

Franklin Public Schools

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
355 East Central Street
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038

Telephone: (508) 541-5243

FAX: (508) 553-0321



January 6, 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A committee of teachers and administrators has been working to revise the standards based elementary report card for the **2014-2015 school year**. The reason for this revision is the need to update the report cards to mirror the new standards that students are learning based on the 2011 Massachusetts Frameworks for English Language Arts (ELA) and Math. This revision process has also provided us with the opportunity to make other needed changes and ensure vertical consistency between grades as well as update the report cards for our specialists. The newer version will look much the same as the current version, though there will be more standards in ELA and Math assessed at each grade level.

Some of the key changes include:

- Term progress and effort will now be embedded under each subject area, instead of being in a separate section of the report card. The ratings for term progress and effort have remained the same.
- Changes have been made to the performance standards ratings as shown below:

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| M | Mastery of the standard |
| P | Progressing toward the standard |
| B | Beginning to develop the standard |
| I | Standard has recently been introduced |
| N | Standard has not yet been addressed |

- The comment bank will be eliminated and replaced by a limited narrative box to be used only if a significant change in a grade has occurred.
- The student responsibilities have been reworked to have consistent language across all grade levels, while maintaining reasonable expectations for students at each grade.
- The specialist report cards were revised to encompass the different skills and concepts taught in each area. In addition, Physical Education and Health will no longer be a combined grade, but students will be assessed using two separate grades.

We will be holding several parent information sessions so that you can review the drafts and we can answer any questions you may have about the proposed changes. We are also looking for your feedback and input in order to ensure that our report card meets the needs of families. Please consider attending one of these parent sessions based on the school your child(ren) currently attend.

| Schools | Location | Date and Time |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Oak and Kennedy | Oak Library | 1/22 at 6:30 |
| Keller and DT | Keller Library | 1/30 at 6:30 |
| Jefferson and Parmenter | Parmenter Library | 2/6 at 6:30 |
| Weather Date (if needed) | TBD | 2/12 at 6:30 |

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this project and best wishes for a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Joyce Edwards
Director of Instructional Services