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Director of
Elementary Education



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to share that our elementary schools will be using a new progress report this year. For eighteen months, teachers, parents and administrators have worked to research and revise the old report card. The result of that work is a standards-based progress report for all K-5 students this year. You can preview the new progress reports by visiting our district's website at www.fairfieldschools.org. You will receive your child's first progress report on December 14, 2012.

The purpose of a standards-based progress report is to provide detailed feedback to parents and families regarding the progress their child is making toward grade specific learning standards. The progress report allows parents and children to understand what is expected of students and how to help them be successful in a rigorous academic program.

A student's ability to meet the learning standards will be determined by using a variety of methods. These may include formal, informal, oral and written assessments, and teacher observation. In turn, this allows teachers to identify whether the child:

- Exceeds grade level expectations
- Meets grade level expectations
- Progressing toward grade level expectations
- Does **Not** meet grade level expectations

The standards-based progress report measures how well an individual student is doing in relation to the grade level standards, not the work of other students. It is important to note that these letters (E, M, P, and N) do not equate to the traditional letter grades (A, B, C, D, and F). For instance, we expect that students being introduced to a new standard could receive a P. This **does not** mean that they would be getting a C on a traditional report card. It simply means that they are beginning to understand, or are progressing toward the grade level expectation. It is our goal that by the end of the year they will meet or exceed that grade level expectation.

We are excited about the improved communication that the new progress report brings to our school – home partnership. If you have any questions regarding the new progress report, please feel free to ask your child's teacher or school principal.

Sincerely,

Anna Cutaia-Leonard