

Engaging Families with Assessment Data

Elements of Strong Feedback ¹		
Timely	Delivered close enough to the completion of the assignment to feel relevant.	
Specific	Feedback is non-judgmental and targets an area of recent learning. It is clear and actionable.	
Consistent	It builds on past feedback by acknowledging where students have or have not progressed.	
Engaging	It builds a shared understanding of high-quality work (e.g. sharing exemplar responses or rubrics) and in doing so it supports an investment in why high-quality work matters.	

Communication Tips ²	
	Personalize the means of communication. Individual student conferences can ensure students feel connected and engaged.
	Encourage student voice by encouraging them to share a self-reflection about their own strengths.
	Start with positive feedback . Share successes and progress relative to grade level expectations to ensure all stakeholders are aware of the child's strengths.
	Provide clear and succinct information about progress. Avoid or explain any educational specific terms that might not be in a shared vocabulary. For example, focus on qualitative insights as opposed to sharing a numerical score.
	Share concrete and doable ideas for how to support at home.

¹ Drawn from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Assessment Framework.

² For more information, view ANet's full whitepaper: [3 Principles for Assessments during Instructional Recovery and Beyond](#).