

K-2 Benchmarks and Rubrics for Reporting Student Progress

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

1. What is standards based grading?

Standards based grading is an intentional way for teachers to track their students' progress and achievements. It is based on the progression of growth as students show signs of mastery or understanding of skills. Each subject, math and reading, is broken down into smaller "learning targets." Each target supports a Florida Benchmark that students should master in school by the end of the year.

2. Why is the district moving to standards based grading in kindergarten through second grade?

The district is moving to standards based grading to provide consistency of student expectations across the district. Reporting student progress using this type of grading scale will define student expectations for each grading period across the year, as well as, demonstrate student progress towards mastery of a benchmark.

3. What is my child being graded on using standards based grading?

Your child will be graded on specific **reading and math benchmarks** that are critical for success. (See *Parent Guide* for details.) You can find a link to the Parent Guide on the district website, as well as, your child's school website.

4. How is my child being graded?

Teachers will use a rubric to determine how students are progressing toward mastery of the benchmarks. A "3" on the rubric means that your child has met end of year, grade level benchmark. The performance levels are below:

4	The student has an advanced understanding and exceeds <i>end of year</i> , grade level benchmark mastery. A student receiving a 4 shows self-motivation and demonstrates this advanced knowledge at school.
3*	The student demonstrates mastery on <i>end of year</i> , grade level benchmark. A student receiving a 3 shows solid knowledge and has proficient understanding of concepts and skills.
2	The student is approaching <i>end of year</i> , grade level benchmark mastery. A student receiving a 2 understands basic skills and concepts but is not yet independent. The student is applying concepts and skills with increasing success.
1	The student is beginning progress towards <i>end of year</i> , grade level benchmark mastery. A student receiving a 1 benefits from additional support when Level 1 is NOT the expectation of the quarter .
L	The student has limited progress towards <i>end of year</i> , grade level benchmark mastery.
Z	The benchmark is not assessed during this quarter.

5. Why isn't my child receiving a score of 4 every quarter?

Since the benchmarks are **end of the year expectations**, a 4 would mean students have mastered the benchmark and are working at an advanced level. You should expect to see your child's performance level grow across the year from a score of 1 to a score of 3 or 4 by the end of the year. Remember a score of 3 at the end of the year is meeting end of grade level expectations and is exactly where students should be.

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6. How will art, music, physical education, and the responsibilities of a learner be graded?

These areas will be graded using the following codes:

- E-Excellent
- S-Satisfactory
- N-Needs Improvement
- U-Unsatisfactory

7. Will my child receive a progress report?

No, your child will not receive a formal progress report, however open communication between you and your child's teacher is encouraged. Your child's teacher will be collecting evidence of progress towards mastery of the benchmarks and will be able to give you updates across the year.

8. How can I view my child's report card?

You will be able to view the report card in the Parent Portal as you have done in the past.