

*What do the educational experts tell us about grading and reporting?*

According to Thomas Gusky and Robert Marzano, “The primary goal of grading and reporting is communication. Grading and reporting are integral parts of the instructional process. When done well, they provide vital information to students, parents, and other interested persons that can be used to enhance both teaching and learning. Grading and reporting certify attainment of learning goals, identify where additional work is needed and provide a basis for improvement efforts.”

Standards based grading and reporting set target goals for students to achieve. According to another educational expert, Rick Stiggins, “Students can hit any target that holds still for them.”

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Fontana Joint #8 School District is to be a child-centered, community oriented, respectful and safe collaborative environment. To accomplish this, we will ensure maximum achievement for each student, enhance learning with developmentally appropriate instruction, and develop responsible problem solving strategies as we adapt to a diverse and ever changing society.

### **Vision Statement**

We believe the best strategy for achieving this mission is to function as a professional learning community. We envision a school in which:

We provide a learning environment built for the success of all students. We continually monitor each student's progress and adjust our instruction respectively. We strive to meet the needs of all our students. We model a seamless curriculum based on the BFASA recommendations. We place our teachers in classrooms and clinics to enhance their knowledge and find the best teaching strategies that fit with our students. We provide learning opportunities that address diverse levels of learners. We create a safe and comfortable atmosphere for students and staff.

## **FONTANA JT. 8 SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **A Parent's Guide to Standards Based Assessment and Grading Information**

**New for 2011-  
2012**

Fontana Elementary School  
450 S. Main St  
Fontana, Wisconsin 53125  
Phone: 262-275-6881  
Fax: 262-275-5360  
[www.fontana.k12.wi.us](http://www.fontana.k12.wi.us)



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### ***What is the purpose of the new reporting system?***

The purpose of the Standards-Based report card is to provide more detailed feedback to parents regarding the progress their children are making towards specific learning standards at their grade level. The new report card will allow parents and students to understand more clearly what is expected of students and how to help them be successful in their educational program.

### ***How do the Standards-Based report cards compare to the letter grade systems?***

The Standards-Based report card measures how well an individual student is doing in relation to the grade level standards, not the work of other students. This will give parents a better understanding of their child's strengths and weaknesses and encourage all students to do their best.

### ***How will the ratings of 4-1 be determined?***

Students' ability to meet the learning standards will be determined by both their oral and written work. For each standard, rubrics (which outline specific characteristics of performance) will be used to help teachers identify the child's proficiency level of understanding.

- 4- Advanced understanding and/or exceeds grade level expectations
- 3- Proficient understanding and/or

- meets grade level expectations
- 2- Basic understanding and/or partially meets grade level expectations
- 1- Minimal understanding and/or does not meet grade level expectations

### ***Why are we changing our reporting system at this time?***

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is mandating a new data collection system that will facilitate the standardization of student coursework information across the state, provide data necessary to answer important questions at the local and state levels, and enable Wisconsin to meet federal requirements. Along with this requirement, we changed to the student gradebook that aligns with our student information system for ease of data transfer.

### ***What are the Standards?***

Standards are statements about what students should know and be able to do within each content area, at each grade level, adopted from the Wisconsin State Standards. They include content, performance and proficiency standards.

- Content standards refer to what students should be able to know and do.
- Performance standards tell how students will show that they are meeting a standard
- Proficiency standards indicate how well students must perform.

For more detailed information about Wisconsin Academic Standards:

<http://dpi.wi.gov/>

*Fontana Jt 8 School district believes that assessment is an integral part of measuring student learning based on district content and performance standards. At all grade levels of instruction, assessment and re-teaching are used to meet individualized student learning needs utilizing formative and summative measures. Performance standards for students should be equitable and clear.*

*"Each student is afforded an equal opportunity to learn."*

Key Components:

*1. Formative assessments (homework, classroom observations, lab and group work, rough drafts, work samples., etc.) are used to measure student progress. Formative assessments are used to provide feedback and low-stake practice for students.*

*2. Summative assessments (oral & written tests, projects, presentations, etc.) are also used to measure student progress. Summative assessments provide measurable evidence of learning.*

*3. Extra credit work is not a substitute for required work and is not calculated as part of the student's grade.*

*4. Re-assessments, if utilized, are a Privilege, not a right.*

*5. Effort and life skills evaluations will be measured separately from the academic achievement grade.*