

## Standards-based Report Card

The Jefferson County Schools use a standards-based report card in grades kindergarten to fifth grade. The report cards provide information on a student's developmentally-appropriate achievement and progress in attaining Tennessee's curriculum standards in Reading and Math. Grades 3-5 will also report an overall achievement grade for each core academic area in addition to the standards reporting. It is our hope that standards based report cards, together with parent teacher conferences, will provide a meaningful way for you to understand and support your child's learning.

### OVERALL SUBJECT NUMERICAL GRADING CODE

A = 100 - 93 B = 92 - 85 C = 84 - 75 D = 74 - 70 F = 69 - 0

Mid-term progress reports will be distributed between the nine week grading periods to maintain open communication of progress. Also parent-teacher conferences are held twice a year and/or as needed by parent or teacher request. Teachers will make every effort to set up a confer-



### More about standards

Standards are statements of what children should know and be able to do. Standards are written at each grade level and are developed in such a way that one grade level builds upon another. This sequential development forms a foundation for future learning. The most important thing we can do at each grade level is to help students master the standards for that particular grade level so that they can progress successfully to the next level.

**Example:** The New Tennessee Language Arts Standards; **Writing**

**Kindergarten Standard:** Begins to use writing as a means of communication of ideas



**Grade 1 Standard:** Composes simple stories with a clear beginning, middle, and end



**Grade 2 Standard:** Organizes ideas into a paragraph with complete coherent sentences



**Grade 3 Standard:** Uses complete sentences to develop a logical, coherent paragraph with a topic sentence, supporting details and a concluding sentence



**Grade 4 Standard:** Arranges multi-paragraph work in a logical and coherent order



**Grade 5 Standard:** Composes clear, coherent, well-developed multi-paragraphed works including vivid words and figurative language



## STANDARDS -BASED REPORT CARD



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## Why have a standards based report card?

It is a well known fact that primary students come to our schools with various learning experiences. Some students have been to preschool, and some children have had very little exposure to formal education prior to attending school. Comparing students to one another when they have such wide differences in learning experiences is very difficult. It is more useful to know what academic standards need to be attained before they are to be moved forward.

*Knowing student strengths and areas of need will help us move students forward.*

A standards based report card gives students, parents and teachers information about the many strengths and areas of need for individual students as they work through standards during the school year.



"Nine tenths of education is encouragement."

-Anatole France

### What are standards?

Standards are concepts and skills that each student must master during a school year. Standards are the infrastructure of your child's education, providing the foundation for curriculum, instructional practices and assessments. The academic standards on the report card come directly from the Tennessee Curriculum Standards. (<http://state.tn.us/education/curriculum.shtml>) The standards reflect what all Tennessee students need to know and be able to do by the end of their grade level. We want students to achieve their grade appropriate standards before they move on. If students meet the grade level expectations, they build a bridge to the next grade level and beyond. If students don't meet the grade level expectations, we will be able to see and address gaps in their learning.

### STANDARDS RATING KEY



3	The standard/expectations are <b>met consistently</b>
2	The student has been introduced to the standard and <b>is making expected progress toward grade level expectations</b>
1	The student has been introduced to the standard and <b>is not making expected progress toward grade level expectations</b>
	The standard has <b>not been introduced and/or assessed</b>

A "1" is used to indicate that the student is *not making the expected progress*. Your child's teacher will contact you to describe your child's progress.

A "2" is used to indicate the student has been introduced to the standard and is *making expected progress* toward grade level expectations, however mastery of the standard has not been accomplished.

A "3" is used to indicate the student has *mastered the standard* and indicates such on a consistent basis.

Mastery of a standard prior to the end of the school year will be reflected on the report card; however, *that standard will be continually checked*.

### Specialty Areas

The grading scale is different for the specialty areas (Art, Music, Physical Education, and Library) The grading scale is:

**S=Satisfactory:** *has met* the expected outcomes

**P= In progress:** *working toward* the expected outcomes

**N=Needs Improvement:** *is not making necessary progress* toward expected outcome

