

# Elementary school report cards are changing this year

## Background and purpose

Chesterfield County Public Schools wants to provide parents with detailed information about their children's academic strengths and opportunities for growth. Our teachers also want to provide equity in grading across all elementary schools. This is important because it better identifies where your child is excelling, as well as where your child might need additional assistance.

A committee of parents, teachers and administrators spent two years reviewing options for better reporting student progress. Teachers on the committee piloted several grading recommendations and sample report cards last school year. The result of their collaborative efforts led to the development of a new report card for elementary school students that will debut in the 2015-2016 school year.

## Traditional vs. standards-based report cards

Traditional report cards measured many factors, including how students did in comparison to classmates, how well they behaved and the effort they put into their work. Students received a single letter grade. A standards-based report card measures how well a student is doing in relation to the standards and skills identified in Virginia's Standards of Learning. Chesterfield County Public Schools is moving to a standards-based report card. Students will receive an overall indication of progress and specific updates on individual skills that must be demonstrated according to the standards.

## Will behavior still be addressed?

Behaviors that make a respectful, responsible 21st-century learner will be reported separately but will not affect the way academic progress is reported. Self-management and responsibility are two areas — along with critical thinking, communication, collaboration and technology literacy — that will be assessed using a 1-4 scale.

## How do the new report cards differ from the old ones?

Each report card is unique to the standards taught at that grade level; kindergarten and first-grade report cards are similar as are report cards for grades 2-5. **Grades K-1** will receive a number score indicating their progress during that marking period. In **Grades 2-5**, a traditional letter grade (A-F) will be used for each core subject and a number scale will be used to share progress in each of the areas listed underneath each core subject. Details about letter grades and number scales are printed at the bottom of this page.

## How will progress in the resource areas be reported?

Progress in art, music, physical education and world language (in schools where a world language is offered) will be reported using the 1-4 scale.

## If I have a question, whom should I contact?

Contact your child's teacher or principal or email [ccpsinfo@ccpsnet.net](mailto:ccpsinfo@ccpsnet.net).

### Grades K-1 number scale

- 4 = Student's performance exceeds standard/expectation, and student consistently produces outstanding work.
- 3 = Student's performance meets standard/expectation, and student consistently produces quality work.
- 2 = Student's performance is approaching standard/expectation, and student inconsistently applies learned skills.
- 1 = Student's performance is below standard/expectation, and student frequently requires re-teaching.
- NA = This skill or concept was not assessed during this grading period.

### Grades 2-5 grade range

- A = 90-100 — excellent
- B = 80-89 — very good
- C = 70-79 — satisfactory
- D = 60-69 — minimal progress
- F = below 60 — failing

### Grades 2-5 number scale

- 4 = Student's performance exceeds standard/expectation, and student consistently produces outstanding work.
- 3 = Student's performance meets standard/expectation, and student consistently produces quality work.
- 2 = Student's performance is approaching standard/expectation, and student inconsistently applies learned skills.
- 1 = Student's performance is below standard/expectation, and student frequently requires re-teaching.
- NA = This skill or concept was not assessed during this grading period.



## Chesterfield County Public Schools

[mychesterfieldschools.com](http://mychesterfieldschools.com)  
[ccpsinfo@ccpsnet.net](mailto:ccpsinfo@ccpsnet.net)

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804-639-8915



## September 2015 • kindergarten

This brochure explains why report cards are changing and shows what kindergarten report cards will look like starting this fall.

Dear parents and guardians,

While your family enjoyed a well-earned summer break, Chesterfield County Public Schools was busy preparing for the start of the 2015-16 school year and planning additional ways to support students as they move toward successful futures.

As you most likely know, elementary report cards will change this fall. This change will enable teachers to provide parents with a clearer understanding of students' strengths and weaknesses and areas where parents can provide additional support at home.

The purpose of report cards is to accurately and clearly communicate student achievement to parents, informing them about learning successes and areas in need of improvement. The new standards-based report card accurately reflects what students are learning in academic areas and shows the work-related skills they are developing.

Included as part of this brochure is a kindergarten report card. Please review this report card and discuss it with your child, so that everyone is prepared for the start of the 2015-16 school year. Additional information will be available during back-to-school night, as well as during parent-teacher conferences in November. If you have questions in the meantime, contact your child's principal or visit [mychesterfieldschools.com](http://mychesterfieldschools.com) and click on grading practices in the hot topics section.

