

OFFICE FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

*Ridgefield Park Public Schools
712 Lincoln Avenue
Ridgefield Park, New Jersey 07660*

Joseph Neubert
*Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum
and Instruction*
E-Mail: jneubert@rpps.net

Tel.: 201-807-2641/2640
Fax: 201-641-2203

Standards-Based Report Cards Presentation Summary

On November 3rd, the Ridgefield Park School District held an information session to introduce parents/guardians to the new standards-based report cards for Grades K-4. We would like to thank all of the parents/guardians who joined us for the meeting. For those parents/guardians that could not attend the meeting, we are pleased to provide you with the following summary of the presentation.

What is a standards-based report card?

A standards-based report card is an assessment tool that provides accurate and meaningful information and feedback to students and their families on a student's progress toward meeting grade level standards.

Why is the district moving to a standards-based report card?

Standards-based report cards highlight the most important student skills in each subject area and grade level and assess how well a child has mastered each identified skill within the subject. Additionally, a standards-based report card identifies areas of strengths, and weaknesses, to better inform and guide instruction and student learning. Aligned to the district curriculum and New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (<http://www.state.nj.us/education/ccs/>), the new report cards will improve communication between home and school and allow for more consistent assessments across grade levels since all district students will be evaluated on the same grade appropriate skills.

How does the standards-based report card system compare to traditional report cards?

Number and letter grades measure how well children do in comparison to their classmates. Standards-based report cards assess how well an individual child is progressing in relation to grade level standards using the following assessment key; exceeds standards, achieves standards, approaching standards, and needs support.

What is a trimester?

Our new report cards are based on three marking periods. With a focus on quality over quantity, trimester report cards will offer a much more detailed and accurate assessment of a student's progress which will lead to more meaningful communication between home and school. Although fifth and sixth grade students have not converted to standards-based report cards, they will also move to trimester marking periods.

It is important to note that traditional progress reports have been eliminated in favor of more regular and meaningful contact between home and school throughout each trimester.

If you have a question, we encourage you to contact your child's teacher, principal, or Mr. Neubert in the Office for Curriculum and Instruction.