kozlovic.

To join the info session, click [here](#). Prior to this online meeting, you are able to submit questions [here](#).

If you are unable to participate, please note the event will be recorded and posted on our District website [here](#).

Thank you for supporting your child, and our school, as we make this transition towards communicating student learning in a more meaningful way for both families and students.

