

Dear Elementary Families,

For the past two school years, elementary report cards included feedback on specific learning targets in math and writing instead of an overall marking period grade. We are continuing this type of feedback in math and writing with the addition of all related arts in the second marking period.

As a reminder, the 3-point proficiency scale will communicate a student's progress on individual learning targets, including successes and where additional growth is needed. Each value on the proficiency scale represents the following:

3 - **Applying** - Student shows a complete understanding of the target and demonstrate the ability to consistently apply it independently.

2 - **Understanding** - Student demonstrates a level of understanding that shows the ability to interact with and use the concept from the learning target but may still experience challenges, need support, or have inconsistency with his/her understanding.

1 - **Recognizing** - Student has received instruction on the learning target but is not yet able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the content for the learning target.

At Ephrata Area School District, we believe in differentiating instruction and providing opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning in a personalized way. In turn, each report card may look different as it provides a personalized picture for your child. This proficiency scale will help teachers identify when students are ready to move forward with the content and when they need more time or learning opportunities.

In the PowerSchool parent portal, a digital version of the report card will be available for 10 days after report cards go home with students. This version may be accessed by clicking the Report Card link in the left-hand navigation window.

Report cards will be sent home in backpacks today. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or building principal.

Thank you,

Dr. Jacy Clugston Hess
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education