



## Clearwater Valley Elementary School

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October 23, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This year, Clearwater Valley Elementary has made an update to our grading system for students in grades 3–6. To help improve communication with families about student understanding and academic progress, we have transitioned from the 1–4 numerical standards-based grade scale to a traditional letter grade system (A–F) based on percentage scores on assignments and tests.

This change provides clarity and familiarity for parents, as letter grades are widely recognized and give a clear snapshot of student progress. It also helps prepare students for middle and high school, where letter grades and GPAs are standard, making the transition smoother and supporting long-term academic planning.

Grades K–2 will continue to use the numeric 1–4 grading system, which aligns well with early elementary learning goals and helps communicate specific skill development in foundational areas.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on the afternoon/early evening of October 28 and 29, and the morning of October 30. Teachers have worked together to schedule conferences so that siblings within a family have conference times adjacent to one another whenever possible. Teachers sent home proposed conference times in red folders last week. Please ensure you have checked your child's red folder and responded to this proposed conference time.

First quarter report cards will be shared with parents during conferences.

Our goal is to keep families informed and engaged in their child's learning. If you have any questions about the grading change, conferences, or report cards, please contact your child's teacher or the school office.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to help every student grow and succeed.

Warm regards,

*Melanie Martinez*

Melanie Martinez  
Principal  
Clearwater Valley Elementary School