

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the new report card?

The purpose of the new Standards-Based report card is to provide more detailed feedback to parents regarding the progress their children are making toward specific learning standards at their grade level. The new report card will allow parents and students to understand more clearly what is expected of students and how to help them be successful in a rigorous academic program.

The Standards-Based Report Card measures how well an individual student is doing in relation to the grade level standards, not the work of other students. This will give parents a better understanding of their child's strengths and weaknesses and encourage all students to do their best.

How frequently will the report cards be distributed?

The new report cards will be distributed three times a year for all students pre-Kindergarten through grade five. They will align with our fall and spring parent-teacher conferences and also be sent home at the conclusion of each school year.



If you would like to learn more about our new Standards-Based Report Cards, please visit the Region 10 website at:
<http://www.region10ct.org/index.html>

How can parents and students use the report card?

- Look for trends** in what subjects your child thrives upon and which give him/her trouble.

- Read the teacher's comments** to inform you about key areas your child has improved in or would benefit from more work.

- Set goals** for the coming marking period. Focus on a few areas and monitor them regularly.

- Ask Questions...** Talk to your child about the report card and ask their opinion. Use the parent -teacher conference as an opportunity to discuss your child's progress across the curriculum.

- Praise the positive!** Look for areas that your child has improved in and congratulate them for their effort. A little praise can help motivate a child and help them maintain their efforts!

We are all working together to help EVERY child succeed!

Regional School District 10 24 Lyon Road Burlington, Ct 06013 Phone: (860) 673-2538
--

Elementary Standards-Based Report Card



Parent / Guardian Information Guide



**Regional School
District #10
Burlington, CT
Harwinton, CT**

Introduction

Regional School District #10 is proud to introduce the new standards-based report cards for all elementary students (Pre-K-5) for the 2008-2009 school year. This new reporting document reflects a two-year effort by a district committee of teachers, administrators, and coordinators whose goal has been to design a tool that better expresses student progress in relationship to contemporary teaching, learning, and assessment practices that are alive in our Region 10 schools.

A standards-based report card communicates student progress in stages. The standards are derived from the Connecticut frameworks and are documented in our local grade level benchmarks. The stages reflect where a child is performing in direct relationship to the standards. The teacher's expression of a child's growth is determined by daily student oral and written work, as well as district formal and informal assessments in major academic areas (Reading, Writing, Math, Science and Social Studies) and in special areas, (Music, Wellness, Art, Spanish, Social Development, and Work Habits).

... the new reporting procedure will give a more accurate representation of your child's growth...

Our New Look

Since academic success and skill development occurs at different rates for all students this new reporting procedure will give a more accurate representation of your child's growth. Additionally, we believe that your understanding of what is expected of your child and how he or she is progressing towards the learning goals provides opportunities for more meaningful conversation between you and your child and with your child's teacher.

Student progress will be reported in terms of learning stages (stage 1 through stage 5 in most areas). The stages are designed to reflect your child's progress to date in a specific content area. You can expect students to move between stages based on the time of year, content being covered, and the level of difficulty of the material associated with that content.

Standards-Based Grading

Key Terms

Assessment: Activities or tests used to measure the learning and performance of students. Assessment data is regularly used to identify areas of student strength and weakness and to improve instructional strategies.

Benchmark: A standard for judging student performance; often developed to gauge what students should know by a particular stage of their schooling.

Curriculum Guide: provides a preview of the skills, knowledge, and concepts at the core of learning for each grade level.

Performance Stages: Descriptors of student performance related to curriculum objectives at specific points during the school year; used to measure growth and to develop future learning goals.

Rubric: Specific descriptions of performance of a given task at several different levels of quality. They are used to evaluate student achievement on performance tasks and provide clear expectations for quality of student work.

Standard: Specific criteria for what students are expected to learn and be able to do. Content Standards specify what students are expected to know and be able to do in various subjects. Performance Standards specify what levels of learning are expected.