

Helpful Hints for Parents

Use the report card to identify specific areas your child may need extra support. Below are some ideas that can be used at home to support learning:

- *Read to your child every day.*
- *Ask many questions to guide your child and tap a curiosity for solving problems or know how things work.*
- *Practice simple addition and subtraction facts using everyday items.*
- *Play board games that encourage children to follow directions.*
- *Write letters to friends or family members.*
- *Be attentive to your child's attitude about school.*
- *Attend all parent-teacher conferences.*

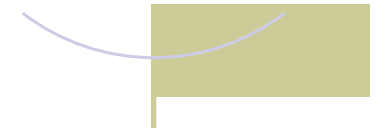


Columbia County School Systems
Department of Student Learning PK-Gr. 5

4781 Hereford Farm Rd.
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Standards Based Report Cards



Promotion/Retention Policy



Assessing FOR learning, not OF learning

Columbia County Board of Education

Assessing for Achievement

A team of kindergarten, first, and second grade teachers and administrators have worked together to design a report card that will enable parents to have a clear understanding of their child's academic progress. In addition, teachers and administrators will use this document to individualize instruction to meet the needs of all learners. This report card is designed to document mastery of the Georgia Performance Standards. Each quarter, students will have the opportunity to practice and demonstrate mastery of the standards. While the report card is not inclusive of all standards and elements, the team focused on skills that would be necessary for success at the next grade level. At a quick glance, parents will be able to note areas of strength and areas that may need additional support at home. We believe this will improve achievement for all learners. When the school and the home work together, great things happen for our children!



Performance Level	Description
4	Exceeds the Standard
3	Meets the Standard
2	Progressing Toward the Standard
1	Does Not Meet the Standard

Performance Level Descriptors

Parents will notice a range of scores from 1-4 for the academic areas. These do not equate to a number or percentage in the same manner that an A represents scores from 90-100. For instance, a 3 should not be interpreted as a B. A score of 3 means that the student is consistently and independently meeting the standard. A score of 2 often indicates that the child can sometimes demonstrate proficiency but does not do so consistently or it may mean that the child needs considerable assistance to complete classroom activities. A score of 1 indicates that the child is generally unable to complete related activities even with guidance and assistance from the classroom teacher. A score of 4 indicates that the student is able to independently and consistently demonstrate the learning goal AND that the student is able to go significantly beyond the expected level of performance.

It is important to note that the requirements to meet the standards increase each quarter; therefore it is quite possible for a child to score a 3 or 4 first quarter and then make a 2 second quarter.



How Does a Teacher Grade a Child's Performance?

Using the Georgia Performance Standards as a guide, teacher committees established curriculum priorities for each grading period. Quarterly scoring guides called rubrics provide teachers with clear and consistent learning expectations. Educational research tells us that effective assessment of student progress must be balanced in terms of format and frequency. No one assessment experience can reliably and accurately measure student progress on a particular standard. Therefore, teachers design multiple assessment tasks and collect evidence of student learning throughout the grading period. This evidence may include tests, quizzes, teacher observations, projects, district, state and national assessments, and student work samples. Teachers review these assessments for evidence of mastery of learning when marking student progress for the report card.

Promotion/Retention Policy

According to Columbia County Board Policy, in order for students in first grade to be promoted to second grade, the student must

- Meet or exceed 5 out of 6 reading standards on the first grade report card.
- Meet or exceed 10 out of 14 math standards on the first grade report card.

You may schedule a conference at any time to discuss your child's progress with the teacher.