Welcome back, and best wishes for a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,

Linda Wood  
Directors of Elementary Education

Dr. Cyndee Blount





Smith, Adam  
Student ID 315866

Kindergarten Report Card  
Teacher Jane Doe

2015-16 School Year

Attendance	Grading Period				Total
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	
Days absent	3	4	5	6	18
Days tardy	60	0	0	52	112
Early dismissals	99	1	0	0	100

**Alphabet Knowledge**

	identifies upper case	identifies lower case	produces letter sound	prints letter		identifies upper case	identifies lower case	produces letter sound	prints letter		identifies upper case	identifies lower case	produces letter sound	prints letter
<b>A</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>G</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>N</b>	+	+	-	-
<b>B</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>H</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>O</b>	+	+	-	-
<b>C</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>I</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>P</b>	+	+	-	-
<b>D</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>J</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>Q</b>	+	+	-	-
<b>E</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>K</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>R</b>	+	+	-	-
<b>F</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>L</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>S</b>	+	+	-	-
					<b>M</b>	+	+	-	-	<b>T</b>	+	+	-	-

**Information about ratings**

+ = Student demonstrates mastery.  
- = Student does not demonstrate mastery.

NA = This skill or concept was not assessed during this grading period.

4 = Student's performance exceeds standard/expectation, and student consistently produces outstanding work.

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2 = Student's performance is approaching standard/expectation, and student inconsistently applies learned skills.

1 = Student's performance is below standard/expectation, and student frequently requires re-teaching.

	Grading Period			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
<b>Reading</b>				
<b>Overall rating</b>	2	3	3	4
Reads on benchmark	4	2	3	2
Understands how print is read and that it conveys meaning	3	NA	3	3
Develops an understanding of basic phonetic principles	1	2	1	2
Expands vocabulary through reading experiences	3	NA	3	3
Demonstrates comprehension of fictional texts	1	2	1	2
Demonstrates comprehension of nonfiction texts	NA	3	2	1
<b>Writing</b>				
<b>Overall rating</b>	2	3	3	4
Writes for a variety of purposes	2	2	NA	2
Demonstrates growth in word study knowledge and applies it to writing	3	3	3	3
<b>Social Studies</b>				
<b>Overall rating</b>	2	3	3	4
History	2	2	NA	2
Geography	3	3	3	3
Economics	NA	1	4	4
Civics	3	1	NA	4

	Grading Period			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
<b>Mathematics</b>				
<b>Overall rating</b>	2	3	3	4
Demonstrates an understanding of number and number sense	NA	2	NA	2
Demonstrates an understanding of computation and estimation	4	3	2	1
Demonstrates an understanding of measurement	2	2	NA	2
Demonstrates an understanding of geometry	2	2	NA	2
Demonstrates an understanding of probability and statistics	4	3	2	1
Demonstrates an understanding of patterns, functions and algebra	NA	1	4	4
<b>Science</b>				
<b>Overall rating</b>	2	3	3	4
Scientific investigation, reasoning and logic	NA	1	4	4
Force, motion, energy and matter	2	2	NA	2
Life processes	4	3	2	1
Earth/space systems and cycles	2	2	NA	2
<b>Resource</b>				
Visual Arts	4	3	2	1
Music	3	1	2	4
Physical Education	2	2	4	4
World Language	4	1	3	3

Smith, Adam  
Student ID 315866

Marguerite Christian Elementary School  
Principal Rosemary Weatherford, Ed.D.  
804-888-8888  
mychesterfieldschools.com

Chesterfield County Public Schools  
Superintendent Marcus J. Newsome, Ed.D.

**Vision: Chesterfield County Public Schools will provide an engaging and relevant education that prepares every student to adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing world.**

**Work-Related Skills**

	Grading Period			
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
<b>Critical Thinking</b>	4	3	4	3
• Applies previous learning to a new situation				
<b>Responsibility</b>	3	4	3	4
• Follows directions				
• Plans, organizes and completes assignments/homework				
• Demonstrates respect toward self, others and property				
<b>Collaboration</b>	4	3	4	3
• Demonstrates conflict-resolution skills				
• Works cooperatively with others in a variety of settings				
<b>Communication</b>	3	4	3	4
• Demonstrates ability to communicate effectively for a variety of purposes				
• Provides relevant contributions to the class				
• Demonstrates listening skills and asks questions to clarify understanding				
<b>Self-Management</b>	4	3	4	3
• Produces quality work in a timely fashion				
• Sets achievable goals and reviews progress				
• Demonstrates self-control and transitions appropriately between activities				
<b>Technology Literacy</b>	3	4	3	4
• Effectively uses available technology tools				
• Practices safe, legal and responsible use of information and technology				

**Teacher Comments**

First Grading Period	Second Grading Period
Third Grading Period	Fourth Grading Period

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  Parent-Teacher Conference Requested

Grade Placement for Next School Year  Promoted to Grade \_\_\_\_\_  Retained