

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO PARKWAY'S New Elementary Progress Report

COMING
FALL 2015



EVERY CHILD HAS A STORY. It's a unique story. It's a story about how and what they are learning in school. The story shows you where they are at and also where they are going. It includes how they are doing in each subject area and also the type of person they are becoming. It helps you understand more about who they are and who they can become. Over the course of a school year, the story has many chapters. It's a story that can't be told in a single letter grade.



Why new report cards?



For years Parkway elementary teachers and staff have been studying grading practices in order to determine the best way to communicate how your child is doing in school. We talked to parents, studied best grading practices and looked at how other high-performing school districts communicate learning.

What we have learned is that our current report card is not effectively communicating how your child is doing in school.

The new elementary progress report is designed to communicate more clearly, more personally and in a way that truly tells the story of your child's learning.

How are the progress reports different?



1. MEANINGFUL FEEDBACK ABOUT YOUR CHILD – Research shows that feedback is one of the most powerful ways to help children learn. The new progress report focuses less on dozens of checkboxes and more on personalized feedback about your child written by your teacher. You will see specific, unique comments about your child including areas of success and also how you can support them at home.

2. PROGRESS VS. LETTERS – Another change for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade families is that teachers will communicate **progress** versus the traditional letter grades of A, B, C, N. Instead, the report will show, for each area of study, whether your child is "On Track" OR "Not Yet on Track" to meet academic expectations for the school year. Progress reports for Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades do not currently use traditional letter grades.

3. EASILY ACCESSIBLE ONLINE – The new progress report is easily accessible online. A one-page summary of your child's progress report can be printed as well. You will receive an email with a link to your child's progress report when it's available. For families that do not have Internet access, a paper version will be available. A link to the progress report will also be available on the Parkway Schools free mobile app for your convenience.

New Elementary Progress Report



Progress is communicated for Character, English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Art and Music. Notice some of the comments from the teacher on this student's progress in three areas.

SAMPLE ELEMENTARY PROGRESS SUMMARY



Student... Alise Smith
 Teacher.....Jones
 Grade.....2
 Date2015, Trimester 2

PROGRESS KEY:

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ON TRACK to meet or exceed end of year expectations
<input type="radio"/>	NOT YET ON TRACK to meet expectations

CHARACTER

Alise continues to be a delightful student! She is a great example to her peers: kind to others, listens attentively and works with a positive attitude throughout the day. I notice that Alise is a wonderful helper! I admire that Alise has begun checking her work carefully for errors. This trimester at times, Alise has chosen to not apply her learning from lessons to her work in writing and reading. Frequent check ins from the teacher and reminders have helped her improve but I continue to encourage her to do this independently in the future. You can do it Alise!

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Reads text at or above grade level with comprehension, accuracy and fluency	<input type="radio"/> Structures and develops opinion, narrative and informational writing	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Uses speaking and listening skills to collaborate and share ideas
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Currently Alise is reading at a Level L independently, which is what is expected for 2nd graders at this point in the year. Students have taken one benchmark assessment this trimester. Alise received a 75 percent.

Alise continues to grow as a writer! She has shown progress by eliminating run-on sentences and appropriately applying ending punctuation, adding character dialogue, and attempting to apply the skills learned in lessons to her own work. She can continue to improve by always using a graphic organizer to plan a focused piece, write her piece and add details that describe and explain in the beginning, middle and end of her piece.

MATH

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Understands grade-level mathematics topics and concepts	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Makes sense of and solves problems	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Develops and analyzes mathematical explanations
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In our second unit this trimester, students learned how to add and subtract within 100 using an efficient strategy of their choice. Learners also solved for unknown numbers in equations and word problems. Alise scored 88 percent on the post assessment. I notice that when Alise writes a subtraction equation, she often writes the greatest number underneath the smaller number in order to avoid regrouping. This incorrect equation results in an inaccurate answer. I also notice that when Alise writes the time on an analog clock, she often points the hour hand directly at the number without noting the minute hand's position. We will continue to work on these skills in the future.

HOW CAN I ACCESS THE PROGRESS REPORT?

When your child has a new progress report posted, you will receive an email with a link to view the report online. You can login using a Facebook, Google or Microsoft account. In order to protect your privacy, your email address on file with Parkway (in Infinite Campus) must match the email address associated with these accounts. Login to the Infinite Campus parent portal to update or change your email address if needed. If you need help, please email IC-Help@ParkwaySchools.net. If you do not have Internet access, contact your school to receive a printed version of the progress report.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

For additional information, contact your principal or Kevin Beckner, coordinator of student assessment, at kbeckner@parkwayschools.net.



PARKWAY

SCHOOLS

HIGHER EXPECTATIONS.
BRIGHTER FUTURES.

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