
What is Standards-based Education?

- Clearly defined learning targets/ standards
- Specified levels of achievement
- A grade that represents what each student knows and is able to do
- A separate grade that represents other factors that influence a student's success



What are Standards?

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

More information on MVSD Standards-based Grading and Reporting

- For questions about a classroom practice, please contact the classroom teacher.
- For questions about a building practice, please contact the building principal.



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Elementary Schools *Standards-based Report Card*

Dear Parents,

Mountain View School District has updated our Elementary Standards-based Report Card to reflect the Idaho State Content Standards. The report card serves as a communication tool which accurately reports what each student knows and is able to do, as well as, provide information on what students will be learning next.

To ensure consistency in grading and reporting, there is also a companion document which shows expected outcomes for students and serves as a resource for teachers, students, and parents.

These documents can be found on the District website at sd244.org, or you can obtain a copy from your child's school.

Respectfully,

The Mountain View Staff

Why a Standards-based Report Card?

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.

The purpose of grading and reporting in our elementary schools is to...

- **Accurately reflect what students know and are able to do.**
- **Communicate student's learning progress to parents and students.**
- **Define and communicate expected learning outcomes.**
- **Provide consistency in terms of what is expected of students.**

What do the scores mean?

4. **Exceeds grade level standard**—means the student is able to meet the learning goal without assistance and can do more complex content.
3. **Meets grade level standard**—Means the student is successful with the learning goal with limited support.
2. **Approaching grade level standard**—Means the student is progressing toward meeting the learning goal, but still needs support to be successful.
1. **Below or far below grade level standard**—Means the student is struggling with the content and has partial success with help.

Benefits for All...

Students

- Students are partners in their own learning.
- Students monitor their own progress toward the achievement of learning targets.
- Since learning targets are clearly defined, students understand the expectations and purpose of each learning experience.
- Assessments are clearly aligned to the learning targets.
- Students are offered multiple opportunities and ways in which to demonstrate proficiency.
- Instruction meets the needs of all students.
- All students can achieve their highest potential.
- Every student has a firm foundation for future learning before s/he moves along to other standards.

Teachers

- Education becomes more learning-focused so the teacher and student work more closely together.
- Grade level teachers have the same expectations and standards for all students.
- In the same way that expectations for students are clear, expectations for teachers are clear as well.
- Teachers know exactly where students stand in their progress toward learning targets and what supports need to be provided.
- Assessment results help teachers determine when students need extra help and when they need more challenging work.
- Professional development is focused on teachers helping students achieve at higher levels.
- Teachers work closely together due to common goals and understandings.

Parents

- Parents can monitor their child's progress.
 - They can see exactly what their students know and are able to do.
 - Parents know in what areas their children need more support and where their children should be pushed to higher levels.
 - Report card grades are less mysterious and have more meaning.
 - Requirements for student progression towards standards are much more clear.
 - Specific feedback on student progress helps parents build self-esteem, pride, and motivation for their children.
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