

GUIDE TO ELEMENTARY REPORT CARDS

Outcomes-Based Reporting in Grades One, Two, and Three

The Purpose of a Report Card is.....

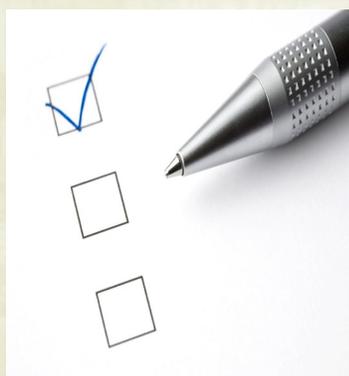
- To describe a child's achievement and other aspects of their learning in a way that will help the home support the child
- To confirm a child's level of achievement relative to provincial expectations for his/her grade

The new elementary (grade 1–3) report card in Peace Wapiti School Division is designed to give a clear and useful report about a child's progress and learning.

The new outcomes-based report card is tied directly to the Alberta curriculum, which is also outcomes-based.

The provincially mandated curriculum describes what a child is expected to know and be able to do each year, in each subject.

The new report card will tell you if a child has met these



specific expectations.

It focuses on clear descriptions of how well a child has acquired the key knowledge, skills, and

attitudes in each subject.

There are no letter grades or percentages on the new report card. Instead we use four levels of achievement; meeting with excellence, meeting with competency, approaching competency, and not yet meeting, to describe how well a child has met curriculum expectations.

Home-School Communication

Communication of student learning is an ongoing process that involves students, parents/guardians, and teachers in making sense of a student's learning.

A report card is only one of many ways in which teachers and parents/guardians communicate about a child's learning.

Other ways may include:

- collections of student work such as portfolios
- phone calls
- agendas
- email
- meetings
- science fairs
- parent-teacher interviews
- newsletters
- webpages
- personal notes

HOW DO I READ THE NEW REPORT CARD?

These are the **learning outcomes** that Alberta students are expected to know and be able to do.

Achievement Indicators are used to communicate the student's level of academic achievement on the learner outcomes from the Alberta curriculum.

English Language Arts

Teacher: Ms. Smith-Jones

Achievement Indicator

Reads orally and silently to comprehend text at grade level	ME
Responds to texts by discussing, representing or writing	MC
Uses a variety of decoding strategies when reading	ME
Uses a variety of comprehension strategies when reading	AC
Finds information on a topic using a variety of sources	MC
Creates narratives that have beginnings, middles, and ends; settings, and main characters that perform actions	NYM

Comments:

Student Strengths/Weaknesses

Ways Parents Can Help at Home

This is a link to the Alberta Education Programs of Study <http://www.education.alberta.ca/teachers/program.aspx>

HOW DO I CONTACT THE SCHOOL IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Communication between home and school is an important factor in a student's achievement. If at any time you have questions about a child's progress, achievement, or social well being your first contact should be with the classroom teacher.

Ways to communicate might include:

- A phone call to the school
- A note in the agenda
- An email
- In person meeting at a mutually convenient time

ACHIEVEMENT INDICATORS

Meeting with Excellence (ME)	Wow!	This level describes achievement that is commendable . The student demonstrates an in-depth and broad understanding of a subject outcome at this grade.
Meeting with Competency (MC)	Yes!	This level describes achievement that is competent . The student demonstrates a well-developed and consistent understanding of a subject outcome at this grade.
Approaching Competency (AC)	Yes, but	This level describes achievement that is making progress towards competence . The student may demonstrate inconsistent and/or not yet complete understanding of a subject outcome at this grade.
Not Yet Meeting (NYM)	Not yet	This level describes achievement that is not yet at an acceptable level . The student demonstrates insufficient understanding of a subject outcome at this grade.
**	In Progress	Please see teacher comments.

WHY USE ACHIEVEMENT INDICATORS AND NOT PERCENTAGES?

Achievement indicators can be encouraging for many students, because:

- Indicators are targets that hold still
- Indicators are targets that can be clearly described and worked toward by all students
- The more a student learns, the closer he or she gets to the learning target

Percentages and class averages can be discouraging for many students because:

- The average is a moving target that may go up or down
- No matter how hard they work, and no matter how much they learn, some students are always below the average
- Judgements about a student's achievement are sometimes based on the achievement of others





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“Educating Today for Success Tomorrow”

Other Ways to Stay Informed:

If you want to know more about what is happening in the classroom and school you could

- Read school and class newsletters
- Access classroom/school and division web pages www.pwsd76.ab.ca
- Attend Parent-Teacher Interviews
- Attend School Council meetings
- Attend special events at the school
- Regularly check the agenda and backpack
- Like us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Peace-Wapiti-School-Division-No-76/129272180467814>