

Progress Reports...

We are at our halfway point for the first trimester, and it is time for progress reports. Here is what you need to know about your child's progress report for literacy:

This is a snapshot in time. This is just one moment in time that is captured about your child's learning. Your child's grade could change an hour after the progress report was printed, so his/her/their grades are not set in stone. They have the opportunity to change them at any time until the end of the year. Also, looking at Powerschool on a regular basis will allow you to see their learning in real-time.

Literacy standards are year-long standards. Your child will have multiple opportunities throughout the year to meet each literacy standard for 8th-grade, and they will need at least three pieces of evidence to support their learning for each standard. At this time, I am including all of their learning; however, at the end of each trimester, I will select only the top three pieces of evidence for each standard. For example, if your child has five pieces of evidence for 8.L.06: Use general academic and domain-specific words and phrases (4, 3, 3, 2, 1), then I would take the top three grades (4, 3, 3) and not include the rest (2, 1).

It is all about the learning. Your child's grades should be a reflection of where they are in their learning of the 8th-grade standards. Students are learning new content, processes, and strategies this year, especially at the start of school. In addition, they are becoming more self-directed learners to get ready for high school, college/trade school, and real life. This takes time and practice, so please be patient with your child's learning progression. Please check out this learning chart:

Your child receives 3s and 4s with minimal work	Your child is not really learning; the work is too easy or something that they already have learned before. Please have your child let me know when this happens.
Your child receives 3s and 4s with reasonable work or after resubmitting their work	Your child is learning; the work is just right for him/she/them to grow.
Your child receives 2s and 3s with reasonable work or after resubmitting their work	Your child is learning; the work is just right for him/her/them to grow.
If your child receives 2s and 1.5s with reasonable work	Your child may need a little extra support- like additional Zoom sessions, resources, or practice to help them do the work on his/her/their own. Please have your child let me know when this happens.
If your child receives 2.0 and 1.5 with minimal work	Your child needs to spend time reading directions, reviewing resources, and analyzing the samples given before seeking extra support.
If your child receives a 1.0 for work	This grade is given when a child did not turn in any work. If a child has attempted learning and completed their own work, they will at least receive a 1.5.

Self-directed learning is important. When students are in-class for two days, they are receiving direct instruction and collaborating with others in our learning community. When they are at home, they should be able to complete the assigned work all on their own without assistance. Your child's work represents their learning-- when their work is not their own, your child's learning is compromised. If you notice the following behaviors, please have your child contact me asap:

- If your child is frustrated or spending more than a reasonable amount of time (over 2 hours a night) on literacy work
- If your child is seeking your help to complete assignments
- If your child is seeking the help of their peers to complete assignments
- If your child is using Google to find answers (without specifically being asked to use Google for this purpose in their assignment).

There are additional resources available in Google Classroom for students to access when they need assistance (instead of Googling) and before they seek help from me. If your child needs additional resources, please have them contact me, and I can add them to our list.

Feedback on learning. Your child should check Powerschool for their grades as well as Google Classroom. Feedback in the form of comments, grades, and rubrics are in Google Classroom. Please have your child review these and contact me if they are confused or if there is an error. Not every grade or learning opportunity is in Google Classroom. For example, students are tracking their independent reading in ReMo.app. If the assignment is in Google Classroom and is graded, it should match the corresponding name in Powerschool.

Habits of Work (HOW) Scores. Grades reflect where students are in their learning with the standards, but there are other behaviors and beliefs that can affect a student's success (and learning) at school. HOW scores let you know how your child is doing with self-control, work ethic, and respect when learning- at school and at home.