



Look What's New This Year!!!



NEW! Standards Based Report Cards

Grades K-6 have newly revised Standards Based report cards!

In a standards based system; instruction, assessment and reporting a student's progress, are all linked specifically to the learning standards. Students are expected to demonstrate understanding or mastery of the knowledge or skills embedded in each standard for his/her grade level.

Students in grades K-3 will no longer receive "Overall Grades" but rather receive specific feedback on the critical skills/standards that students need to know!

AT PCIS you will see a gradual transition from Overall letter grades to standards based grading within the next two years.

NEW! Academic Performance Indicator Scale

The learning progressions of children are too complex to be reduced to a simple letter grade. Our standards based reporting system is designed to provide specific and timely information about how your child is doing as he/she moves toward or beyond mastery of the grade level standards.

The performance levels we will use to report student progress are: 1, 2, 3, or 4.

- 1 **Limited:** The student has limited skills, and support is needed to do grade level work.
2. **Approaching:** The student is approaching grade level expectations. He/she can demonstrate some of the skills or shows partial knowledge.
3. **Goal:** The student is meeting grade level expectations! The student can consistently demonstrate mastery of all aspects of the grade level standard!
4. **Exceeds** grade level expectations. The student demonstrates learning that goes above and beyond grade level expectations!

NEW! Grade Level Mastery Rubrics!

In a standards based system, a **mastery rubric or performance scale** is used. This rubric clearly communicates what is expected or demonstrated at each performance level. In addition, students and parents can clearly see what has been demonstrated and what still needs to be demonstrated in order to move to the next level on the rubric. Assignment scores are not averaged, rather, as one moves across the continuum, the mark on the report card will reflect the highest mark/level demonstrated. (AT PCIS marks will still be averaged until the complete transition has occurred!)

A mastery scale is a rubric which outlines the criteria or provides descriptors for each level of performance.

On the scales we developed there are four columns, the actual grade level standard can be located in column 3. To meet grade level expectations, the student needs to be able to demonstrate that he/she understands or can do everything described in column 3. The rubric progresses from left to right. Column 1 indicates the student has limited skills and needs support to do grade level work. Column 2 breaks down the standard into partial skills or stepping stones. This is where the student, teacher and parent will be able to determine or track what has been accomplished so far and what still needs to be accomplished. When a student demonstrates all parts of the standard, the standard is mastered and the student earns a 3! Some students may have skills that exceed grade level expectations or may be motivated to strive to work beyond what is expected. Column 4 will outline skills, projects, problem solving or work that demonstrate work that is above and beyond grade level expectations.

(See sample of Riding a Bike mastery scale attached)

NEW! Interim Progress Reports!

A second change in addition to the 1,2, 3,4 performance indicator scale, is how interim progress reports look and will be completed at the elementary level.

As parents you have access to your child's progress 24/7 through Progress Book. Our elementary teachers will continue to communicate any concerns with you during the quarter. If your child is having difficulty you will receive an interim progress report at the mid point of the quarter indicating there is a concern. This notice should prompt you to log in to progress book along with your child, to investigate the area of concern.

Parent teacher conferences are a great opportunity to discuss your child's strengths and areas for further growth. Parent teacher conferences are held in the fall and again in the spring. However a conference can be scheduled anytime you or the teacher feel it would be beneficial to meet.

At the midpoint of each quarter **all** parents will receive a reminder to log into Progress Book and check on your child's progress.

Throughout the 2019-2020 school year we will continue to provide additional information to help you understand the changes to our assessment and reporting practices.

